# Bonito Capital Corp.

A wholly owned subsidiary of Elgin Mining Inc.

# **Ulu Gold Project**

Nunavut, Canada

# **Care and Maintenance Plan**

March 2013

Bonito Capital Corp.
Elgin Mining Inc.
#201 - 750 West Pender Street
Vancouver, BC, V6C 2T7

### **Executive Summary English**

This Care and Maintenance Plan (Plan) has been prepared by Bonito Capital Corporation (BCC), a wholly owned subsidiary of Elgin Mining Inc. (Elgin) for the Ulu Exploration Project (Project) in accordance with its Water Licence 2BM-ULU0914 (Licence). The Project site is located in the Kitikmeot region of Nunavut approximately 12 km north of Hood River and 150 km north of Lupin Mine and has been in a state of care and maintenance since 2006.

Care and Maintenance activities outlined in this Plan include: (1) solid and hazardous waste management in accordance with *Ulu Gold Project Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan;* (2) sewage waste management via a Rotating Biological Contactor in accordance with the *Ulu Gold Project Sewage Treatment Plant Operations and Maintenance Manual;* (3) sewage sludge management via disposal in shallow sump capped with rock; (4) snow and stormwater management via retention pond and silt fencing downstream of the Portal Laydown (Waste Rock) Pad; (5) fuel management in three individual tank farms (only two in use); (6) spill contingency in accordance with the *Ulu Gold Project Spill Contingency Plan;* (7) monitoring, inspection, and reporting of water quality and quantity, earthworks, geological and hydrological regime, water and waste management facilities, archaeological and cultural discoveries, and wildlife observations.

# **Executive Summary Inuktitut**



# **Executive Summary Inuinnaqtun**



## **Table of Contents**

Exe	cutive	Summary English	ii
Exe	cutive	Summary Inuktitut	iii
Exe	cutive	Summary Inuinnaqtun	v
Tabl	le of (	Contents	٧
1.	Intr	oduction	1
1.	.1.	Background	1
1.	.2.	Environmental Policy	2
1.	.3.	Purpose and Scope of Plan	3
2.	Proj	ect Information	3
2.	.1.	Project Location	3
2.	.2.	Project and Site Description	5
2.	.3.	Project Authorizations	8
3.	Site	Occupancy	8
3.	.1.	General Responsibilities	8
4.	Care	e and Maintenance Activities	9
4	.1.	Solid and Hazardous Waste Management	9
4	.2.	Sewage Waste Management	9
	4.2.1	Sewage Treatment Facility	0
4	.3.	Snow and Stormwater Management	0
4	.4.	Fuel Management	1
4.	.5.	Spill Contingency	3
4	.6.	Monitoring, Inspection, Reporting	3
5.	Refe	erences	6

Appendices	17
Appendices	
Appendix A: Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan	
Appendix B: Sewage Treatment Plant Operations and Maintenance	
Appendix C: Spill Contingency Plan	
Appendix D: Interim Abandonment and Restoration Plan	
Figures	
Figure 1: Ulu Project Location Map	4
Figure 2: Main Areas Ulu Site	6
Figure 3: Ulu Mine Site Plan	7
Tables	
Table 1: Project Authorizations	8
Table 2: Sewage Treatment Plant Effluent Quality Limits	9
Table 3: Settling/ Neutralization Pond Effluent Quality Limits	11
Table 4: Tank Farm Containment Effluent Quality Limits	12
Table 5: Monitoring Program	13

#### 1. Introduction

Bonito Capital Corp. (BCC), a wholly owned subsidiary of Elgin Mining Inc. (Elgin), has prepared this Care and Maintenance Plan (the Plan) with respect to the requirements within Water Licence Number 2BM-ULU0914 (Water Licence), Part I, Item 1 which states:

"The Licensee shall submit to the Board for approval in writing, within ninety (90) days of issuance of the Licence, a Care and Maintenance Plan for water and waste related infrastructure at the Ulu Project site including water quality monitoring, fuel storage, equipment storage, site maintenance, water usage, and maintenance of other engineered components."

In addition, this Plan takes into consideration comments received from interested parties regarding Elgin's Care and Maintenance Plan for the Ulu Exploration Project, dated August 2011.

An annual review of the Plan takes place and revisions are submitted as necessary with the annual report. The current Type B water licence 2BM-ULU0914 for the Ulu Gold Project (Ulu or the Ulu Project) is valid until August 31, 2014 and has been kept in good standing.

#### 1.1.Background

Elgin is a Canadian based company focused on the production at the Björkdal Gold Mine located in Sweden, and the exploration and development of the Lupin Mine and Ulu Gold Project, both located in Nunavut, Canada.

Elgin purchased BCC, which owns the Ulu Gold Project, from MMG Resources Ltd. in July 2011. The Ulu site lease was purchased by Echo Bay Mines Ltd. from BHP in 1995 with the intent to develop the property into a satellite mine for additional feed to the Lupin mill. An underground development, diamond drilling and bulk sample program was initiated in 1996 to provide infill geological information. Wolfden Resources Inc. purchased the Ulu Project from Kinross Gold Corporation in February 2004, and Zinifex purchased Wolfden in 2007. In June 2008, Zinifex merged with Oxiana Limited to form OZ Minerals. The assets of OZ Minerals were then purchased by China Minmetals resulting in OZ Minerals becoming MMG Resources Inc. ("MMG"). MMG subsequently sold the Ulu exploration project to Elgin Mining Inc. in July 2011. The project has been in care and maintenance since 2006.

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Project: Ulu Gold Project, Nunavut

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Attention: James (Jim) Currie, Chief Operating Officer

Effective date: March, 2013

Patrick Downey Chief Executive Officer
Peter Tam Chief Financial Officer
Jim Currie Chief Operating Officer
Michele Jones Manager, Corporate Affairs

Gordon Clarke VP Exploration

David Vokey Sr. Environmental Coordinator

Karyn Lewis General Administration

Additional copies of this Plan are available from Bonito Capital Corp., General Administration at 604-682-3366 or klewis@elginmining.com.

This Plan will be posted in key locations at the site, and all employees and contractors will be made aware of its contents.

#### 1.2. Environmental and Sustainable Development Policy

Elgin Mining Inc. and its subsidiaries (collectively, "Elgin Mining") are committed to maintaining a safe, clean, compliant and respectful work environment. Elgin Mining looks to our employees, contractors and managers to adopt and grow a culture of social responsibility and environmental excellence. Together we achieve this by:

- Promoting environmental stewardship in all tasks. Nothing is too important that it cannot be
  done in a clean and responsible manner. We strive towards maintaining a zero-incident
  work place.
- Recognizing that we have a shared responsibility as stewards of the environment in which
  we operate. We will not walk away from a non-compliant act.
- Identifying, managing and mitigating environmental, business and social risks in an open, honest and transparent manner.
- Planning our work so it is done in the cleanest possible manner and executing work according to plan.
- Continually improving environmental and operational performance by setting and reviewing achievable targets.
- Providing appropriate and necessary resources in the form of training, personnel and capital, including that required for closure planning and reclamation.
- Managing our materials and waste streams, maintaining a high degree of emergency response preparedness and minimizing our operational footprint to maintain environmental protection at all stages of project development.
- Procuring goods and services locally, where available, and favouring suppliers with environmentally and socially responsible business practices.

- Seeking to understand, learn from and mitigate the root causes of environmental incidents and near misses when they do occur.
- Employing systems and technology to achieve compliance, increase efficiency and promote industry best practices in development, operations and environmental stewardship.
- Working with stakeholders to identify and pursue opportunities for sustainable social and economic development and capacity building.
- Conducting early and ongoing stakeholder engagement relevant to the stage of project and mine development and operation.
- Recognizing diversity in the workplace and building meaningful relationships with all stakeholders in a timely, collaborative and transparent manner.

Through implementation of this policy, Elgin Mining seeks to earn the public's trust and be recognized as a respectful and conscientious employer, neighbor and environmental steward.

Approved by the Board of Directors on August 10th, 2012

#### 1.3. Purpose and Scope of Plan

This Plan is designed to outline management and monitoring measures on site while the Ulu Project is under care and maintenance.

The objectives of the Plan are to:

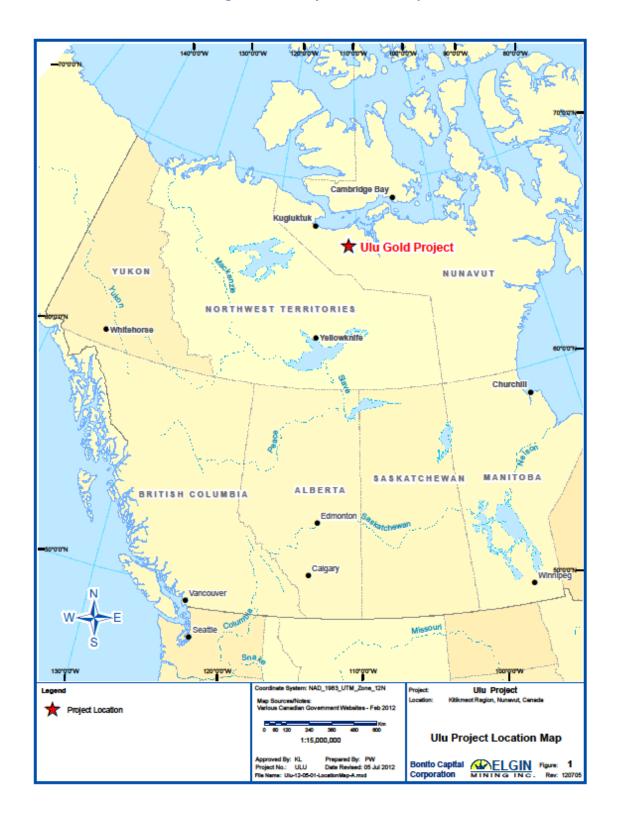
- outline water and waste related management measures;
- outline fuel storage and management; and
- outline monitoring programs.

### 2. Project Information

#### 2.1.Project Location

The Ulu Project is situated in the Kitikmeot Region, Nunavut, approximately 12 km north of Hood River and 150 km north of Lupin Mine. The geographic center of the property is 66° 54′27″ N / 110° 58′24W as shown in Figure 1: Ulu Project Location Map.

Figure 1: Ulu Project Location Map



#### 2.2. Project and Site Description

The exploration program for the 2012 summer season consisted of ground geophysical surveys, mapping and prospecting, and core drilling with two fly rigs. The camp infrastructure required for the program currently exists, and was previously screened by the Nunavut Impact Review Board under water licence 99WR055, and approved by the Nunavut Water Board under water licence 2BM-ULU0914. The Ulu Project site is completely self-contained with the exception of the transportation requirements for materials/supplies and workforce mobilization. There are three (3) main location areas as shown in Figure 2: Main Areas Ulu Site

- <u>Ulu Camp</u> which houses the residential complex consisting of Weatherhaven accommodations, vehicle repair shop, vehicle parking, power house, emergency generators, office and change rooms, fuel storage tank farm, freshwater system, sewage treatment plant and sewage line, incinerator, ore storage area, waste pad, mine portal, mine sump, and access roads as shown in Figure 3;
- 2. <u>Camp 3</u>, which is comprised of fuel tank farm, explosives magazine, detonator magazine, quarry and borrow pit eskers; and
- 3. Airstrip

The site is accessible year round only by aircraft. Bulk items were brought on site via the winter road. During active exploration activity, all supplies are flown. Figure 3 shows the Ulu Camp Area Site plan.

Figure 2: Main Areas Ulu Site

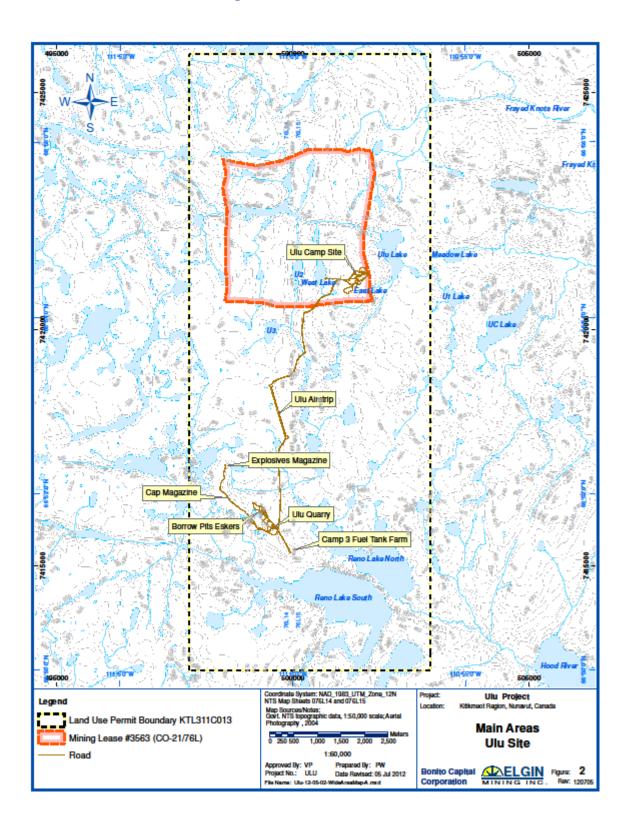
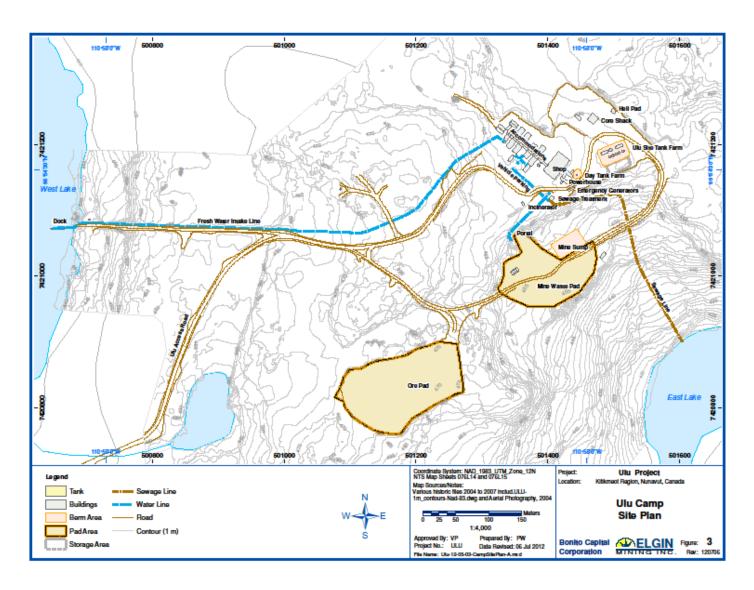


Figure 3: Ulu Mine Site Plan



#### 2.3. Project Authorizations

The following Table 1 lists the authorizations currently pertaining to the Ulu Project:

**Table 1: Project Authorizations** 

Organization	Type of Authorization	Authorization Number	Expiry Date
Nunavut Impact Review Board	Screening Determination	99WR055	Not applicable
Nunavut Water Board	Type B Water Licence for undertaking classified as mining and milling	2BM-ULU0914	August 31, 2014
Kitikmeot Inuit Association	Inuit Owned Land Use Licence for staking and prospecting, exploration (geophysical – ground/air), sampling, drilling (Diamond, ice, etc.), camp, bulk fuel storage	KTL311C013	September 26, 2012

### 3. Site Occupancy

The site will remain un-occupied during 2013. BCC staff will periodically visit site for routine inspections and monitoring.

### **General Responsibilities**

Responsibilities of site personnel include:

- Manage snow and storm water in accordance with best management practices (BMPs);
- Maintain secondary containment in petroleum storage areas;
- Prevent the release of petroleum products;
- Implement Ulu Gold Project Spill Contingency Plan, as needed;
- Manage all wastes according to Ulu Gold Project Waste Management Plan;
- Inspect water and domestic sewage pipelines;
- Maintain environmental licenses, permits and authorizations;

- Conduct monitoring programs; and
- Regularly review and update contingency and management plans.

#### 4. Care and Maintenance Activities

#### 4.1. Solid and Hazardous Waste Management

Solid and hazardous wastes and associated facilities including the incinerator and hazardous waste storage facility, will be managed in accordance with the *Ulu Gold Project Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan* (Appendix A).

#### 4.2. Sewage Waste Management

Sanitary sewage and camp greywater is treated prior to release to the environment. Treatment is carried out with a package facility employing a Rotating Biological Contactor (RBC). Once treated, the effluent is released to East Lake via a 550 metre, insulated two inch pipeline. The effluent from the RBC must meet the following water license requirements for discharge:

**Table 2: Sewage Treatment Plant Effluent Quality Limits** 

Parameter	Maximum Concentration of any Grab Sample
BOD <sub>5</sub>	30 mg/L
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	35 mg/
рН	6.5 to 9.0
Oil and Grease	Visible Sheen

During the start-up phase, the final effluent will be directed to the former mine sump containment pond and held there until the results of water quality monitoring show that the sewage treatment plant effluent is meeting discharge criteria.

Ten (10) days prior to such discharging BCC will advise the Inspector of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) that the effluent is compliant and request approval to discharge to East Lake. The effluent contained within the former mine sump containment pond will be permitted to sit for a period of one to two weeks to allow natural treatment, and then it will be pumped to the primary clarifier and be processed through the sewage treatment plant.

Future proposed plans include a small containment dyke to be constructed at East Lake to provide additional retention.

Sludge is removed from the treatment plant as required, placed in drums and back-hauled to an approved off-site waste disposal facility.

#### 4.2.1. Sewage Treatment Facility

The Sewage Treatment Facility (RBC) described above in Section 4.2 will be operated and maintained in accordance with the *Ulu Gold Project, Sewage Treatment Plant Operation and Maintenance Plan* provided in Appendix B.

In addition, in accordance with water licence condition Part D, Item 1, BCC will provide at least ten (10) days notice to an Inspector prior to the start-up of the Sewage Treatment Facility.

#### 4.3. Snow and Storm water Management

Existing snow and storm water management infrastructure on site includes a Mine Sump (Retention Pond) and silt fencing downstream of the Portal Laydown (Waste Rock) Pad.

The Mine Sump Retention Pond is located directly outside the mine portal, uphill from a local access road and the portal laydown pad that provides containment for settling and sediment retention of mine water pumped from the mine decline ramp and the mine portal entrance. It is a lined sump approximately 20 metres wide by 30 metres long and 1.5-2.0 metres above grade. As recommended in the 2011 Annual Geotechnical Inspection Report, BCC will restore the sump liner and side slopes before the sump is put back in service. This mine sump retention pond will also serve as a final effluent containment area, pending acceptable sampling results from the sewage treatment plant. Upon receipt of acceptable final effluent data and approval from AANDC to discharge the STP to East Lake, the mine sump retention pond will be decanted to the STP primary clarifier.

The Portal Laydown (Waste Rock) Pad, located downhill from the portal and local access road, approximately 150 metres from East Lake, was constructed from waste rock from the decline ramp development. It is approximately 50 metres wide by 200 metres long and 1 to 5 metres above grade. Silt fencing exists downstream of the pad. Analytical results of a seepage sample collected at the toe of the Pad (Monitoring Station ULU-07) during the 2011 Annual Geotechnical Inspection and in June 2012 indicated an exceedence of water licence effluent criteria for TSS. As recommended in the 2011 Annual Geotechnical Inspection Report, Bonito carried out necessary repairs to the silt fencing in 2012.

Additional Settling / Neutralization Ponds will be construction as needed to control surface water runoff from the ore storage pad located southwest of the Portal Laydown Pad, approximately 325 m from East Lake. This pad is approximately 100 metres wide by 200 metres long and 1 to 3 metres above grade. Analytical results of a seepage sample collected at the toe of the Pad (Monitoring Program Station ULU-

08) during the 2011 Annual Geotechnical Inspection did not indicate any exceedances of water licence effluent criteria.

Ten (10) days prior to any planned discharge from the Retention Pond or any Settling / Neutralization Ponds, Elgin will provide notification to the AANDC Inspector. All effluent will be directed towards East Lake in a manner that will minimize surface erosion. All effluent discharged from the Retention Pond, Portal Laydown Pad, Ore Storage Pad and any future Settling/Neutralization Ponds will not exceed the following effluent quality limits:

**Table 3: Settling/ Neutralization Pond Effluent Quality Limits** 

Parameter	Maximum Average Concentration (mg/L)	Maximum Concentration of any Grab Sample (mg/L)
Total Arsenic	0.5	1.0
Total Copper	0.3	0.6
Total Lead	0.2	0.4
Total Nickel	0.5	1.0
Total Zinc	0.5	1.0
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	25.0	50.0
рН	6.0 t	o 9.5
Oil and Grease	Visible	sheen

The Retention and Settling / Neutralization Ponds will be maintained such that: (1) at least one (1) metre of freeboard is maintained at the berm at all times; (2) seepage from the ponds is minimized; (3) any seepage that does occur will be collected and returned to the ponds; (4) signs of erosion will be repaired immediately; and (5) inspections of the Ponds will be carried out weekly during periods of open water and records maintained.

Water samples from the retention pond will be collected and analyzed against the discharge criteria of the water licence. If the results meet all criteria, notification will be made to the regulators within the standard time frame prior to discharge to the environment. If the effluent does not meet criteria, then it will be either treated using a portable treatment plant, or placed in drums for disposal at an approved off-site facility.

#### 4.4.Fuel Management

Fuel storage for the Ulu Project is through three individual tank farms including: (1) Camp 3 Tank Farm; (2) Ulu Site Tank Farm; and (3) Day Tank Farm adjacent to the Power House. All bulk storage for petroleum products at the Project Site have been provided with secondary containment in the form of constructed tank farm facilities incorporating an impermeable liner and berm and an off-loading apron. The containment volume of each facility is sufficient to accommodate 110% volume of the largest single tank volume that is contained.

The tank farm at Camp 3, or main staging area, consists of two 1,324,895 litre tanks and six 52,995 litre tanks. At the Ulu site, fuel is stored in five 52,995 litre tanks. The Day Tank Farm consists of one 8,880 litre tank. As recommended in the 2011 Annual Geotechnical Inspection Report, BCC will carry out necessary repairs to the tank farm berms in 2014 including covering exposed sections of the liners and repairing areas where the liner has separated.

The main tank farms, at Camp 3 and the Ulu site, store P40 and P50 grade fuels. Historically, fuel was stored in the remote tank farm at Camp 3 until it was transferred to the Ulu camp as required.

The products that are located at the site include: diesel (P40 and P50), Jet fuel (A or B), W30 lube oil, Ralube, and gasoline. Please refer to the *Ulu Gold Project Spill Contingency Plan* (Appendix C) for general location and quantities of all materials and storage facilities.

Precipitation and snow melt accumulation within the tank farm facilities will be discharged annually to maintain the required containment volume. Prior to discharge the water will be sampled and analyzed. The water will be discharged to the Retention Pond (Mine Sump) once it has been confirmed by a certified laboratory that it does not exceed the following limits:

**Table 4: Tank Farm Containment Effluent Quality Limits** 

Parameter	Maximum Concentration of Grab Sample
рН	6.5 to 9.0
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	30 mg/L
Oil and Grease	10 mg/L
Total Lead	0.02 mg/L
Benzene	0.37 mg/L
Toluene	0.002 mg/L
Ethyl Benzene	0.090 mg/L

Water impounded in the tank farm facilities that exceeds the limits outlined in Table 3 will be treated in a portable hydrocarbon water treatment unit.

#### 4.5.Spill Contingency

In the event of a failure or an incident at the Ulu Project site resulting in a spill of a petroleum, allied petroleum product, or chemical during project activities, Elgin will carry out the plans of action detailed in the *Ulu Gold Project Spill Contingency Plan* (Appendix C).

#### 4.6. Monitoring, Inspection, Reporting

Elgin will carry out water quality and quantity monitoring required by water licence 2BM-ULU0914 Part J including the following:

**Table 5: Monitoring Program** 

Station Number	Description	Sample Frequency	Analysis Requirements
ULU-1	Water Intake at West Lake	Daily	Volume (m3) Total Arsenic Total Copper Total Nickel Total Mercury Total Cadmium Total Lead Total Zinc Total Suspended Solids pH
ULU-2	Sewage Effluent Discharge Point at East Lake	Monthly	Volume (m3) Fecal Coliforms Total Suspended Solids BOD5 pH Total Phosphorous Total Dissolved Phosphorus Total Nitrogen Nitrate Nitrite Total Kjedahl Nitrogen

Station	Description	Sample	Analysis Requirements
Number	·	Frequency	
ULU-3	Sludge removed from Sewage Treatment Facility	Monthly	Volume (m3)  Chemical characterization required to determine suitable disposal method for Sludge.
ULU-4	Minewater pumped from underground	Monthly	Volume (m3)
ULU-5 (currently inactive, pond not constructed)	Settling/ Neutralization Pond 1	Monthly during open water season. Prior to discharge and weekly during discharge.	Volume (m3) Total Arsenic Total Copper Total Nickel Total Mercury Total Cadmium Total Lead Total Zinc Total Suspended Solids pH Conductivity Chloride* Sodium Calcium
ULU-6 (currently inactive, pond not constructed)	Settling/ Neutralization Pond 2	Monthly during open water season. Prior to discharge and weekly during discharge.	Volume (m3) Total Arsenic Total Copper Total Nickel Total Mercury Total Cadmium Total Lead Total Zinc Total Suspended Solids pH Conductivity Chloride* Sodium Calcium

Station	Description	Sample	Analysis Requirements
Number		Frequency	
ULU-7	Runoff from the waste rock storage area	Monthly during periods of flow.	Volume (m3) Total Arsenic Total Copper Total Nickel Total Mercury Total Cadmium Total Lead Total Zinc Total Suspended Solids pH Conductivity Chloride* Sodium Calcium
ULU-8	Runoff from the ore storage area	Monthly during periods of flow.	Volume (m3) Total Arsenic Total Copper Total Nickel Total Mercury Total Cadmium Total Lead Total Zinc Total Suspended Solids pH Fecal Coliforms
ULU-9	Outflow East Lake	Monthly during open water season. Weekly during open water season, if receiving discharge from ore runoff collection ponds.	Total Arsenic Total Copper Total Nickel Total Mercury Total Cadmium Total Lead Total Zinc Total Suspended Solids pH Fecal Coliforms
ULU-10	Inflow Ulu Lake from East Lake	Monthly during open water season, if flow present.	Fecal Coliforms Total Suspended Solids BOD5 pH Total Phosphorus Total Dissolved Phosphorus Total Nitrogen Nitrate Nitrite Total Kjedahl Nitrogen

Station	Description	Sample	Analysis Requirements
Number		Frequency	
ULU-11	Outflow Ulu Lake	Monthly during open water season. Weekly during open water season, if receiving discharge from ore runoff collection ponds.	Total Arsenic Total Copper Total Nickel Total Mercury Total Cadmium Total Lead Total Zinc Total Suspended Solids pH Fecal Coliforms

<sup>\*</sup>Elgin notes that where the water licence requires sample analysis of Chloride, the intended parameter to be tested for should be Chlorine in reference to drilling salts used in exploration.

In addition, Elgin will conduct the following inspections and reporting:

- Inspections of the Mine Pit Sump during periods of open water, the records of which will be kept on file;
- Annual geotechnical inspection of earthworks, geological regime, and hydrological regime by a
  Geotechnical Engineer registered to practice in Nunavut, a report of which will be submitted to
  the NWB within sixty (60) days of the inspection with a cover letter outlining an implementation
  plan to respond to the Geotechnical Engineer's recommendations;
- Regular inspections of all drill waste sumps, hazardous waste facilities, and fuel tanks and connectors for leaks and movement, to ensure that wastes are not released to the environment;
- Regular inspections of all water supply and sewage lines;
- Inspection of access roads and airstrip for erosion or ponding water after spring melt has subsided;
- Maintain records of all waste backhauled;
- Report any unauthorized discharges of waste in accordance with the *Ulu Gold Project Spill Contingency Plan* (Appendix C)
- Inspect incinerator in accordance with the *Ulu Gold Project Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan* (Appendix A)
- Inspect the Sewage Treatment Plant in accordance with *Ulu Gold Project Sewage Treatment Plant Operations and Maintenance Manual* (Appendix B)
- Report in writing within forty eight (48) hours any wildlife incidents to the Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA) Wildlife Officer at 867-982-3310
- Report any human-bear interactions to the KIA Senior Lands Officer at 867-982-3310.
- Report the discovery of any deposit of carving stone to KIA;

- Report the discovery of any archaeological or historical site to the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre.
- Submit an annual report outlining all project activity to the NWB and KIA in March of the year following the year reported. The report will be prepared in accordance with water licence 2BM-ULU0914, Part B, Item 8 and content set out by the Lands Department of KIA.

#### 5. References

Elgin Mining Inc., Care and Maintenance Plan, Ulu Exploration Project, August 2011.

Letter and Technical Review Memorandum from I. Parsons, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, to P. Beaulieu, NWB, *Re: 2BM-ULU0914 – Care and Maintenance Plan (C&M)- Ulu Mine Site –Elgin Mining Ltd.*, dated September 30, 2011

Nunavut Water Board, Water Licence No. 2BM-ULU0914, Date of Issuance: October 8, 2009.

TBT Engineering and Consulting Group, 2011 Annual Geotechnical Inspection Various Earth Structures Ulu, Nunavut, dated November 24, 2011.

## **Appendices**

Appendix A: Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan

Appendix B: Sewage Treatment Plant Operations and Maintenance
Appendix B. Sewage Treatment Flant Operations and Maintenance

Apper	ndix C: Spill Contingency Plan	

Appendix D: Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan		