Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Protection de la nature et des Parcs

#### AMENDED ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE APPROVAL

NUMBER 2399-CTVHH9 Issue Date: July 31, 2023

Gold Canyon Resources Inc.

1188 West Georgia Street, No. 2070

Vancouver, British Columbia

V6E 4A2

Site Location: Springpole Camp Sewage Treatment Plant

Patent Number 7563 Casummit Lake Area (Unorganized Township)

City of Kenora, District of Kenora

You have applied under section 20.2 of Part II.1 of the <u>Environmental Protection Act</u>, R.S.O. 1990, c. E. 19 (Environmental Protection Act) for approval of:

the establishment and continued use and operation of sewage works for the collection, transmission, treatment and disposal of 11,000 L/day (previously 15,000 L/day with one un-constructed 4,000 L/day Ecoflo System), for the Springpole Camp Sewage System servicing a mining exploration and construction camp with a population of 44 persons (previously 60 persons), consisting of a Rotating Biological Contactor (RBC), and a subsurface disposal system, located in Cassumit Lake Area, Kenora area, consisting of the following:

## PROPOSED WORKS

- One upgraded dosing tank, located approximately 61 m from the shallow buried trench, having a volume of 11,000 L, receiving sewage flow from the Rotating Biological Contactor (RBC) and discharging to the Existing Shallow Buried Trenches, complete with upgraded duplex effluent dosing pumps, rated at 7.5 L/s under a TDH of 3 m, complete with an inline flow meter, and a timed-dosed duplex alternating control panel, equipped with high-level visual and audible alarm;
- One effluent flowmeter installed at the outlet of the RBC unit;

#### **EXISTING WORKS**

• a Main Lift station based on float controls to conduct the sewage into the EQ Tank for short term storage;

- an equalization tank (EQ Tank) with a volume of 11 m³ designed to hold a 24 hours of flow, design to operate on timer controls to dose the daily flows into the RBC at a constant rate of 458 Litres per hour; equipped with two (2) pumps of 2 hp operating with alternate selection controls and a fine diffusion bubbler model SS-50 (or equivalent) capable of delivering 50 L/hour of air;
- a primary clarifier of 2.2m X 3.2m X 3.9m for a total of 27.4 m³ capacity, designed for a retention time of approximately 2.5 days (60 hours);
- a rotating biological contact reactors (RBC) in four (4) stages with a design for a capacity of 11,000 L/day and a total retention time of approximately 7.4 hours, equipped with high density polyethylene (HDPE) media in four (4) separate stages and powered by a 5 RPM gearmotor drive (Nordgear model 9053.1AZDB-90 of 2 hp or equivalent), with six (6) 2.0 Litre recycle-bucket mechanism and a transfer pump system to return a portion of the main flow back to the primary clarifier to introduce active suspended bacteria into the wastestream, and equipped with chemical injection system to dose Soda Ash and water and Aluminium Sulphate, complete with equipment for contingency, with a metering pump for polymer addition (Pulsatron LCO25-A-VTC1 120 VAC 60Hz 0.9 L/hr (or equivalent);
- a dosing pump (IDEX Mec-o-matic peristaltic pump model 2400T, or equivalent) on the kitchen wastewater line to inject approximately 80 mL per day of grease enzyme liquid into the kitchen drainage line, this to ensure limited impact of fats/oil/grease (FOG) after the grease interceptor system.
- two (2) secondary clarifiers designed in series for a retention time of approximately 13 hours for each cell. The system is equipped with sludge return pumps (Myers SSM1 120V1P/60 or equivalent) to return sludge to the primary clarifiers with a timer control system at a flow rate of 75 Litres per minute resulting in 60 Litres of sludge return flow per hour each (120 Litres per hour total from both cells), and with treated effluent flowing by gravity to the UV system;
- a post clarifier filter system located between the secondary clarifier outlet and the UV system inlet consisting of a Myers P52 sump pump and basin equipped with 7" x 32" polyester felt filters Model PE P2PW (or equivalent) and a stainless steel 2" NPT inlet/outlet Model SS2IN28-150 (or equivalent);
- an ultraviolet disinfection system (UV system) Trojan UV PTP 3000 (or equivalent) with bulb open channel UV module with intensity and lamp-hour monitor, with provisions for grab sample periodic testing, with final effluent pumped to a new area bed for final disposal;
- a subsurface disposal system consisting of a shallow trench design for a capacity of 15,000 L/day to receive the final effluent of the RBC system, comprising of nine (9) lengths of 22.8 m with a clearance distance of 2m between trenches for a total footprint of 16m X 22.8m, equipped with a 50 mm line filter (Banjo® line strainer & filter, or equivalent);
- an oil/water separator for the kitchen area discharging to the equalization tank and with controlled solids directed to the solid waste stream area;

all other controls, electrical equipment, instrumentation, piping, pumps, valves and appurtenances essential for the proper operation of the aforementioned sewage Works;

all in accordance with supporting documents listed in Schedule A.

For the purpose of this environmental compliance approval, the following definitions apply:

- 1. Approval" means this entire Environmental Compliance Approval and any Schedules attached to it:
- 2. "Director" means a person appointed by the Minister pursuant to section 5 of the EPA for the purposes of Part II.1 of the EPA;
- 3. "District Manager" means the District Manager of the appropriate local District Office of the Ministry, where the Works are geographically located;
- 4. "EPA" means the Environmental Protection Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.E.19, as amended;
- 5. "Existing Works" means those portions of the Works included in the Approval that have been constructed previously;
- 6. "Ministry" means the ministry of the government of Ontario responsible for the EPA and OWRA and includes all officials, employees or other persons acting on its behalf;
- 7. "Owner" means Gold Canyon Resources Inc., and its successors and assignees;
- 8. "OWRA" means the Ontario Water Resources Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.40, as amended;
- 9. "Proposed Works" means those portions of the Works included in the Approval that are under construction or to be constructed:
- 10. "Works" means the approved sewage works, and includes Proposed Works and Existing Works.

You are hereby notified that this environmental compliance approval is issued to you subject to the terms and conditions outlined below:

# **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

#### 1. GENERAL CONDITION

1. The Owner shall ensure that any person authorized to carry out work on or operate any aspect of the Works is notified of this Approval and the terms and conditions herein and shall take all reasonable measures to ensure any such person complies with the same.

- 2. The Owner shall design, construct, operate and maintain the Works in accordance with the conditions of this Approval.
- 3. Where there is a conflict between a provision of any document referred to in this Approval and the conditions of this Approval, the conditions in this Approval shall take precedence.
- 4. The issuance of, and compliance with the conditions of, this Approval does not:
  - a. relieve any person of any obligation to comply with any provision of any applicable statute, regulation or other legal requirement, including, but not limited to, the obligation to obtain approval from the local conservation authority necessary to construct or operate the Works; or
  - b. limit in any way the authority of the Ministry to require certain steps be taken to require the Owner to furnish any further information related to compliance with this Approval.

#### 2. EXPIRY OF APPROVAL

- 1. This Approval will cease to apply to those parts of the Works which have not been constructed within **five (5) years** of the date of this Approval.
- 2. In the event that completion and commissioning of any portion of the Works is anticipated to be more than five (5) years, the Owner shall submit an application for extension at least **twelve (12) months** prior to the end of the five (5) years from the day of issuance of this Approval. The application shall include the reason(s) for the delay, whether there is any design change(s) and a review of whether the standards applicable at the time of Approval of the Works are still applicable at the time of request for extension, to ensure the ongoing protection of the environment.

#### 3. CHANGE OF OWNER

- 1. The Owner shall notify the District Manager and the Director, in writing, of any of the following changes within **thirty (30) days** of the change occurring:
  - a. change of address of Owner;
  - b. change of Owner, including address of new owner;
  - c. change of partners where the Owner is or at any time becomes a partnership, and a copy of the most recent declaration filed under the Business Names Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. B.17 shall be included in the notification; or
  - d. change of name of the corporation, and a copy of the most current information filed under the Corporations Information Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. C39 shall be included in the notification.

- 2. In the event of any change in ownership of the Works, the Owner shall notify in writing the succeeding owner of the existence of this Approval, and a copy of such notice shall be forwarded to the District Manager and the Director.
- 3. The Owner shall ensure that all communications made pursuant to this condition refer to the number of this Approval.

#### 4. CONSTRUCTION OF PROPOSED WORKS

- 1. Upon the construction of the Works, the Owner shall prepare a statement, certified by a Licensed Engineering Practitioner, that the Works are constructed in accordance with this Approval, and upon request, shall make the written statement available for inspection by Ministry personnel.
- 2. Within six months of the construction of the Proposed Works, a set of as-built drawings showing the Works "as constructed" shall be prepared. These drawings shall be kept up to date through revisions undertaken from time to time and a copy shall be retained at the Works for the operational life of the Works.
- 3. A set of record drawings of the Existing Works shall be kept up to date through revisions undertaken from time to time and a copy shall be readily accessible for reference at the Works.

#### 5. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

- 1. The Owner shall make all necessary investigations, take all necessary steps and obtain all necessary approvals so as to ensure that the physical structure, siting and operations of the Works do not constitute a safety, health or flooding hazard to the general public.
- 2. The Owner shall undertake an inspection of the condition of the Works, at least once a year, and undertake any necessary cleaning and maintenance to ensure that sediment, debris and excessive decaying vegetation are removed from the Works to prevent the excessive build-up of sediment, oil/grit, debris and/or decaying vegetation, to avoid reduction of the capacity and/or permeability of the Works, as applicable. The Owner shall also regularly inspect and clean out the inlet to and outlet from the Works to ensure that these are not obstructed.
- 3. The Owner shall construct, operate and maintain the Works with the objective that the effluent from the Works is essentially free of floating and settleable solids and does not contain oil or any other substance in amounts sufficient to create a visible film, sheen, foam or discoloration on the receiving waters.
- 4. The Owner shall ensure the immediate clean-out of the Works after a fuel or oil spill capture.

- 5. The Owner shall ensure that equipment and material for the containment, clean-up and disposal of fuel and oil and materials contaminated with such, is on hand and in good repair for immediate use in the event of:
  - a. loss of fuel or oil to the Works; or
  - b. a spill within the meaning of Part X of the EPA.
- 6. The Owner shall prepare an operations manual prior to the commencement of operation of the Works that includes, but is not necessarily limited to, the following information:
  - a. operating and maintenance procedures for routine operation of the Works;
  - b. inspection programs, including frequency of inspection, for the Works and the methods or tests employed to detect when maintenance is necessary;
  - c. repair and maintenance programs, including the frequency of repair and maintenance for the Works:
  - d. contingency plans and procedures for dealing with potential abnormal situations and for notifying the District Manager; and
  - e. procedures for receiving, responding and recording public complaints, including recording any follow-up actions taken.
- 7. The Owner shall maintain an up to date operations manual and make the manual readily accessible for reference at the Works for the operational life of the Works. Upon request, the Owner shall make the manual available to Ministry staff.
- 8. The Owner shall maintain a logbook to record the results of these inspections and any cleaning and maintenance operations undertaken, and shall keep the logbook at the Works for inspection by the Ministry. The logbook shall include the following:
  - a. the name of the Works;
  - b. the date and results of each inspection, maintenance and cleaning, including an estimate of the quantity of any materials removed and method of clean-out of the Works; and
  - c. the date of each spill within the catchment area, including follow-up actions and remedial measures undertaken.

9. The Owner shall retain for a minimum of **five (5) years** from the date of their creation, all records and information related to or resulting from the operation and maintenance activities required by this Approval.

## 6. TEMPORARY EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL

- 1. The Owner shall install and maintain temporary sediment and erosion control measures during construction and conduct inspections **once every two (2) weeks** and after each significant storm event (a significant storm event is defined as a minimum of 25 millimetres of rain in any 24 hours period). The inspections and maintenance of the temporary sediment and erosion control measures shall continue until they are no longer required and at which time they shall be removed and all disturbed areas reinstated properly.
- 2. The Owner shall maintain records of inspections and maintenance which shall be made available for inspection by the Ministry, upon request. The record shall include the name of the inspector, date of inspection, and the remedial measures, if any, undertaken to maintain the temporary sediment and erosion control measures.

#### 7. EFFLUENT OBJECTIVES

- 1. The Owner shall design and undertake everything practicable to operate the Works in accordance with the following objectives:
  - a. Effluent parameters design objectives listed in the table included in **Schedule B**.
  - b. Effluent from the Works is essentially free of floating and settleable solids and does not contain oil or any other substance in amounts sufficient to create a visible film or sheen or foam or discolouration on the receiving waters.
- 2. In the event of an exceedance of the objective set out in subsection 1, the Owner shall:
  - a. notify the District Manager as soon as possible during normal working hours;
  - b. take immediate action to identify the source of contamination; and
  - c. take immediate action to prevent further exceedance.

#### 8. EFFLUENT MONITORING

- 1. The Owner shall, upon commencement of operation of the Works, carry out a monitoring program, and all samples and measurements taken for the purposes of this Approval are to be taken at a time and in a location characteristic of the quality and quantity of the effluent stream over the time period being monitored.
- 2. Samples shall be collected and analyzed at the following sampling point(s), at the sampling frequencies and using the sample type specified for each parameter listed in the effluent monitoring table in **Schedule C**.
- 3. The Owner shall establish a groundwater monitoring well approximately 50 metres down-gradient of the subsurface disposal system and collect samples at the frequency specified, by means of the specified sample type and analyzed for each parameter listed the **Schedule D**.
- 4. The methods and protocols for sampling, analysis, toxicity testing, and recording shall conform, in order of precedence, to the methods and protocols specified in the following:
  - a. the Ministry's publication "Protocol for the Sampling and Analysis of Industrial/Municipal Wastewater Version 2.0" (January 2016), PIBS 2724e02, as amended;
  - b. the publication "Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater" (21st edition) as amended from time to time by more recently published editions;
  - c. for any parameters not mentioned in the documents referenced in Paragraphs 3.a and 3.b, the written approval of the District Manager shall be obtained prior to sampling.
- 5. The measurement frequencies specified in the effluent monitoring table in **Schedule C and D** in respect of any parameter are minimum requirements which may, after **24 months** of monitoring in accordance with this Condition, be modified by the Director in writing from time to time.
- 6. The Owner shall retain for a minimum of **five (5) years** from the date of their creation, all records and information related to or resulting from the monitoring activities required by this Approval.

#### 9. REPORTING

1. **One (1) week** prior to the start-up of the operation of the Works, the Owner shall notify the District Manager (in writing) of the pending start-up date.

- 2. The Owner shall report to the District Manager orally **as soon as possible** any exceedance with the Effluent Objectives, and in writing **within seven (7) days** of non-compliance.
- 3. The Owner shall, upon request, make all reports, manuals, plans, records, data, procedures and supporting documentation available to Ministry staff.
- 4. In addition to the obligations under Part X of the EPA and O. Reg. 675/98 (Classification and Exemption of Spills and Reporting of Discharges) made under the EPA, the Owner shall, within **fifteen (15) days** of the occurrence of any reportable spill as provided in Part X of the EPA and O. Reg. 675/98, submit a full written report of the occurrence to the District Manager describing the cause and discovery of the spill, clean-up and recovery measures taken, preventative measures to be taken and a schedule of implementation.
- 5. The Owner shall prepare performance reports on a calendar year basis and submit to the District Manager by March 31 of the calendar year following the period being reported upon. The reports shall contain, but shall not be limited to, the following information pertaining to the reporting period:
  - a. a summary and interpretation of all monitoring data and a comparison to the Effluent Objectives outlined in Condition 8, including an overview of the success and adequacy of the Works;
  - b. a description of any operating problems encountered and corrective actions taken;
  - c. a summary of all maintenance carried out on any major structure, equipment, apparatus, mechanism or thing forming part of the Works, including an estimate of the quantity of any materials removed from the Works:
  - d. a summary of the calibration and maintenance carried out on all effluent monitoring equipment;
  - e. a summary of any effluent quality assurance or control measures undertaken in the reporting period;
  - f. a description of efforts made and results achieved in meeting the Effluent Objectives of Condition 8.
  - g. a summary of any complaints received during the reporting period and any steps taken to address the complaints;

- h. a summary of all spill or abnormal discharge events; and
- i. any other information the District Manager requires from time to time.

The reasons for the imposition of these terms and conditions are as follows:

- 1. Condition 1 is imposed to ensure that the Works are built and operated in the manner in which they were described for review and upon which approval was granted. This condition is also included to emphasize the precedence of Conditions in the Approval and the practice that the Approval is based on the most current document, if several conflicting documents are submitted for review. The condition also advises the Owners their responsibility to notify any person they authorized to carry out work pursuant to this Approval the existence of this Approval.
- 2. Condition 2 is included to ensure that, when the Works are constructed, the Works will meet the standards that apply at the time of construction to ensure the ongoing protection of the environment.
- 3. Condition 3 is included to ensure that the Ministry records are kept accurate and current with respect to the approved works and to ensure that subsequent owners of the Works are made aware of the Approval and continue to operate the Works in compliance with it.
- 4. Condition 4 is included to ensure that the works are constructed, and may be operated and maintained such that the environment is protected and deterioration, loss, injury or damage to any person or property is prevented.
- 5. Condition 5 is included as regular inspection and necessary removal of sediment and excessive decaying vegetation from the Works are required to mitigate the impact of sediment, debris and/or decaying vegetation on the treatment capacity of the Works. The Condition also ensures that adequate storage is maintained in the Works at all times as required by the design. Furthermore, this Condition is included to ensure that the Works are operated and maintained to function as designed.
- 6. Condition 6 is included as installation, regular inspection and maintenance of the temporary sediment and erosion control measures is required to mitigate the impact on the downstream receiving watercourse during construction until they are no longer required.
- 7. Condition 7 is imposed to establish non-enforceable effluent quality objectives which the Owner is obligated to use best efforts to meet on an ongoing basis. Also imposed are procedures to be followed to minimize environmental impact in the event the objectives are exceeded.

- 8. Condition 8 is included to require the Owner to demonstrate on a continual basis that the quality and quantity of the effluent from the approved Works is consistent with the design and effluent objectives specified in the Approval and that the approved Works does not cause any impairment to the receiving watercourse.
- 9. Condition 9 is included to provide a performance record for future references, to ensure that the Ministry is made aware of problems as they arise, and to provide a compliance record for all the terms and conditions outlined in this Approval, so that the Ministry can work with the Owner in resolving any problems in a timely manner.

# Schedule A

1. Environmental Compliance Approval Application dated March 20, 2023 and received on

# Schedule B

Effluent Objectives				
Sampling Location: Effluent Pump Tank				
Effluent Parameter	Concentration Objective			
	(milligrams per litre unless otherwise indicated)			
CBOD5	10			
Total Suspended Solids	10			

# **Schedule C**

Effluent Monitoring				
Sampling Location: Effluent Pump Tank				
Frequency	Once a month during the months of May, July, August and October			
Sample Type	Grab			
Parameters	CBOD5, Total Suspended Solids, Total Phosphorus, Total Ammonia Nitrogen,			
	Nitrate and Nitrite Nitrogen			

# **Schedule D**

Groundwater Monitoring				
Sampling Location: down-gradient monitoring well				
Frequency	Twice a year between the months of May to October			
Sample Type	Grab			
Parameters	Total Phosphorus, Nitrate and Nitrite Nitrogen			

# Upon issuance of the environmental compliance approval, I hereby revoke Approval No(s). 0761-8XTNES issued on October 11, 2012.

In accordance with Section 139 of the *Environmental Protection Act*, you may by written notice served upon me, the Ontario Land Tribunal and in accordance with Section 47 of the *Environmental Bill of Rights*, 1993, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, within 15 days after receipt of this notice, require a hearing by the Tribunal. The Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks will place notice of your appeal on the Environmental Registry. Section 142 of the *Environmental Protection Act* provides that the notice requiring the hearing ("the Notice") shall state:

- a. The portions of the environmental compliance approval or each term or condition in the environmental compliance approval in respect of which the hearing is required, and;
- b. The grounds on which you intend to rely at the hearing in relation to each portion appealed.

Pursuant to subsection 139(3) of the *Environmental Protection Act*, a hearing may not be available with respect to any terms and conditions in this environmental compliance approval, if the terms and conditions are substantially the same as those contained in an approval that is amended or revoked by this environmental compliance approval.

# The Notice should also include:

- 1. The name of the appellant;
- 2. The address of the appellant;
- 3. The environmental compliance approval number;
- 4. The date of the environmental compliance approval;
- 5. The name of the Director, and;
- 6. The municipality or municipalities within which the project is to be engaged in.

And the Notice should be signed and dated by the appellant.

and

## This Notice must be served upon:

Registrar\*
Ontario Land Tribunal
655 Bay Street, Suite 1500
Toronto, Ontario
M5G 1E5
OLT.Registrar@ontario.ca

The Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks 777 Bay Street, 5th Floor Toronto, Ontario M7A 2J3

and

The Director appointed for the purposes of Part II.1 of the *Environmental Protection Act* Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks 135 St. Clair Avenue West, 1st Floor Toronto, Ontario M4V 1P5

\* Further information on the Ontario Land Tribunal's requirements for an appeal can be obtained directly from the Tribunal at: Tel: (416) 212-6349 or 1 (866) 448-2248, or www.olt.gov.on.ca

This instrument is subject to Section 38 of the Environmental Bill of Rights, 1993, that allows residents of Ontario to

seek leave to appeal the decision on this instrument. Residents of Ontario may seek leave to appeal within 15 days from the date this decision is placed on the Environmental Registry. By accessing the Environmental Registry at https://ero.ontario.ca/, you can determine when the leave to appeal period ends.

The above noted activity is approved under s.20.3 of Part II.1 of the *Environmental Protection Act*. DATED AT TORONTO this 31st day of July, 2023



Fariha Pannu, P.Eng. Director appointed for the purposes of Part II.1 of the Environmental Protection Act

## KH/

- c: Area Manager, MECP Kenora
- c: District Manager, MECP Thunder Bay District. Gerry Dignard, Canadian Shield Consultants Agency Inc.