



14 October, 2020

W2018C0007

**Joseph Mackenzie, Chair**

Wek'èezhii Land and Water Board  
#1-4905 48th St.  
Yellowknife, NWT X1A 3S3

**LAND USE PERMIT W2018C0007 AMENDMENT REQUEST FOR THE NIGHTHAWK GOLD CORP INDIN LAKE GOLD PROPERTY**

Dear Mr. Mackenzie,

Nighthawk Gold Corp. (Nighthawk) is currently permitted by the Wek'èezhii Land and Water Board (WLWB) to conduct mineral exploration, winter road construction, operation of camps, and fuel storage at the Indin Lake Gold Property, under the Land Use Permit W2018C0007. Nighthawk respectfully submits this Permit amendment request to the WLWB to expand the camp capacity and equipment list at the Indin lake Gold Property.

The requested changes to Land Use Permit W2018C0007 include the additional equipment listed below, an increase in camp capacity and updates to the security estimate.

No changes are requested for the location of activities, project description, roads and access, waste management methods, fuel and fuel transfer, spill contingency or permit schedule and term.

**Camp**

The maximum requested camp capacity is increased from 50 to 80 people. The longest anticipated duration of operations is four rotations of six weeks per rotation, or approximately 168 days and 13,440 person-days (an increase of 5,040 person days from the current permit). Sleepers are insulated tents on plywood flooring structures. The camp will continue to be located within a gravel laydown area near Steeves Lake, within the footprint of the former Colomac Mine.

**Equipment List**

The table below provides an update of the equipment for W2018C007, from the application dated 16 October 2018.

Number	Type/Description	Size (weight in tonnes)	Proposed use
2	Diamond core drills	10	Diamond core drilling and collection
1	Diesel Generator, 72 kW	2.5	Electricity for camp operation
1	Diesel Generator, 90 kW	2.5	Service the camp extension and core cutting needs
4	Utility Terrain Vehicle (UTV or side by side)	0.9	Transport workers and equipment
4	Snowmachine	0.9	Transport workers and equipment
1	Helicopter A-Star 350 or equivalent	1.2	Transportation of crews and equipment from camp to drilling and exploration locations

## Land Use Permit Conditions

The requested changes to the Conditions of Land Use Permit W2018C0007 are as follows (or equivalent Conditions suggested by the WLWB):

- Condition 13, which lists the allowable equipment and should be amended to incorporate the additional equipment.
  - Currently states: “The Permittee shall not use any equipment except of a similar type, size, and number to that listed in the complete application.”
  - Requested amendment: “The Permittee shall not use any equipment except of a similar type, size, and number to that listed in the complete application dated 16 October 2018 and the amended application dated October 2020.”
- Condition 57 which stipulates the amount of security deposit required for work on non-federal lands should be amended to consider the additional equipment and structures. The security deposit should be increased by \$20,449 to a total of \$420,178 (see the Land Use Permit Security Worksheet included with this application).

## Application Package

This application package includes the following documents:

- Engagement record showing evidence of our communications with affected parties to alert them of this request.
- Updated Land Use Permit Security Estimate.
- There are no fees required for an amendment, and no additional federal lands will be used, so no fees are provided with this submission.

- All other documents from the original application remain valid (including maps, GIS files, Engagement Plan, Spill Contingency Plan, Waste Management Plan).

## **Preliminary Screening**

Consistent with the Reasons for Decision prepared by the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board on 24 January 2019 for W2018C0007, Nighthawk believes that this application is exempt from preliminary screening as the scope of this application is not being expanded to include any new activities. Previous preliminary screenings for mineral exploration at the Indin Lake Gold Property were completed under W2012C0002, summarized below.

- [Preliminary Screening of W2006C0001 \(MV2005C0020\) dated 9 February 2006](#)
- [Preliminary Screening of W2012C0002 dated 29 February 2012, to include additional camp, fuel storage and exploration area.](#)
- [Preliminary Screening of W2012C0002 Amendment dated 28 May 2014, to include additional leases, with possible satellite camp and fuel storage at the new location](#)

In each of these Preliminary Screenings, it was found that there was no reasonable likelihood that the Project might have a significant adverse impact on the environment or might be a cause of public concern.

The application for W2018C0007 was deemed to be exempt from Preliminary Screening by the WLWB, based on the finding that the Project was not being expanded to include any new activities beyond the scope of previous Permits. Nighthawk contends that this amendment also does not include any new activities and should also be exempt from Preliminary Screening. Regardless, a summary of the potential impacts and proposed mitigation for the additional camp accommodations and increased drilling is provided in the table below. The Potential Impacts were selected based on the Preliminary Screening of W2012C0002 dated 29 February 2012.

Please refer also to the approved environmental management plans including the Waste Management Plan, Spill Contingency Plan and Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Plan, which describe Project mitigation.

We thank you for considering this amendment application. Should you have any questions or need any additional information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Regards,

**Nighthawk Gold Corp.**



Michael J Byron, PhD, PGeo  
*President and CEO*