



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

4601 N Monroe Street • Spokane, Washington 99205-1295 • (509)329-3400

June 15, 2015

Mark Ioli
Vice President and General Manager
Kinross Gold Corporation
363 Fish Hatchery Road
Republic, WA 99166

RE: Echo Bay Minerals Company - State Waste Discharge (SWD) Permit No. ST0008033
May 14, 2015 Site Inspection,

Dear Mr. Ioli:

I have enclosed the inspection report from my site visit on May 14, 2015. This inspection fulfilled a quarterly inspection requirement of the Metals, Mining, and Milling Operations Act (Chapter 78.56 RCW).

I made one recommendation during the visit: include the sample collection information on the laboratory chain-of-custody forms for the weak acid dissociable (WAD) cyanide samples from the tailings pond. In addition, as a reminder for pH and conductivity measurements at the Underdrain Water Treatment System (Outfall 006), if you monitor any pollutant more frequently than required by the permit, you must report this data on the discharge monitoring report. This condition applies as long as you use test procedures as specified by the permit.

I wish to thank your staff for their assistance during the inspection. Please review the inspection report, and if you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (509) 329-3500 or phal461@ecy.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

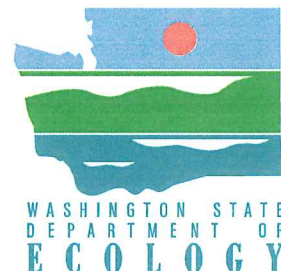
Pat Hallinan
Water Quality Section

PH:jab

cc: Gina Myers, Kinross Gold Corporation
Shannon Daugherty, Kinross Gold Corporation
Kyle Hawkins, Kinross Gold Corporation



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY SITE VISIT REPORT



Name of Entity	Echo Bay Minerals Company		
Permit No.:	ST0008033	Date of Visit:	5/14/2015
		Entry Time:	~1:00 pm Exit Time: ~3:30 pm
City:	Republic	DOE Rep. #1:	Hallinan
County:	Ferry	DOE Rep. #2:	
Person Contacted:	Kyle Hawkins/Shannon Daugherty	Phone No.:	(509) 775-3157
Title:	Environmental Engineer		
Responsible Official:	Gina Myers	Phone No.:	(509) 775-3157
Title:	Environmental Manager		
Facility Type:	State To Ground	Discharges To:	Tailings Impoundment
Type of Visit:	Compliance Inspection-Without Sampling		

Operation Status	S = Satisfactory	U = Unsatisfactory	M = Marginal	NA = Non Applicable	N = Not Evaluated
Permit on Site:	S	Laboratory:	S	Self Monitoring Schedule:	S
Records/Reports:	S	Effluent/Receiving Water:	S	Operations & Maintenance:	S
Facility Site Review:	S	Pretreatment	NA	Sludge Disposal:	NA
Flow Measurement:	N	Compliance Schedule:	NA	Other:	

Announced ? Yes ☒ No ☐ On ERO Inspection schedule ? Yes ☒ No ☐

Inspectors Comments:

Permit: Ecology has reissued the State Waste Discharge Permit (ST0008033) to Echo Bay Minerals Company (Echo Bay) on March 31, 2015, with an effective date of May 1, 2015. This permit covers discharges occurring at the presently active Key Mill site. Echo Bay has submitted a State Waste Discharge Permit application (ST0501292) for the K2 and Lamefoot sites, and a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit application (WA0991005) for the Key mine site. Those applications are pending.

Facility Site Review: Echo Bay operates gold and silver mining and milling operations, known as the Kettle River Operations, in northeast Washington. Currently, the facility obtains most all ore from their Buckhorn Mine, located 3.5 miles east of the community of Chesaw. Echo Bay may also receive custom ore batches from the United States and Canada for milling.

At the Key Mill site, Echo Bay receives and mills the mined ore to recover gold and silver. The facility discharges mill tailings to a zero-discharge lined tailings impoundment which includes an ancillary double lined reclaim water pond. The tailings pond also receives brine water discharges via tanker truck from the Buckhorn Mine water treatment system. The tanker trucks unload the brine water into the mill site's stormwater lined sump, where pumps transfer the water into the tailings pond.

Laboratory: Echo Bay sends samples offsite for analysis to either SVL Analytical in Kellogg, Idaho or American Analytical Services in Osburn, Idaho. Both laboratories are accredited by the Department of Ecology for metals and general chemistry parameters. American Analytical is additionally accredited for weak acid dissociable cyanide. The facility tests pH and conductivity onsite.

Records/Reports: The facility currently tests for pH and conductivity at the underdrain water treatment system prior to onsite infiltration (Outfall 006) more frequently (once per week) than required by the permit (once per month). Reminded the facility to report the additional data on the discharge monitoring reports (DMRs).

For monitoring well data and the underdrain water treatment system, it appears the facility is recording results according to Permit Condition S3.C. For WAD Cyanide collected from the tailings pond, recommended that mill and laboratory personnel include sample collection information on the chain-of-custody forms.

Inspectors Signature: 6/16/2015