



To: Board of Directors, CCRD
From: Curtis Slingerland, CAO
Meeting Date: May 12, 2022
Subject: Referral – Notice of Work for a *Mines Act* Permit

Recommended Motion:

THAT the following be submitted as comments to the referral: _____.

Summary:

The province received a Notice of Work for a *Mines Act* permit for mineral exploration. The Central Coast Regional District is invited to comment on the application. A response is optional. If no response is received by the deadline, the application and adjudication process will move ahead. The proponent is DSM Syndicate Holdings Ltd.

The proposed activities associated with this referral are related to mineral exploration activities. The CCRD should reserve the right to review and provide feedback on any expanded mining operations/activities on the site in the future. While there are no CCRD bylaws applicable to this area, long-term concerns that the CCRD may want to relay to the Ministry may include:

- Potential watershed impacts, including water quality and drinking water sources
- Potential socio-economic impacts to the region associated with an influx of workers (both during construction and once operational)
- Potential mine access and transportation consideration

Referral Details:

Referral Number: 145164967-002

Request sent: April 29, 2022

Response due: May 29, 2022

The proponent is seeking a 5 year permit from a period between June 1, 2022 to September 1, 2027. The name of the property is Gold Crest and is located 11 km NE of Bella Coola and is only accessible by helicopter. The proposed work on the Gold Crest property includes:

Silt sampling, prospecting, geological mapping, UAV surveys, possible drilling and channel sampling. Prospecting and rock chip/channel sampling are planned to follow up on the previous years discoveries. This would include a surface sampling program. A drilling program may take place depending on time, resources, and/or results from sampling in 2021. DSM Syndicate may drill approximately 1000 m in the first year. The attached map illustrates the general area of possible drilling. In future years, depending on success, more drill pad locations will be determined. There will be no more than 3 drill pads standing at any time over the course of the project. The UAV survey will take place over various locations within the Gold Crest Property. An application will be submitted to Transport Canada for approval.

The proponent notes that the present condition of the land appears relatively untouched. No major ground disturbance has taken place in the work area. The region is steep and rugged from

Board Meeting
 MAY 12 2022
 CCRD ITEM (D) (K)

glaciation, with sharp ridges being separated by deep v-shaped valleys. Streams cut numerous linear features from the melting glaciers down to small lakes, larger creeks, and eventually the ocean. As existing glaciers and snow packs recede, vegetation-free outcrop exposure has increased, enhancing new opportunities for prospecting.

Cultural Heritage applies to a large spectrum of heritage resources that is defined as "an object, a site or the location of a traditional societal practice that is of historical, cultural or archaeological significance to British Columbia, a community or an aboriginal people." The Archaeology Branch of the Ministry of Forests, Land and Natural Resource Operations is responsible for the administration of the *Heritage Conservation Act* as it applies to archaeological sites. The Archaeology Branch has developed guidelines for companies engaged in natural resource extraction to aid in planning for and avoiding or managing impacts to protected archaeological sites. The proponent is not aware of any protected archaeological sites that may be affected by the proposed project.

In making decisions on authorizations, the provincial government will be fulfilling its responsibility to consult, and where appropriate, accommodate First Nations. The province takes this responsibility seriously and encourages the applicant to engage First Nations early and often as part of any planned development. CAO Slingerland connected with the mining to ensure that the matter is forwarded to the Nuxalk Nation and appropriate First Nations.

Establishing good relations with First Nations who might be affected by the proposed development is a key part of any successful mining operation. The Ministry of Energy and Mines encourages applicants to engage and information share with First Nations that might be affected by a proposed development prior to submitting an application.

The proponent states that they have shared information and engaged with First Nations in the area of the proposed activity through written correspondence.

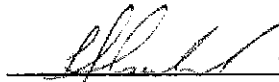
The proponent plans on storing 1,000 litres of fuel in a barrel on the site. No buildings will be constructed and a temporary berm will be in place to store the fuel and spill kit. Little to no vegetation will be removed and no ground will be disturbed.

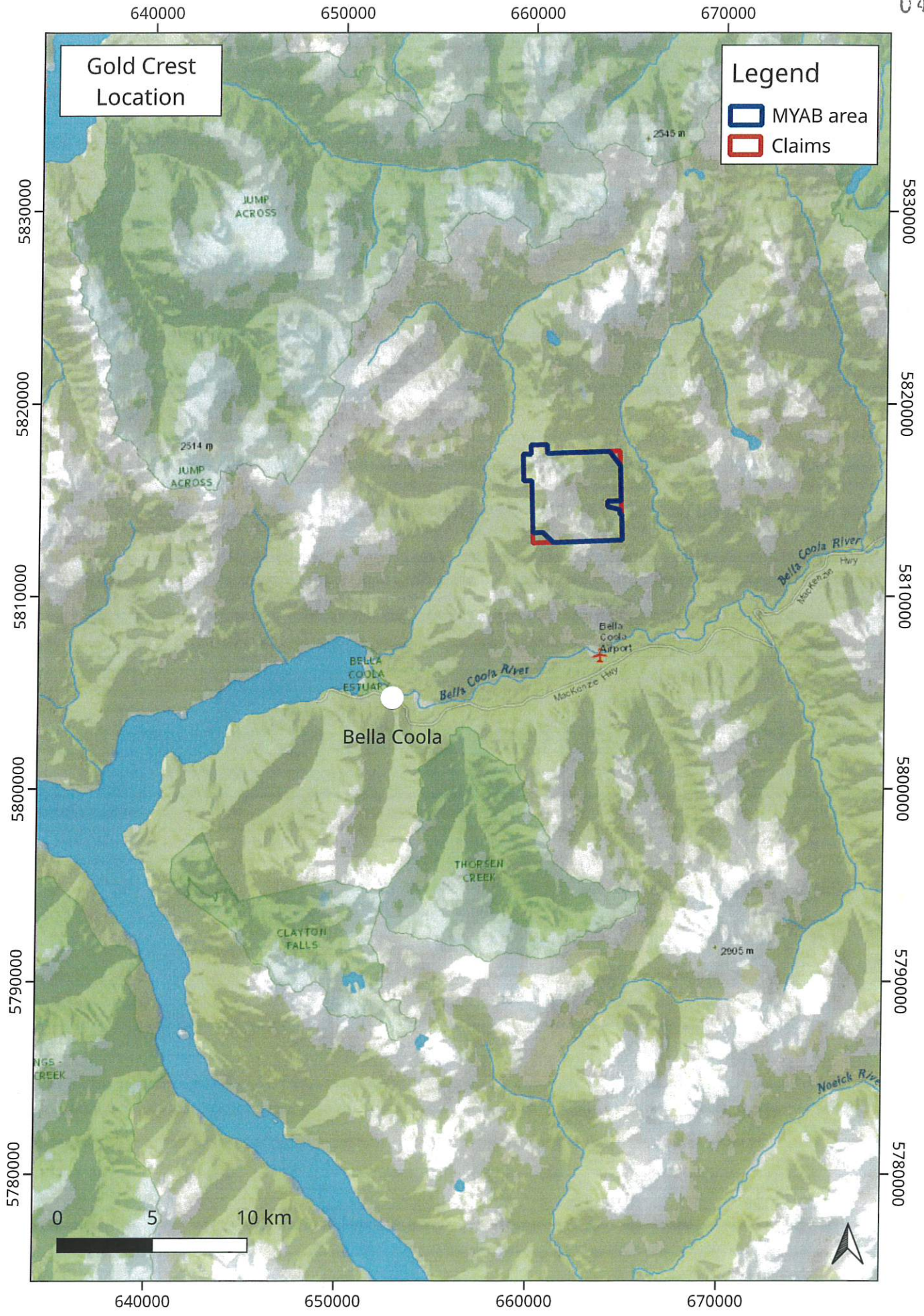
Drilling activities will have little ground disturbance. The drill will be put in place by helicopter. Little to no vegetation will be removed for drill setup. Drill cuttings will be collected in a natural sump. There will be no contaminants in the cuttings. Reclamation would include the removal of the drill, drill pad, and the filling in of the sump. This will take place as soon as drilling is completed on each respective pad. No more than 3 drill pads will be standing at any given time. Timber of reclaimed drill pads will be used to build successive drill pads. Reclamation cost of \$20,000 is based on 3 labourers and helicopter time. The core storage will be on private property in Bella Coola or Terrace.

Reclamation means the environmental disturbance to an area is remediated to the point where the area is safe and stable, is restored as near as reasonable to its pre-disturbance condition, has its environmental values safeguarded, and has an appropriate sustainable ecosystem.

Options:

1. Send referral discussion to the province.
2. Do not submit comments on the application.

Submitted by: 
Curtis Slingerland, Chief Administrative Officer



Gold Crest
Location

Legend

- MYAB area
- Claims

