

**PLACER LAND USE APPROVAL**

Pursuant to the Yukon Placer Mining Act and the regulations made there under, the Yukon Territory Water Board hereby grants a Class IV land use approval for placer mining undertaking to:

Star North Placers Ltd  
10388 - 262nd Avenue  
Maple Ridge, BC  
V2X 8X7

**APPROVAL NUMBER:** LP00143      **WATER LICENCE:** PM99-127

**WATER USE AREA:** 2      **STREAM CLASSIFICATION:** IV

**LOCATION:**      Latitude:63°36'      Longitude:138° 48'

**EFFECTIVE DATE:**      The effective date of this approval shall be the date on which the signature of the Chief Placer Land Use is affixed.

**EXPIRY DATE:**      November 30, 2009

This approval shall be subject to the restrictions and conditions contained herein and to the restrictions and conditions contained in the Yukon Placer Mining Act and the regulations made thereunder.

Dated this 26<sup>th</sup> day of  
June, 2000

S. Heald  
Witness

Dated this 4<sup>TH</sup> day of  
JULY 2000

Nick Neres  
Witness

B. Landrum  
Vice Chairperson  
Yukon Territory Water Board

[Signature]  
Chief, Placer Land Use  
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada

**PART A DEFINITIONS**

“Act”: means the Yukon Placer Mining Act and regulations made thereunder.

"Application" means application for water use licence PM97-127 and placer Land Use Approval LP00143 and any subsequent information presented to the Board.

“Board”: means the Yukon Territory Water Board.

“Corridor”: means a path from which trees and brush have been cut.

“Operation”: means a placer land use operation.

"Operator" means a person who engages in a placer land use operation.

“Road”: means a pathway for vehicular traffic the construction of which requires the movement of rock or earth.

“Special Waste Management Facility” means an operation which handles or disposes of special wastes generated by other persons or operations and which is approved in accordance with the provisions of the Special Waste Regulations of the Environment Act of the Yukon Territory.

“Stripping”: means evacuation, undertaken as part of an operation, that is limited to the removal of trees, brush and vegetative mat.

“Trail”: means an access to a site within a claim or lease that is constructed with little or no movement of rock or earth.

“Trenching”: means excavation that extends below the vegetative mat, undertaken as part of an operation.

“Vegetative Mat”: means the organic surface of soil, characterized by the accumulation of organic matter, or partly decomposed organic matter, derived mainly from leaves, twigs and woody materials, and includes the root mass of living vegetation.

**PART B GENERAL CONDITIONS**

1. The expiry date of this approval shall be November 30, 2009.
2. All operating activities must comply with the Operating Conditions contained in Schedule 1 of the Yukon Placer Mining Land Use Regulations and with the operating plan LP99-127 submitted. Where there is a discrepancy between the Mining Land Use operating plan and this approval, the terms of this approval shall prevail.

3. The Operator shall contact Mining Inspections, (867) 667-3209, every year before beginning operations for the season and at least two weeks prior to leaving the site at the end of every season.
4. All debris, equipment, fuel barrels, scrap metal and other waste at the work site shall be disposed of safely, so as not to attract wildlife, by removal or incineration.
5. All incidents with wildlife shall be reported to the District Conservation Officer in Dawson City.
6. Removed brush shall not be piled so that it blocks movement of wildlife or people.
7. All risk of fire hazards must be avoided.
8. Nothing in this approval limits the application of any Federal, Territorial, First Nation law, local regulations, ordinances or bylaws.

#### **PART C RESTORATION PRACTICES**

9. To re-establish the vegetative mat, all areas disturbed during the mining operation must be left in a condition conducive to successful re-vegetation by native plant species or species adaptable to that environment.
10. All areas disturbed during the mining operation must be re-sloped, contoured, or otherwise stabilized to prevent long term soil erosion, slumping and subsidence and to comply with the condition for re-establishment of the vegetative mat.
11. Tailings and overburden or other relocated materials shall be levelled and contoured into low relief pile. The slope of these low relief piles shall be no steeper than two horizontal to one vertical. Any such slope over fifteen (15) metres in height shall be benched.
12. The following conditions apply to stripping:
  - a) trees and brush must be cleared first.
  - b) topsoil and organic material must be stockpiled separately.
  - c) overburden shall be located no closer than five (5) metres from any standing trees.
  - d) overburden may be stacked along valley wall but must be contoured to blend with the natural topography.

13. All trenching carried out by hand or with hand-held tools must be methodical. The trenches shall be stabilized and marked in such a way as to minimize risk to the public.
14. If mechanized equipment is used for trenching, all material shall be segregated into two piles:
  - a) vegetative mat; and
  - b) overburden and bedrockto be conserved and used for backfilling the trenches.
15. Backfilling of the trenches shall be conducted by replacing overburden and bedrock first, then covering with the vegetative mat.

**PART D ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND BURIAL SITES**

16. All archaeological sites and burial grounds must be avoided
17. If archaeological sites or burial sites are encountered:
  - a) they shall be marked and reported to the Chief, Placer Land Use; and
  - b) protected from further disturbance until authorization is given by the Chief, Placer Land Use.

**PART E ACCESS ROADS AND/OR TRAILS**

18. All vehicles must be operated within the design limits or tolerances of the road or trail. If the design limits or tolerances are unknown, then the operation of vehicles must not cause significant rutting or gouging of a road or trail.
19. If significant rutting or gouging occurs, the road or trail shall be restored.
20. If there is no road or trail, the operator shall comply with the following operating conditions when mobilizing heavy equipment to a site:
  - a) routes used by vehicles must be reconnoitred and used in such a way that minimizes ground disturbance.
  - b) vehicle use must be suspended or relocated to ground that is capable of bearing the vehicle if rutting and gouging could lead to ongoing erosion, ponding, or permafrost degradation, and the former routes must be restored in compliance

with section 1 and 2 of this approval.

- c) tracked vehicles should be provided with mushroom pads to minimize terrain damage.
  - d) dozers should travel with the blade raised, so as not to rip up the vegetative mat.
  - e) the route must avoid any identified critical wildlife habitat.
  - f) vehicle travel may be temporarily suspended so as to avoid disturbance to wildlife during critical periods.
  - g) vehicle(s) may only be mobilized in ice-rich permafrost areas when the active layer is frozen; or when the surface is strong enough to support the vehicle without excessive permafrost degradation.
21. At abandonment, compacted road surfaces shall be scarified to promote re-vegetation.

#### **PART F CAMPS**

22. All campsites shall be kept clean and tidy.
23. All buildings and other facilities shall be on well drained soil.
24. Combustible and odorous kitchen waste shall not be permitted to accumulate.
25. All wood debris, empty drums, junked equipment and metal waste shall be keep in a secure area for final disposal.
26. At seasonal closure, any materials that may result in injury to wildlife such as wire, steel, glass and plastic shall be either removed or safely stored.
27. At final decommissioning of the site remove everything, including all buildings, machinery, materials, fuel drums, used hydro carbons, unburied solid waste, and metal waste including junked vehicles.
28. Compacted soil must be loosened so as to allow to re-vegetate naturally. Areas not likely to re-vegetate naturally must be spread with topsoil.

**PART G FUEL HANDLING AND TRANSPORTATION**

29. A fuel spill emergency plan shall be submitted for approval to the Chief, Placer Land Use prior to commencing the operation, a copy of it posted on-site and a copy sent to the Yukon Territory Water Board.
30. The fuel spill emergency plan shall contain, at a minimum, the following:
  - a) how the spill will be contained
  - b) the type of absorbents to be used for small spills
  - c) a plan for spill clean-up in open water bodies
  - d) a provision to post the fuel spill report number on site
31. All fuel, other petroleum products and chemicals shall be stored and transferred in such a manner as to prevent spillage into any watercourse or onto the surrounding land.
32. All fuel tanks that exceed 4,000 L must be registered according to the Canadian Environmental Protection Act.
33. All fuel storage sites that exceeds 4,000 L, shall have a secondary containment facility.
34. The secondary containment facility shall be constructed of material impervious to petroleum products; and
  - a) in the case of a single storage tank, of sufficient size to accommodate at least 110% of the fuel; or
  - b) if there is more than one storage tank, of sufficient size to accommodate 110% of the capacity of the largest tank or 10% of the total capacity of all the tanks, whichever size is greater.
35. All vehicles must be maintained and operated in a manner designed to prevent spill of fuel or oil.
36. All waste petroleum products must be safely stored on site or be removed to a special waste disposal facility approved under the Special Waste Regulations of the Environment Act of the Yukon.
37. Sufficient spill clean-up equipment and materials must be in a state of readiness in order to clean up all fuel spills.

38. All fuel spills must be immediately contained, cleaned up and reported.
39. Should a spill or unauthorized discharge occur, the Operator shall immediately contact the 24-hour Yukon Spill Report number (867) 667-7244 and an inspector. A detailed written report on any such event, including but not limited to, dates, quantities, parameters, causes and other relevant details and explanations shall be submitted to the Water Board and the Chief, Placer Land Use no later than ten (10) days after its occurrence.
40. All fuel and chemical storage areas shall be stable and at least thirty (30) metres away from the high water mark.
41. All fuel drums must be stored in an upright position.
42. All fuel and chemical containers shall be sealed when not in use.
43. Every precaution shall be taken to ensure that no spillage occurs during fuel transfers.
44. All fuel containers of petroleum products of 200 litres or greater shall be clearly marked with the operator's name, and the contents.

#### **PART H RECLAMATION**

45. Available overburden shall be stockpiled for use in future site restoration and such stockpiles shall be located where they will not adversely affect the water quality in any water course.
46. The mine site shall be left in a stable condition at the end of each mining season.
47. All mined or otherwise disturbed ground surfaces, including cut banks, fill slopes and tailings piles, shall be stabilized annually.

#### **PART I DECOMMISSIONING**

48. All waste materials, excluding silt and other natural materials, but including, and not limited to, scrap metal, machinery and parts, barrels and containers are removed from the operation site.
49. The Operator must contact an inspector not less than two weeks prior to final decommissioning.
50. The Operator may apply for a certificate of completion at the termination of the operation, when all reclamation has been achieved.