



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

1250 W Alder St • Union Gap, WA 98903-0009 • (509) 575-2490

January 17, 2017

Mark Ioli
Vice President and General Manager Kettle-River Buckhorn
Kinross Gold Corporation
363 Fish Hatchery Road
Republic, WA 99166

Re: Pump Test of Monitoring Well MW-2R at the Buckhorn Mine Site
Letter from Crown Resources dated December 6, 2016
Permit No. WA0052434

Dear Mr. Ioli:

Thank you for your December 6, 2016 follow-up letter related to the proposal to pump test MW-2R at the Buckhorn Mine site. In this letter, Crown Resources Corporation (Crown) requested a technical assistance meeting pursuant to RCW 90.03.605. While the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) believes that our previous letter identified the rationale for our decision not to allow pump testing of the well, your follow-up letter has proposed a number of questions that warrant discussion in an attempt to reach consensus on the hydrogeological setting and how to best protect the groundwater resource. To that end, we would like to work with you and your staff to schedule a meeting to provide the technical assistance you have requested.

Prior to such a meeting, it will be necessary for Crown to identify and summarize what alternatives to pumping MW-2R also exist so that the merits of each approach can be discussed and evaluated together. Ecology asks that Crown propose an agenda in advance of the meeting to ensure that Ecology staff can be adequately prepared for the meeting and verify that the proper technical staff are able to attend.

Thank you for your continued efforts in working with us to improve water quality in the NLF-3 fault zone. We look forward to discussing this matter with you with the shared goal of defining a feasible solution that meets Ecology's and Crown's objectives.

Sincerely,

Trevor Hutton, Section Manager
Water Resources Program
Central Regional Office

David Bowen, Section Manager
Water Quality Program
Central Regional Office

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