

HOW DONLIN GOLD WILL GUARANTEE SUFFICIENT FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE FOR RECLAMATION AFTER THE MINE CLOSES

When mining ends, the law requires operators to remove all structures, restore the land to its approximate original contour as well as monitor and treat water for as long as necessary. The State of Alaska has approved the plan submitted by Donlin Gold that details how it will close the mine. Under the State requirements, Donlin Gold has estimated the total costs of all of the proposed activities, including long-term water management and treatment. This estimate provides the basis for the financial assurance that Donlin Gold must provide to the State prior to starting operations.

Donlin Gold is committed to the safety of water in the YK region. The financial assurance will provide more than sufficient funding for a water-treatment program at the mine site for many generations after the mine has closed.

The reclamation process is split into two phases:

1. **Closure and reclamation (0-6 years after operations end)**
2. **Long-term care and maintenance, including water management and monitoring (6 years on) and, ultimately, water treatment (when needed after an estimated 52 years)**



CLOSURE PHASE

Donlin Gold and the State estimate the cost of the closure phase to be approximately \$240 million. This includes removal of all buildings and equipment, decommissioning the pipeline and re-contouring and seeding the land.

Prior to construction, Donlin Gold will provide a bond, which is a financial instrument that guarantees money is available to the State in the event that the reclamation work is not completed to the satisfaction of the Department of Natural Resources. **The State can use the bond funds to hire contractors to complete the work at no cost to the State or land owners.**

The amount needed is reviewed on a regular basis and updated to reflect current conditions and costs.



Initial reclamation of disturbed land at Fort Knox Gold Mine



The same area several years later

(See reverse side to learn about phase 2)

HOW DONLIN GOLD WILL GUARANTEE SUFFICIENT FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE FOR WATER TREATMENT AFTER THE MINE CLOSES

WATER MONITORING AND TREATMENT

When mine closure is complete, the pit will be allowed to fill with water and become a lake over time (approximately 52 years). The water will be monitored on an ongoing basis and treated to meet water-quality standards before it can be discharged.

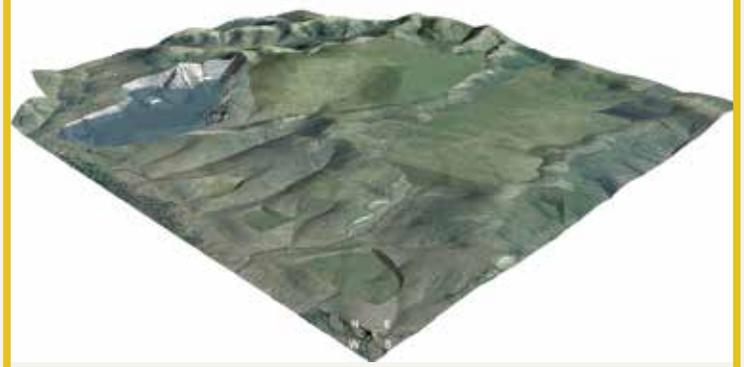
Donlin Gold and the State of Alaska estimate the cost to monitor and treat the water to be just under \$4 million annually.

To cover the cost, Donlin Gold proposes to establish a trust fund and deposit \$100+ million during mine operations, which is in addition to the \$240 million that will cover the first phase of reclamation.

Just like Alaska's Permanent Fund, the original \$100+ million deposit will remain intact to provide annual earnings that will pay for water monitoring, treatment and facility maintenance.

The trust fund will need to be approved by the State of Alaska and other entities.

52 Years After Closure



Donlin Gold's investments will be evaluated every five years to ensure that there are sufficient funds to cover all costs. Regulators will be able to adjust the amount invested to account for project changes and conditions.

Responsible environmental stewardship is a priority for the mining industry. Donlin Gold's plan for reclamation goes beyond permitting requirements to ensure the region's ecosystem remains healthy long after the mine closes.

For more information, visit:
www.donlingold.com/reclamation

Financing Water-Treatment and Facility Maintenance

