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October 9, 2018

File: W2018C0007, W2018X0006, W2018L2-0002, W2018L2-0003

Michael J. Byron  
Nighthawk Gold Corporation  
141 Adelaide St. W., Suite 301  
Toronto, Ontario M5H 3L5

Email: [mbyron@nighthawkgold.com](mailto:mbyron@nighthawkgold.com)

Dear Mr. Byron,

**Re: Incomplete Land Use Permit and Water Licence Applications - Mineral Exploration and Remediation**

The Wek'èezhì Land and Water Board (WLWB or the Board) received two Land Use Permit (W2018C0007 and W2018X0006) and two Water Licence (W2018L2-0002 and W2018L2-0003) Applications (the Applications) from Nighthawk Gold Corporation (Nighthawk) on September 28, 2018. The Applications have been reviewed and have been found to be lacking sufficient information. For this application to be considered complete, the following information must be submitted to the WLWB:

1. As per the Boards' *Engagement and Consultation Policy*,<sup>1</sup> Nighthawk must conduct pre-submission engagement with all potentially affected parties. While an Engagement Record was provided with the Application, the Engagement Record does not indicate that the affected parties were engaged specifically on the Land Use Permit and Water Licence Applications. An updated Engagement Record which includes details of engagement conducted specifically with respect to these Applications must be submitted.
2. Section 6.a of the Land Use Permit Application for mineral exploration (W2018C0007) indicates that operations will include winter road construction on Tłjchq Lands. Where winter roads are on Tłjchq Lands, access requires agreement from the Tłjchq Government. An updated Application must include proof of agreement to access Tłjchq Lands from the Tłjchq Government;
3. Section 6.a of the Land Use Permit Application for mineral exploration (W2018C0007) indicates that exploration drilling is to take place. As per the *Guide to the Land Use Permitting Process*,<sup>2</sup> a complete description and summary of the land use activity is required. For mineral exploration activities, the following is required:
  - i. An estimated maximum number of drill holes;

<sup>1</sup> See WLWB 'Policies and Guidelines' webpage for MVLWB (2013) [Engagement and Consultation Policy](#)

<sup>2</sup> See WLWB 'Policies and Guidelines' webpage for [MVLWB Guide to the Land Use Permitting Process](#) (section 3.2.1, paragraph 5a, p.15)

- ii. The frequency of drilling (i.e. specify when drilling will occur during the year and throughout the life of the permit);
  - iii. The number, type, and size of drills to be used; and
  - iv. A description of the general locations of the drill holes.
4. Sections 6.a of the Land Use Permit Applications for exploration and remediation (W2018C0007 and W2018X0006, respectively) indicates the construction and use of camps. As per the *Guide to the Land Use Permitting Process*,<sup>3</sup> the following information is required if a camp may need to be set up:
  - i. Location and distance from any water bodies;
  - ii. Number and types of structures;
  - iii. Square footage of the structures and number of personnel stationed in the camp;
  - iv. Number of person-days required to complete the operation per calendar year (number of people x number of operating days per calendar year = number of person-days per calendar year); and
  - v. Water sources and volumes (maximum volume of water to be used per day) required to support the camp.
5. As per the *Guideline for Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Submission Standard*,<sup>4</sup> GIS data must be submitted with Applications. The Board accepts Vector Data (shapefiles with main file, index file and dBase table) and Raster Data.

In addition to the information required above, we recommend that the updated Applications include the following:

- a. The Water Licence Application (W2018L2-0003) includes a draft Surveillance Network Program, while the other Water Licence Application (W2018L2-0002) does not. Please provide rationale for this difference, or include additional information in the updated Applications; and
- b. The Water Licence Applications reference an attached questionnaire, which was not included. Please clarify in the updated Application.

Yours Sincerely,



Brodie Costello  
Regulatory Specialist



Sarah Elsasser  
Regulatory Manager

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<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, (section 3.2.1, paragraph 5a, 5b, p.15)

<sup>4</sup> See WLWB 'Policy and Guidelines' webpage for [MVLWB Guidelines for Geographic Information Systems \(GIS\) Submission Standard](#)