

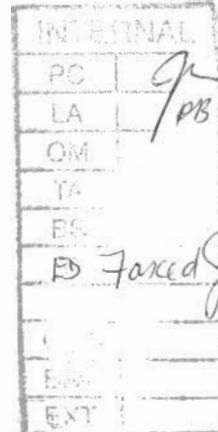


ASHTON MINING
(NORTHWEST TERRITORIES) LTD.

VIA FACSIMILE

May 31, 2002

Ms. Phyllis Beaulieu, Acting Licensing Administrator
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, Nunavut
X0B 1J0



Dear Ms. Beaulieu:

RE: RENEWAL OF LAND USE PERMIT NWB2KIG0002

Ashton Mining (Northwest Territories) Ltd. would like to request a one-year extension of Water Use and Waste Water Disposal Permit NWB2KIG0002.

Activities authorized under this permit are unchanged since the original application and the permit extension is necessary for Ashton to continue its work in the area. Ashton will continue to adhere to all terms and conditions listed with the permit.

If you have any questions on this matter please feel free to contact me at (604) 983-7764.

Best Regards,

ASHTON MINING (NORTHWEST TERRITORIES) LTD.

David Willis
Land Administrator