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Sunnyside to let EPA study site for sludge

Mayflower tailings pond is eyed as a repository

Sunnyside Gold Corp. has agreed to allow the EPA to access the Mayflower tailing ponds in the agency's quest for a repository for sludge generated by the water treatment plant at Gladstone.

Kevin Roach, director of reclamation operations for Sunnyside Gold, pointed out that Sunnyside has long advocated that the EPA treatment plant at Gladstone be run at full capacity and treat water from the American Tunnel and other draining mines.

"Running the EPA Water Treatment Plant to capacity would have immediate and measurable improvements to water quality," Roach said.

And he again asserted that Sunnyside Gold "has improved water quality in the Animas and will support productive efforts to further that goal."

But he said Sunnyside will still object to what he "useless and costly science projects such as those set forth in EPA's modified unilateral order."

Roach said that Sunnyside's Mayflower Impoundment No. 4, between the town's solid waste transfer station and the Powerhouse, "is an ideal and proven site for a repository for the Water Treatment Plant, and, in the interest of good faith and improving water quality, SGC has granted EPA access for this evaluative work."

He pointed out that Sunnyside has previously offered the Mayflower ground to dispose of sludge from EPA's treatment plant.