State of New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Michelle Lujan Grisham Governor

Sarah Cottrell Propst Cabinet Secretary Albert Chang, Director Mining and Minerals Division



Todd Leahy, JD, PhD Deputy Secretary

September 1, 2023

Galen McNamara Summa Silver Corp. 918-1030 West Georgia Street Vancouver, BC V6E 2Y3

RE: Exploration Permit Renewal Approval
Summa Silver Mogollon Exploration Project, Permit No. CA027EM-R2
Summa Silver Corp., Catron County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. McNamara:

The New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division ("MMD") received a letter on August 28, 2023, from Summa Silver Corporation ("Permittee") requesting renewal of MMD Permit Number CA027EM-R1 ("Permit") for the Summa Silver Mogollon Exploration project located in Catron County, New Mexico.

Since the Permittee confirms that no changes to the amount of proposed disturbance will occur within the permit area, reaffirms the Permittee's commitment to perform work in compliance with the Permit, and confirms that the Permittee does not wish to make any changes to the language in the Permit, this letter acknowledges the renewal of the Permit. The permit number designated for the renewal is CA027EM-R2. The Permittee is authorized to conduct mineral exploration and reclamation operations only on those lands specifically designated and authorized as the permit area as described in the Permit and renewal. The maximum authorized disturbance is 1.35 total acres within the permit area.

MMD had previously received a request for renewal and modification of Permit Number CA027EM-R1 from the Permittee on April 20, 2023. This modification proposed 10 additional drill pads and 25 additional borings along with associated road construction and disturbance. This modification will be addressed separately as Modification 23-1 to Permit Number CA027EM-R2 and approval of Modification 23-1 is not acknowledged at this time by this letter.

Findings of Fact:

- 1. The application for renewal is complete and demonstrates that there will be no changes to the scope of work or financial assurance instruments or amount, and will meet the requirements of reclamation, as identified in 19.10.4.405.C of the New Mexico Mining Act Rules ("the Rules").
- 2. The Permittee has paid the permit application fee in the amount of \$500.00, as determined by Part 2 of the Rules.
- 3. The Permittee has no outstanding violations of the New Mexico Mining Act ("the Act") or the Rules.

Mr. Galen McNamara Summa Silver Corp.

RE: Exploration Permit Renewal Approval
Summa Silver Mogollon Exploration Project, Permit No. CA027EM-R2
Summa Silver Corp., Catron County, New Mexico

September 1, 2023 Page 2 of 3

4. The Permittee has provided an approved financial assurance instrument in the form of a Standby Letter of Credit No. BMTO655124OS, issued by Bank of Montreal, 250 Yonge St., 11th Floor, Toronto, ON M5B 2L7, on August 13, 2021, in the amount of \$153,800.00. This instrument remains valid and presently in effect in the required amount.

- 5. The Permittee has acknowledged that there has been no change in the amount of proposed disturbance within the proposed permit area or any changes to the amount of disturbance as described in the Permit.
- 6. The Permittee has provided, as part of the permit application package, a signed statement indicating that Permittee agrees to comply with the reclamation requirements of the permit, Part 3 of the Rules, and the Act and allows the Director to enter the permit area, without delay, for the purpose of conducting inspections during exploration and reclamation.
- 7. Pursuant to 19.10.3.302.G NMAC, the Director shall consider comments from cooperating agencies in making a determination of eligibility for minimal impact status.
- 8. Pursuant to the definition of "minimal impact mining operation" in 19.10.1.7.M(2)(b) NMAC, the Director finds that the project area is not located in designated critical habitat areas for the Mexican Spotted Owl or other federal endangered species.
- 9. Pursuant to the definition of "minimal impact mining operation" in 19.10.1.7.M(2)(b) NMAC, the Director finds:
 - The project area is not located in an area determined by Department of Game and Fish likely to result in an adverse impact on the Mexican Spotted Owl outside of the breeding and fledgling-dependency period from September 1 to February 28.

Conditions and Obligations:

- 1. No exploration drilling activities shall occur before September 1, 2023, during the current MSO breeding and fledgling-dependency period.
- 2. No exploration drilling activities shall be conducted during the 2024 MSO breeding and fledgling-dependency period from March 1, 2024, to August 31, 2024.
- 3. The Permittee shall comply with all requirements, obligations and conditions and shall conduct mining and reclamation operations at the Summa Silver Mogollon project only as described within the Permit and renewal.
- 4. The Permit does not grant or create any property rights. Nor does MMD, by issuing this Permit or otherwise, make any comment on the surface or mineral rights that the Permittee may or may not have in the area covered by the Permit; only that the Permittee has provided a statement of basis on which the Permittee has a right to enter the property to conduct mining and reclamation. Permittee is solely responsible to take whatever steps are necessary to ensure that Permittee has property rights sufficient to support the activities contemplated by the Permit.

Mr. Galen McNamara Summa Silver Corp.

RE: Exploration Permit Renewal Approval
Summa Silver Mogollon Exploration Project, Permit No. CA027EM-R2
Summa Silver Corp., Catron County, New Mexico

September 1, 2023 Page 3 of 3

5. The Permit does not grant or create any water rights. Nor does MMD, by issuing the Permit or otherwise, make any comment on the water rights that the Permittee may or may not have available for use in the area covered by the Permit. Permittee is solely responsible and obligated to comply with all state and federal laws related to water rights sufficient to support the activities contemplated by the Permit.

- 6. Since the permit area is located on private land, the expiration, or termination, of the private landholder's authorization to conduct operations on the property automatically suspends the permittee's authority to continue mining operations on the property, although not necessarily reclamation operations required by the Permit.
- 7. The Permit is issued pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 69-36-1 et. seq. and Title 19, Chapter 10 NMAC. Permittee may be required to comply with other federal, State, county or local laws or ordinances before or while undertaking the activity that is the subject of the Permit. MMD does not, by issuing the Permit or otherwise, make any comment on Permittee's compliance with such other laws. It is Permittee's sole responsibility to investigate and comply with the requirements of such other laws.
- 8. <u>This permit renewal is valid until September 8, 2024</u>, which is one year from the date of the previous expiration of the permit term [19.10.4.405.A(1) NMAC].

At the end of the project, the Permittee shall file a termination report based on the requirements of 19.10.4.407 NMAC. If the Permittee decides to continue exploration activities beyond the expiration date of this Permit renewal, Summa shall renew the permit at least 30 days before the date of expiration in accordance with 19.10.4.405.C(2) NMAC.

For additional information regarding the New Mexico Mining Act Rules, please contact Kevin Barnes of my staff, at (505) 470-5354, or via e-mail at: kevin.barnes@emnrd.nm.gov, with any questions regarding the Permit and renewal.

By Order of the Director,

Whent Chang

Albert Chang, Director

Mining and Minerals Division

cc: David "DJ" Ennis, Program Manager, MARP/MMD

File No. CA027EM