



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

August 12, 2026

Bobby Pearson
Senior E&I Supervisor
Fairbanks Gold Mining, Inc.
PO Box 73726
Fairbanks, AK 99707-3726

SUBJECT: SUSPENSION OF REVIEW OF AMENDMENT REQUEST RECEIVED APRIL
28, 2026, FOR FAIRBANKS GOLD MINING, INC., NRC LICENSE NO. 50-
29098-01

Dear Bobby Pearson:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is suspending the review of your amendment request received April 28, 2026. Our records indicate that the amendment request was submitted on your behalf by Brian Short, Radiation Safety Officer (RSO). The amendment request was a resubmittal to perform non-routine maintenance operations in accordance with to NUREG-1556, Volume 4, Revision 1, "Program-Specific Guidance About Fixed Gauge Licenses," Appendix J. The amendment request, if approved, would update the authorized activities listed on your radioactive materials license under license conditions (LC), LC 17 and LC 19 A. and B. However, the request was deficient and required additional information to be submitted. The NRC staff attempted to contact Brian Short via telephone on July 24, 2026, to discuss the additional documentation needed. The call was returned by another employee, who informed the agency that Brian Short was no longer employed by your company and an RSO had not been appointed as a replacement.

Licensee management is responsible for assigning a qualified individual to serve as the RSO for licensed activities. Failure to seek NRC approval before replacing the RSO or assigning an individual to be the RSO who is not qualified, can result in enforcement action. You should notify the NRC within 5 days of the date of this letter regarding a new RSO who meets the NRC's qualification requirements. Please submit an amendment request to name a new RSO, along with the proposed individual's qualifications and training/work experience documentation outlined in NUREG-1556, Volume 4, Revision 1.

The NRC cannot proceed with your April 28, 2026, amendment request regarding non-routine maintenance operations until you have submitted an amendment request regarding naming a new RSO.

Regarding your request to perform non-routine maintenance activities, additional detailed information is required. Accordingly, the NRC's review of this amendment request has been suspended. Please provide the following information or you may withdraw the amendment request:

- Describe the types of work, maintenance, cleaning, and/or repair that involve any of the following:
 - installation, relocation, or alignment of the gauge
 - components, including electronics, related to the radiological safety of the gauge (e.g., the source, source holder, source drive mechanism, shutter, shutter control, or shielding)
 - replacement and disposal of sealed sources
 - removal of a gauge from service
 - the potential for any portion of the body to come into contact with the primary radiation beam
 - any other activity during which personnel could receive radiation doses exceeding NRC limits
- Identify who will perform nonroutine operations, and describe their training and experience. Acceptable training includes manufacturers' or distributors' courses for nonroutine operations or an equivalent.
- Submit procedures for nonroutine operations.
- Confirm that individuals performing nonroutine operations on gauges will wear both whole body and extremity monitoring devices, or perform a prospective evaluation demonstrating that unmonitored individuals performing nonroutine operations are not likely to receive a radiation dose in excess of the limits in 10 CFR 20.1502(a).
- Confirm possession of at least one survey instrument that is appropriate for measuring the types of radiation and expected dose rates from the fixed gauge(s).
- Describe steps to be taken to ensure that radiation levels in areas where nonroutine operations will take place do not exceed limits set in 10 CFR 20.1301(e.g., surveys, calculations).

Ensure that: (1) the amendment request on company letterhead, signed and dated by senior management, (2) you provide the information, documentation, and procedures outlined in Appendix J of NUREG-1556, Volume 4, Revision 1, "Program-Specific Guidance About Fixed Gauge Licenses." <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/nuregs/staff/sr1556/v4/index>

Submit your RSO amendment request and subsequent non-routine maintenance amendment request, if you wish to proceed with this request, to R4Licensing@nrc.gov. If you have questions on any of the information stated above, you can contact Latischa Hanson of my staff at Latischa.Hanson@nrc.gov.

In accordance with Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) 2.390 of the NRC's "Agency Rules of Practice and Procedure," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

Sincerely,

Janine F. Katanic, PhD, CHP, Chief
Inspection and Licensing Branch West
Division of Federal Materials Programs

License No.: 50-29098-01
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