



NIRB File No.: 21EN008

Associated NIRB File No.: 15EN028

NPC File No.: 149461

Associated NPC File No.: 148166, 148367, 148649, and 148971

NWB Licence No.: 2BE-KGP18213

CIRNAC LUP No.: N2018C0020

KIA LUP No.: KVL318B01

KIA LUP No.: KVRW18F02

March 25, 2021

Martin Tunney
Solstice Gold Corporation
505-800 West Pender St
Vancouver BC V6C 2V6

Sent via email: mtunney@solsticegold.com

Re: Notice of Screening for Solstice Gold Corporation's "Kahuna Gold Property" Project Proposal

Dear Martin Tunney:

On February 17, 2021, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen Solstice Gold Corporation's "Kahuna Gold Property" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (Commission), with an accompanying positive conformity determination with the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan. Pursuant to Article 12, Sections 12.4.1 and 12.4.4 of the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada (Nunavut Agreement)* and s. 87 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*), the NIRB has commenced screening this project proposal and has assigned it file number **21EN008** - please reference this file number in all future related correspondence.

INFORMATION REQUEST

On February 17, 2021, the NIRB requested that the Proponent complete the online application form through the NIRB's public registry system and ensure, pursuant to s. 144(1) of the *NuPPAA*, that sufficient information is provided to determine the scope of the project activities being proposed and commence screening. Following a preliminary completeness check of the proposal as submitted on February 19, 2021 by the Proponent, the NIRB determined that the proposal did

not contain the necessary information for the NIRB to carry out its screening and on March 4, 2021 requested that the Proponent provide the Board with the additional information in order to carry out the screening of the project proposal. On March 12, 2021, the NIRB received the required information and commenced the screening pursuant to Part 3 of the *NuPPAA*.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Project Scope:

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/125583.

Project:	Kahuna Gold Property				
Region:	The project would be located in the same area as previously approved and would be located within the Kivalliq region.				
Location:	Solstice Gold Corporation has primary rights on 9,022 ha of the jointly held claims with Kodiak Copper Corp. (formerly Dunnedin Ventures Inc.) for a total property area of 88,589 ha.				
Closest Community:	Chesterfield Inlet	Distance (approximate)	10 kilometres (km)	Direction	Southwest
Summary of Project Description:	The Proponent intends to apply for exploration activities, a permanent camp with fuel storage, an amendment to both the NWB type "B" water license 2BE-KGP1823, and CIRNAC Class "A" Land Use Permit N2018C0020 held by Solstice Gold Corporation and renew licences with the Kivalliq Inuit Association for prospecting, exploration, drilling and use of the Kahuna Winter Road.				
Project Proposed Timeline:	February 25, 2021 to September 25, 2025				

According to the project proposal, the scope of the project includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

- Use of a Fixed Wing Aircraft to transport equipment, and personal to camp;
- Use of a Helicopter to transport equipment, supplies, and personnel;
- Use of two (2) snowmobiles to transport crew, supplies and equipment;
- Use of two (2) all terrain vehicles to transport crew, supplies and equipment;
- Use of a small aluminum boat for lake bottom bathymetry survey and transportation;
- Use of a Caterpillar Challenger 65s with steel sled(s) to mobilize/transport equipment and supplies;
- Use of a winter road to transport equipment and supplies;
- Use of generator(s) to provide electricity for camp and drill sites;
- Establishment of a permanent 40 person camp;
- Undertaking of general exploration activities such as rock, soil, and till geochemical sampling, geological mapping, ground and/or airborne geophysical surveys;

- Use of one (1) or two (2) drill rig(s) to conduct coring/sampling for drilling up to 20,000 meters;
- Movement of fuel cache from Kodiak Copper Corp.'s Kahuna camp and establishment of a new fuel cache adjacent to Solstice Camp for the following:
 - 29,725 liters (145 drums) of diesel fuel;
 - 29,725 liters (145 drums) of aviation fuel;
 - 2050 liters (10 drums) of gasoline;
 - 20 tanks (2,000 lb) of propane;
 - Other hazardous materials found at Solstice main fuel cache and drill sites may include small quantities of various lubricants/oil/grease for drilling and maintenance of motorized equipment, cleaning products, waste oil and 75,000 lbs of calcium chloride;
 - Spill kits will be located at the drill sites and fuel caches;
- Daily withdrawal of water from water bodies for camp use and to support ongoing exploration activities;
- Use of Pacto toilets for human waste;
- Use of incinerator to burn combustible waste with ash backhauled for appropriate disposal;
- Transportation of hazardous, combustible and non-combustible waste to approved facilities offsite for disposal;
- Disposal of greywater from camp into a sump; and
- Inspection and seasonal shutdown of camp, fuel cache and drilling would be documented prior to leaving the site.

Inclusion or Exclusion of Scoping List

At this time, the NIRB has identified no additional works or activities in relation to the project proposal. However, the NIRB notes that Solstice Gold Corporation had previously applied to the Commission to conduct the exploration activities in conjunction with Kodiak Copper Corp. in 2018 and the Commission determined that these activities were exempt from screening by the NIRB because the Commission was of the understanding that an agreement to split previous authorizations between two companies, and the additional fuel cache and drilling does not change the general scope of the original or previously amended project activities (NPC File No. 148971) As a result, the NIRB will proceed with screening the project based on the scope as described above.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

All documents received can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/125583 and include:

- *Commission Conformity Determination*
- *Commission Application*
- *Commission Questionnaire*
- *Non-technical Project Proposal in English and Inuktitut*
- *NIRB's Online Application Form in English, French, Inuktitut, and Inuinnaqtun*

- *NWB Water License*
- *KIA Winter Road Land Use License*
- *KIA Land Use License*
- *Emergency Response Plan*
- *Fuel Management Plan*
- *CIRNAC Land Use Plan*
- *Abandonment and Restoration Plan*
- *Spill Prevention and Response Plan*
- *Waste Management Plan*
- *Environmental Management Plan*
- *Work Plan*
- *2020 Community Consultation Log*
- *Map*

The NIRB will copy you on screening process related correspondence and upload related documents to the NIRB's online registry for public access. The NIRB may request additional information at any time during the process.

The NIRB is copying parties and municipalities potentially affected by Solstice Gold Corporation project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **April 15, 2021**

The NIRB would like parties to provide comments regarding:

- Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse eco-systemic or socio-economic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse impacts on wildlife habitat or Inuit harvest activities; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is of a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology, (and providing any recommended mitigation measures); and
- Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please send your comments to the NIRB via email at info@nirb.ca, via fax at (867) 983-2594 or via the individual project dashboard for this assessment on the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/125583.

If you have any questions or require clarification, feel free to contact the undersigned at (867) 983-4616 or femingak@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Francis Emingak
Junior Technical Advisor
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosures (4) Public Notice of Screening (English and Inuktitut)
Comment Forms (English and Inuktitut)

cc: Distribution List
Tara Gunson, Apex Geoscience
Richard Dwyer, Nunavut Water Board
Carson Gillis, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
Jorgan Aitaok, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
Luis Manzo, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Maria Serra, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Brenda Osmond, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Natalie O'Grady, Government of Nunavut
Alexander Stubbing, Department of Culture and Heritage - Government of Nunavut
Amy Robinson, Department of Environment - Government of Nunavut
Mosha Cote, Nunavut Research Institute
Saba Qazi, Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency
Tracy McCaie, Crown-Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
Lisa Pirie-Dominix, Canadian Wildlife Service
N. John Olyslager, Environment and Climate Change Canada
Daniel Coombs, Fisheries and Oceans Canada