

Mining Operations

Thursday, November 3, 2020, Session 6 – Dan Graham, Donlin Gold LLC, Chair

Hecla Greens Creek Mine Drystack Tailings: North Extension Project

Aaron K. Marsh, PE

Hecla Greens Creek Mining Company

Hecla Greens Creek Mine (HGCMC) plans to extend the existing Tailings Disposal Facility (TDF) to provide permanent disposal capacity within the existing Forest Service-approved HGCMC Lease Boundary for an additional 4 to 5 million cubic yards (“CY”) of tailings and waste rock produced by the existing mill and mine. This additional disposal capacity is intended to meet HGCMC’s objectives for continued uninterrupted tailings and waste rock disposal operations at the mine site in a safe, environmentally sound, technically and economically practicable, and cost-effective manner, while remaining in compliance with regulatory requirements. The Project is needed to allow planned mineral production at the mine site to continue pursuant to applicable law and pre-existing rights beyond the year 2031, when current disposal capacity is expected to be exhausted. Combined with the practicable disposal capacity of about 8.5 million CY in the approved TDF, the total disposal capacity of the extended TDF would reach approximately 12.5 to 13.5 million CY of tailings and waste rock.

The Greens Creek Mine is located on Admiralty Island, approximately 18 miles south of Juneau. It produces silver, zinc, lead and gold. The mine is 100% owned and operated by Hecla Mining Company. Last year, it produced 9,890,125 ounces of silver, 56,625 ounces of gold, 20,112 tons of lead and 56,805 tons of zinc.