



Contact: Kristina Woolston
Email: kwoolston@donlingold.com

Donlin Gold Responds to State’s Decision on Proposed Project’s 401 Certification

APRIL 14, 2021 - The Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) has issued a Proposed Decision on the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) Section 401 Certification of the Clean Water Act (CWA) for the Donlin Gold project. This review was in response to an appeal filed by Earthjustice on behalf of Orutsararmiut Native Council (ONC) challenging ADEC’s certification. This is a recommendation only and will be reviewed by ADEC’s Division of Water (Division), Donlin, ONC and the ADEC Commissioner over the next 45 days, at which point the Commissioner will make a final determination which may include accepting, rejecting, or modifying the decision or sending it back to the agency for additional consideration.

“We are in receipt of the 79-page document from the ALJ regarding the Donlin 401 Certification. While we strongly disagree with the appeal officer’s view, it is his opinion and it will be up to the department Commissioner to render the final decision,” said Kristina Woolston, External Affairs Manager of Donlin Gold. “We appreciate the thorough and extensive work undertaken by the Division since 2018 in developing a technically and legally robust certification. OAH’s decision does not affect Donlin Gold’s commitment to the Project’s Alaska Native landowner’s, The Kuskokwim Corporation and Calista Corporation, to build an environmentally responsible mine that enriches the lives of those in the Yukon-Kuskokwim region.”

About Donlin Gold LLC

Donlin Gold is one of the largest known, undeveloped gold deposits in the world, located on land owned by two Alaska Native Corporations; Calista Corporation, which owns the subsurface rights and The Kuskokwim Corporation, which owns the surface rights. Donlin Gold is an Alaskan operated company owned by NOVAGOLD Resources Alaska Inc., a subsidiary of NOVAGOLD RESOURCES Inc., and Barrick Gold U.S. Inc., a subsidiary of Barrick Gold Corporation.

###