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For Immediate Release
November 10, 2006

KIRKLAND LAKE GOLD INC. FINED \$100,000 FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY VIOLATION

KIRKLAND LAKE, Ont. – Kirkland Lake Gold Inc., a Vancouver-based mining company that operates a gold mine in Kirkland Lake, was fined \$100,000 on November 8, 2006 for a violation of the Occupational Health and Safety Act that resulted in fatal injuries to a worker.

On December 14, 2005, a crew of nine workers were preparing to move equipment in an Alimak Raise, which is a sloped passageway used to move large equipment or people between levels of a mine. A worker was standing on a ladder attempting to help raise a metal landing grate so that equipment could be moved onto that level. The worker lost balance, falling 65 feet (19.8 metres) to the landing below, then falling through a service gate that was open a further 170 feet (51.8 metres) to the next landing. The worker died at the scene as a result of injuries sustained in the fall.

A Ministry of Labour investigation found that the worker was not wearing any fall arrest equipment and that there were no written procedures in place by the company for the opening of the landing grate doors or for safe travel in the raise with the doors open.

Kirkland Lake Gold Inc. pleaded guilty, as an employer, to failing to provide information, instruction and supervision to a worker to protect the health or safety of a worker, as required by Section 25(2)(a) of the act.

The fine was imposed by Justice of the Peace Alex Spence of the Ontario Court of Justice in Kirkland Lake. In addition, the court imposed a 25-per-cent victim fine surcharge, as required by the Provincial Offences Act. The surcharge is credited to a special provincial government fund to assist victims of crime.

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Court Information at a Glance

Location: Ontario Court of Justice
140 Government Road East
Kirkland Lake, Ontario

Judge: Justice of the Peace Alex Spence

Date / Time: November 8, 2006, 9 a.m.

Defendant: Kirkland Lake Gold Inc.

Matter: Occupational Health & Safety

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