



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

Department of Environmental Conservation

DIVISION OF SPILL PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

Contaminated Sites Program

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File No: 2264.38.038

December 12, 2023

Mr. Roney Lima
Rio Tinto
4700 Daybreak Parkway
South Jordan, Utah 84095

Re: Proposed Cleanup Approach
Beatson Mine, Latouche Island

Dear Mr. Lima:

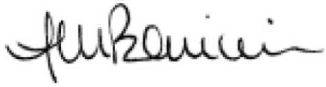
The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has reviewed your letter dated October 16, 2023, regarding Rio Tinto's conceptual outline of a proposed cleanup approach for the Beatson Mine site.

The Beatson Mine site is located on the northwest portion of Latouche Island in Prince William Sound. The area encompasses three former mines which operated from the early 1900s to 1930. Rio Tinto has been voluntarily conducting site characterization activities at the site since 2015 in accordance with Alaska Regulations, 18 Alaska Administrative Code (AAC) 75, Article Three, and the nature and extent of contamination is well enough defined to evaluate a conceptual approach to cleaning up the site. Rio Tinto's proposed approach includes several main elements, including: 1) excavation of contaminated soil and sediment with placement in an on-site repository in accordance with 18 AAC 60; 2) use of institutional controls to prevent exposure to groundwater and limit land use to non-residential scenarios in accordance with 18 AAC 75.375; and 3) long-term monitoring of groundwater and surface water to evaluate the impacts of the source removal activities. These elements have been proposed for use at other large, abandoned mine sites in Alaska.

DEC concurs with the concepts outlined in Rio Tinto's proposed approach which are consistent with the applicable regulatory requirements. DEC believes that in using this approach a cleanup can be conducted which provides for overall protection of human health and the environment and complies with federal and state applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements.

Please feel free to contact me at 907.766.3184 or annemarie.palmieri@alaska.gov, if you have any questions or concerns about this site.

Sincerely,



Anne Marie Palmieri
Environmental Program Manager

CC: Bill O'Connell, DEC Contaminated Sites Program