

2012 Annual Geotechnical Inspection of Selected Structures – Ulu Gold Project, Nunavut

Report Prepared for

Bonito Capital Corporation



Report Prepared by



SRK Consulting (Canada) Inc.
1CB027.000
November 2012

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1 Introduction and Scope of Work

The Ulu Gold Project is an advanced exploration project that is currently in care and maintenance status under Nunavut Water Licence 2BM-ULU0914 by Bonito Capital Corp (BCC), a wholly owned subsidiary of Elgin Mine Inc. (NWB 2011). The project is situated in the Kitikmeot region of Nunavut, with the underground exploration site located at UTM 12W 501,167E 7,421,069N. This is about 12 km north of Hood River and 150 km north of Lupin Mine, in the treeless arctic tundra where rock and glacial features dominate the landscape. Figure 1.1 shows the general location of the Ulu Gold Project.

Part D.10 of the water license states:

“An inspection of the earthworks, geological regime, and the hydrological regime of the Project is to be carried out by a Geotechnical Engineer prior to the recommencement of on-site activities and annually thereafter. The Geotechnical Engineer’s report shall be submitted to the Board within sixty (60) days of the inspection, with a covering letter from the Licensee outlining an implementation plan to respond to the Engineer’s recommendations.”

In fulfillment of these regulatory requirements, Mr. David Vokey, site environmental manager for BCC, retained SRK Consulting (Canada) Inc. to conduct the 2012 geotechnical site inspection. Specifically, SRK scope of work was to inspect the following structures:

- Ulu Gold Project main tank farm containment berm;
- Day fuel tank containment berm;
- Camp 3 fuel tank farm containment berm;
- Mine sump;
- Ore storage pad; and,
- Portal laydown pad.

The inspection focuses on the geotechnical aspects on the structures listed above. This report summarizes SRK’s observations made during the recent site inspection and provides recommendations for remediation. The report does not include any commentary on fuel storage, fuel and waste management practices. Generally, the 2012 inspection found the mine facilities in good condition with some erosion at most structures. SRK noted the following two areas that would require attention: the mine sump and the Camp 3 fuel tank farm.



Not to Scale



Lupin Mine Inc.

Ulu Project

Location Plan

SRK JOB NO.: 1CL008.000

FILE NAME: Ulu-SiteFacil-utm-12_20121113.dwg

Lupin Mine Incorporated

DATE:
November 2012

APPROVED:

FIGURE:

1.1

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2 Site Conditions

2.1 Site History

Echo Bay Mines Ltd. (EBM) purchased the Ulu Gold Project site lease from BHP Minerals in 1995. Underground development was initiated in 1996. The mining operation was suspended in 1997. In January 2003, Kinross Gold Corporation acquired EBM through a merger of companies. Following this, Wolfden Resources Inc. purchased a 100% interest in Ulu from Kinross in December 2003. Wolfden reopened the mine portal in May 2005 for grade and resource confirmation. Because of a safety concern, work in the mine was suspended once again and Ulu was put into care and maintenance in the summer of 2006.

Zinifex Canada Inc. purchased Wolfden in autumn 2007 and took over Ulu and other assets. In June 2008, Zinifex merged with Oxiana Ltd., forming OZ Minerals, which was purchased by China Minmetals to become MMG Resource Inc. In July 2011 BCC, a wholly owned indirect subsidiary of Elgin Mining Inc purchased the site from MMG. An annual report was completed by BCC for 2011 summarizing site conditions (BCC 2012) and an annual geotechnical inspection was completed by TBT Engineering in 2011 (TBT 2011).

2.2 Site Infrastructures

Year round access to the site is by aircraft only. The Ulu Gold Project site (Figure 2.1) consists of three major areas: the Ulu Camp, airstrip, and Camp 3. The facilities at the Ulu Camp (Figure 2.2) consist of a 60-man camp, a vehicle repair shop, powerhouse, warehouse, cold storage, and office. The site also houses a fuel tank farm, day use fuel tank, fresh water and sewage systems, garbage incinerator, ore storage area, waste rock pad, mine portal and explosive magazines. All mine production was intended to be transported via an ice road during the winter months to the Lupin Mine for processing. No processing facility was constructed at Ulu. The Camp 3 area (Figure 2.3) has a fuel tank farm and a vehicle repair shop.

The tank farm at Camp 3 consists of two 1,324,895 litre tanks and six 52,995 litre tanks; these are currently not in use. At the Ulu site, fuel is stored in five 52,995 litre tanks in the fuel tank farm. The day use tank is an 8,800 litre tank.

The tank farms 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 Camp 3 fuel facility does not currently contain fuel. P50 grade fuel is currently stored in the Ulu site fuel tank farm.

2.3 Climate

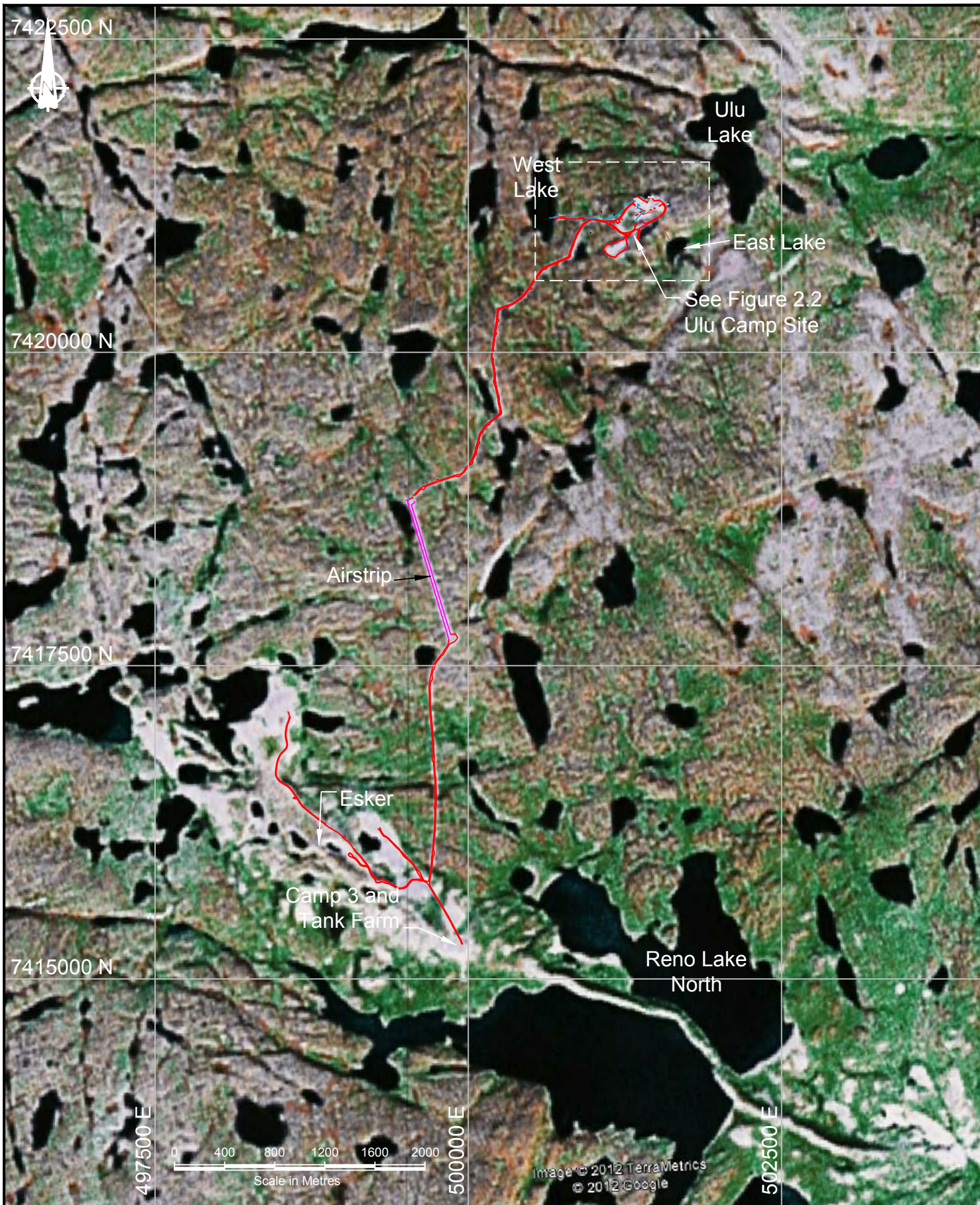
There is no weather station on site to actively record data. The nearest recording station is at Lupin Mine site about 150 km south of Ulu. Generally, the area is characterized by high arctic climate with severe winter and mild summers. The overall temperature ranges from approximately -50°C in winter to 30°C in summer. Permafrost is found in and around the site and typically extends to several hundred metres (NWB 2009). The annual mean precipitation is assumed to be between 300 mm to 350 mm.

2.4 Site Geology

The BGC Engineering 2007 Annual Inspection Report provided a summary of geology on the Ulu Gold Project and is summarized as follows:

The Ulu claims are located within the High Lake Volcanic Belt of the Archean Slave Structural province. This geological province consists of basement gneisses overlaid by greywacke turbidite and basalt in thick sequences. The High lake Volcanic Belt is part of such a sequence and consists of a north-south trending volcanic and sedimentary sequence, enclosed by later Archean granitoid rocks.

The geology of the Ulu property consists of a sequence of folded mafic volcanic, mafic intrusive and sedimentary rocks, metamorphosed to upper greenschist / lower amphibolite phases. These rocks are intruded by later felsic intrusive rocks and diabase dykes. At least three phases of deformation are noted with the rocks at Ulu. The volcanic, intrusive, and sedimentary rocks are folded into a north trending anticline that plunges deeply to the north in the area of the Flood Zone. Gold occurs in laminated calc-silicate veins and in quartz veins. The highest concentrations of gold grains are found in quartz veins containing fine-grained arsenopyrite. Gold mineralization occurs primarily in the basalt and to some degree in the sediments. Very little gold mineralization occurs in the gabbroic rocks (BGC 2007).



srk consulting

Lupin Mine Inc.

ULU PROJECT

Ulu Facility Area Plan

SRK JOB NO.: 1CL008.000

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Lupin Mine Incorporated

DATE:
November 2012

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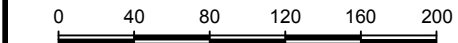
FIGURE:

2.1

7421500 N

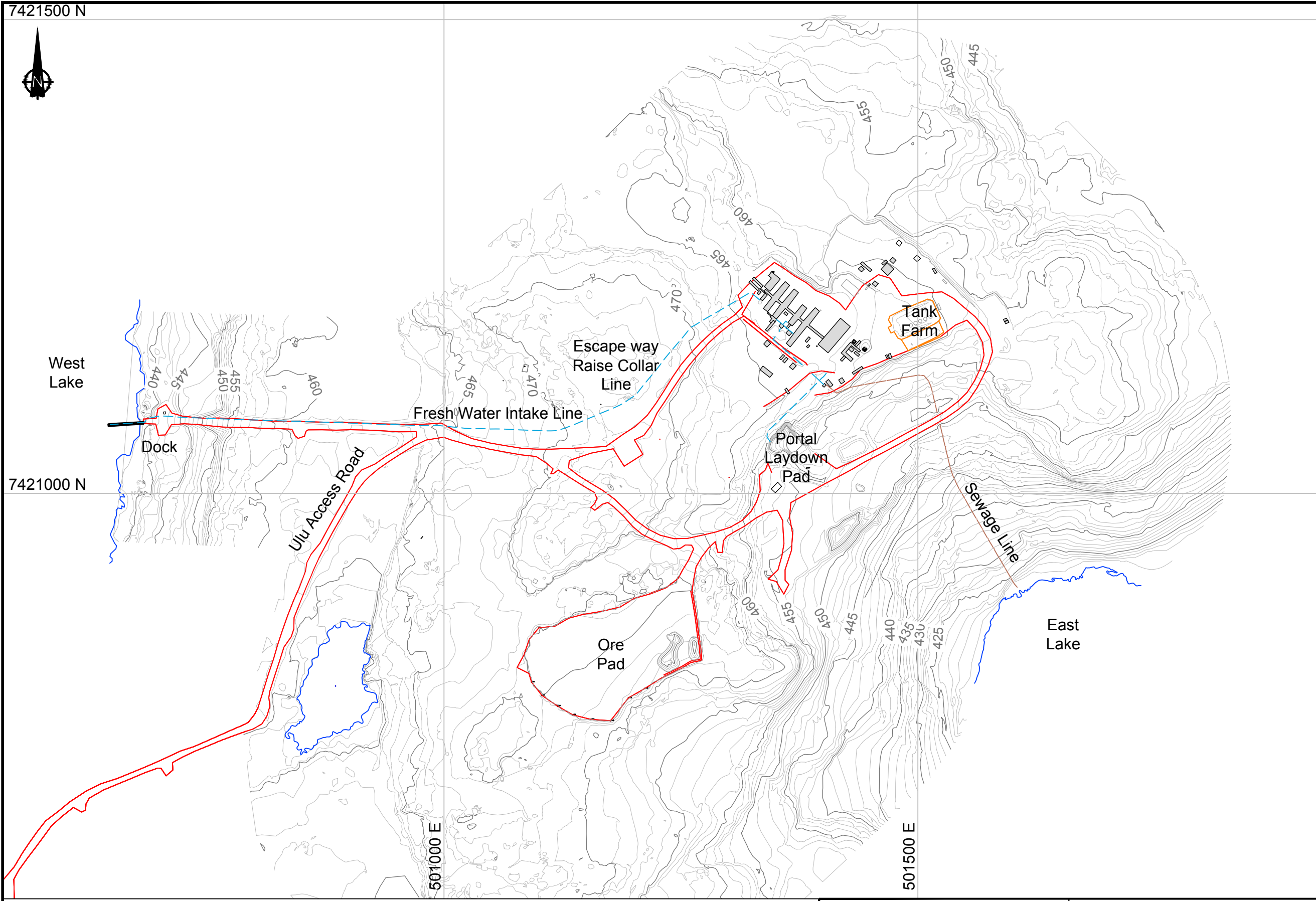


7421000 N



Coordinate System: Nad_1983_UTM_Zone_12N
NTS Map Sheets 076L15

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LEGEND

- Tank Farm Berm Outline
- Building
- Water Pipeline
- Sewage Pipeline
- Lake Shore, Drainage
- Contour 1 m
- Contour 5 m
- Roads
- Site Features Miscellaneous

NOTES

- 1. Topographic information and facilities outline provided by Bonito Capital Corporation.

ULU PROJECT

Ulu Site Plan



Lupin Mine Inc.

Lupin Mine Incorporated

SRK JOB No.: 1CL008.000
FILE NAME: Ulu-SiteFacil-utm-12_20121113.dwg

DATE: November 2012 APPROVED: FIGURE: 2.2

3 Geotechnical Site Inspection

3.1 General

Mr. Alvin Tong, PEng, a senior geotechnical engineer with SRK, conducted the geotechnical inspection on September 13, 2012. After a general overview of the site by air, the detailed site inspection was carried out on foot and via ground transportation. Mr. Dave Vokey of BCC was not present during the inspection but was available for comments and discussion upon the engineer's return to Lupin.

Weather conditions during the inspection were overcast and cold with periods of rain and high gusts of wind. A detailed photographic log of the inspection is included in Appendix A. Generally, the inspection indicated the facilities in Ulu are in good geotechnical condition with two minor concerns noted below.

3.2 Ulu Camp

The Ulu Camp area consists of the following facilities:

- Mine sump;
- Ulu Gold Project main tank farm containment berm;
- Day fuel tank containment berm;
- Ore storage pad; and
- Portal laydown pad.

All the facilities are generally in good condition, in terms of stability and performance.

During the inspection, part of the leading edge and the slopes of the liner in the mine sump were found to be exposed and should be covered at the first opportunity to protect the liner. Damages to the sump liner were also observed and should be repaired. Repairs to and maintenances should be performed prior to utilizing the sump.

There are minor erosion issues near each crest of the fuel containment berms where liners are exposed and damaged. Furthermore, small animal burrows were observed in the fuel containment overliner. The erosions and burrows should be repaired to prevent further damage to the liner, as well as to prevent leakage during periods of high water levels. Both the ore storage and portal laydown pads are in satisfactory geotechnical condition.

3.3 Camp 3

The Camp 3 area consists of the following facilities:

- Camp 3 fuel tank farm
- Vehicle repair shop

The main concern observed during the Camp 3 inspection is that one fuel tank is leaning because of broken cribbing at its base. It is recommended that the cribbing be repaired. The tank should be set upright and level to prevent toppling and damage to the tanks and containment berm. Alternatively, the leaning tank should be decommissioned and removed from the containment berm. The fuel tank

farm containment berm was in generally good condition. The parts of the liner that are exposed should be repaired.

The vehicle repair shop was not part of the geotechnical inspection requirement.

4 Recommendations

Overall, the facilities are in good geotechnical condition; however, SRK makes the following recommendations for site maintenance and repairs:

- Cover all exposed liners and leading edges with granular fill for overliner protection;
- Repair all damaged liners;
- Replace the broken cribbing at Camp 3 and re-level the fuel tank or decommission the tank;
- Repairs and perform maintenance on the liner in the mine sump shall be completed prior to utilizing it.
- BCC may wish to submit a request to the Nunavut Water Board for an amendment to the inspection schedule as consisting of bi-weekly inspections during May and June, monthly inspections from July to October of the fuel containments and mine sump, and an annual inspection of the storage pad when the site is in care and maintenance. The inspection schedule stated in the Part D. Item 8.e of Water Licence is:

“Inspections of the Retention Pond and structures are carried out weekly during periods of open water and records kept of these inspections for review upon request of an Inspector.”

Prepared by



Alvin Tong, PEng
Senior Consultant

Reviewed by

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "P. Healey", written over a horizontal line.

Peter Healey, PEng
Principal Engineer

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The opinions expressed in this report have been based on the information available to SRK at the time of preparation. SRK has exercised all due care in reviewing information supplied by others for use on this project. Whilst SRK has compared key supplied data with expected values, the accuracy of the results and conclusions from the review are entirely reliant on the accuracy and completeness of the supplied data. SRK does not accept responsibility for any errors or omissions in the supplied information, except to the extent that SRK was hired to verify the data.

5 References

[BCC] Bonito Capital Corp. (2012). Ulu Gold Project, Annual Report, 2011 (Care and Maintenance). March 2012.

BGC Engineering Inc. (2007). Ulu Gold Project, 2007 Annual Geotechnical Inspection Selected Structures. Report prepared for Zinifex Canada Inc. October 2007.

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Appendix A: Photo Log



Camp 3 Tank Farm and the leaning empty fuel tank



Camp 3 Tank Farm Exposed Liner



Camp 3 Tank Farm Broken Cribbing



Camp 3 Tank Farm Exposed Liner



Portal Storage Pad



Portal Storage Pad



Portal Storage Pad



Portal Storage Pad



Portal Storage Pad



Ulu Day Tank



Ulu Day Tank exposed and damaged liner (closer view)



Ulu Day Tank Damaged Liner



Ulu Day Tank Exposed Liner



Ulu Mine Sump Exposed Liner and leading edge



Ulu Ore Pad



Ulu Tank Farm



Ulu Tank Farm Exposed Liner



Ulu Tank Farm Exposed Liner



Ulu Tank Farm Exposed Liner



Ulu Tank Farm Ponding Water



Ulu Tank Farm Potential Animal Burrow