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**INTERNATIONAL CYANIDE MANAGEMENT CODE  
GOLD MINING OPERATION VERIFICATION AUDIT  
VELADERO MINE, ARGENTINA**

**SUMMARY REPORT**

*Submitted to:*

*Minera Argentina Gold S.A.  
Francisco De Villagra, 531 Este  
San Juan, 5402 Argentina*

*and*

*International Cyanide Management Institute  
1200 G Street N.W, Suite 800  
Washington, D.C. 20005*

*Submitted by:*

*Golder Associates Inc.  
44 Union Boulevard, Suite 300  
Lakewood, Colorado 80228*

February 28, 2007

073-81689C

Name of Project: Veladero Mine  
Project Owner / Operator: Minera Argentina Gold S.A., a wholly owned subsidiary of Barrick Gold Corporation  
Name of Responsible Manager: Sergio Cruz, Operations Manager  
Address and Contact Information: Veladero Mine  
Tudcum, San Juan Province, Argentina  
  
Minera Argentina Gold S.A.  
Francisco De Villagra, 531 Este  
San Juan, 5402 Argentina  
  
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Audit Dates: November 26-30, 2007

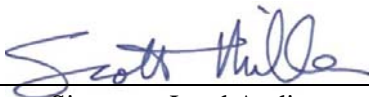
### **Location and Description of Operation**

The Veladero Mine (Veladero) is located in San Juan Province within Argentina, approximately 5 kilometers from the border with Chile. Access to the Mine is from the city of San Juan, north to Talacasto, and then past the communities of Rodeo, Villa Iglesia, Las Flores, and Tudcum. The access road to the Mine spans approximately 160 km along the Northwestern Cordillera. The following facilities are installed along the mining road: an access control booth and two support camps, one in the zone of Peñasquitos Azules and the other in Sepultura. The region where the Mine is located is an Andean landscape, with an altitude ranging from 4000 meters above sea level in the valleys to 5264 masl. The climate in the project area is characterized by high alpine conditions with high wind and cold temperatures. Most of the precipitation occurs as snowfall during the winter months. Average annual precipitation is generally less than 200 millimeters.

Veladero is a gold and silver deposit. The gold is present at <50 microns scattered over the fault surfaces, and is also found inside cavities, quartz veinlets, and inside silicified clasts in a wide range of breccias. The gold and silver deposit is located in two open pits called Amable and Filo Federico, respectively. Mineralization of the Veladero deposit is amenable to cyanidation; therefore mining is carried out through the process of Valley Fill Leaching. The ore processing is described as follows: crushing in two stages, valley fill leaching, with Merrill-Crowe processing.

Veladero is comprised of two open pit mines, waste rock storage areas, a valley-fill heap leaching facility, storm water pond system, and a Merrill-Crowe processing plant to recover gold and silver. The open pit mines have been developed by conventional mining methods using trucks and loaders to extract gold-bearing ore. The waste is transported by trucks to a storage area designed specifically for this purpose. Ore is placed on the Valley Fill Leach Facility by truck. The Valley Fill Leach Facility is fully lined with geomembrane and employs a cross-valley dam to impound pregnant process solutions within the stacked ore. Upgradient surface water and shallow ground water is captured for diversion around the Valley Fill Leach Facility or within the underdrain system, which reports to the Primary Sump pond at the toe of the embankment. Gold is recovered using conventional methods of heap leaching with dilute sodium cyanide solution. Veladero uses only drip line application and

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Veladero Mine  
Name of Facility

  
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Signature Lead Auditor

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Feb. 28, 2008  
Date

buries the lines during the winter months to prevent freezing. The auxiliary facilities required for the mining operation include administration offices and buildings, laboratories, warehouses, maintenance shops, emergency facilities, electric power distribution, water supply, roads, fuel and reagent storage tanks, drainage structures, and explosive storage areas. Once the ore has been extracted and processed, all the Veladero facilities except those necessary for continuous environmental protection will be closed and rehabilitated.

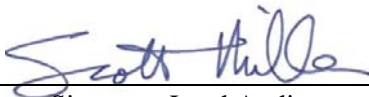
Veladero uses a Merrill-Crowe process to recover the gold and silver from the pregnant leach solution. Veladero at the time of the audit stored solid sodium cyanide in two locations at the site: 1) a temporary secure warehouse adjacent to the Merrill-Crowe facilities, and 2) a secure fenced area on the Valley Fill Leach Facility where the cyanide boxes are stored within 40-foot long sea containers. A dedicated sodium cyanide warehouse has been constructed on site but the local authorities have not approved its use yet. The liquid sodium cyanide is mixed and stored in a secure room adjacent to the Merrill-Crowe facilities. Veladero has developed and implemented a number of operational procedures for the safe storage, handling and mixing of solid sodium cyanide briquettes into high-strength cyanide solution. The cyanide storage mixing and storage tanks are under a roof and within concrete containments with spill collection sumps. The area has appropriate ventilation and hydrogen cyanide (HCN) monitoring, and high-level alarms, control room monitoring, and automated interlocks on pumps to prevent overfilling. Cyanide is added to the pregnant solution line prior to the Merrill-Crowe processing. pH control is maintained by adding lime to the heap leach ore. Veladero stores and manages sodium cyanide in engineered tanks, pipelines and lined ponds constructed under appropriate quality control and quality assurance programs. Veladero employees are trained in cyanide hazards and first aid, first response, emergency response, and specific operational tasks. Veladero facilities are fenced to preclude wildlife and livestock from entering cyanide process areas. Veladero employs comprehensive inspection and preventive maintenance programs to assure that all cyanide equipment and facilities are functioning as designed and to monitor process solutions. Veladero has developed closure and reclamation plans and procedures to complete the appropriate management of cyanide solutions and solids, and the decontamination of cyanide pipelines and equipment.

Veladero has developed and implemented a comprehensive process water balance program that includes monitoring and regular updates to track and plan water management activities. During the stacking and operation of the Valley Fill Leach Facility, Veladero has a water deficit due to evaporation and ore uptake and requires make-up water addition. The Valley Fill Leach Facility has been sized to contain the 100-year, 24-hour precipitation event.

Veladero receives solid sodium cyanide from DuPont De Nemours & Co., Inc. (DuPont) delivered to the site in the original sea containers. The sodium cyanide supply chain is managed by DuPont, a signatory company to the Code and certified as compliant with the Code by third-party auditors. Veladero has an emergency response team that is trained to respond to onsite fires, chemical spills, and worker exposures to cyanide. Veladero works with the nearest communities' emergency responders to assure that adequate resources are available to address both offsite and onsite emergencies.

Audit Dates: November 26-30, 2007  
Auditors: Scott Miller, Lead Auditor  
Guillermo Aguirre, Gold Mining Technical Expert Auditor  
Mark Montoya, Outside Gold Mining Technical Expert Auditor

Veladero Mine  
Name of Facility

  
Signature Lead Auditor

Feb. 28, 2008  
Date

**in full compliance with**  
**The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **All Code Principles**  
 not in compliance with

Audit Company: **Golder Associates Inc.**  
Audit Team Leader: **Scott H. Miller, CEA**  
E-mail: [Scott.Miller@golder.com](mailto:Scott.Miller@golder.com)

Names and Signatures of Other Auditors:

**Guillermo Aguirre**

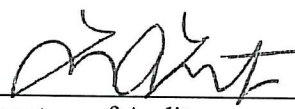
Guillermo Aguirre  
Name of Auditor

  
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Signature of Auditor

Feb. 28, 2008  
Date

**Mark A. Montoya, P.E.**

Mark A. Montoya  
Name of Auditor

  
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Signature of Auditor

Feb. 28, 2008  
Date

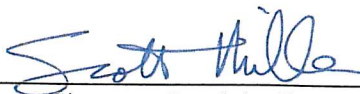
I attest that I meet the criteria for knowledge, experience and conflict of interest for Code Verification Audit Team Leader, established by the International Cyanide Management Institute and that all members of the audit team meet the applicable criteria established by the International Cyanide Management Institute for Code Verification Auditors.

I attest that this Summary Audit Report accurately describes the findings of the verification audit. I further attest that the verification audit was conducted in a professional manner in accordance with the International Cyanide Management Code Verification Protocol for Gold Mine Operations and using standard and accepted practices for health, safety, and environmental audits.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Lead Auditor

*Mirya Y. Atencio  
Notary Public, State of Colorado  
My Commission expires 11/01/2010*

Veladero Mine  
Name of Facility

  
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Signature Lead Auditor

Feb. 28, 2008  
Date

**1. PRODUCTION:** *Encourage responsible cyanide manufacturing by purchasing from manufacturers who operate in a safe and environmentally protective manner.*

Standard of Practice 1.1: *Purchase cyanide from manufacturers employing appropriate practices and procedures to limit exposure of their workforce to cyanide, and to prevent releases of cyanide to the environment.*

**in full compliance with**  
**The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 1.1**  
 not in compliance with

**Basis for Audit Finding:** Veladero has committed to only purchase cyanide from producers that are compliant with the International Cyanide Management Code (ICMC). Barrick Gold Corporation (Barrick) has a supply contract with DuPont De Nemours & Co., Inc. (DuPont) to provide sodium cyanide at Veladero. DuPont has been audited by third party independent auditors and certified as compliant under the ICMC.

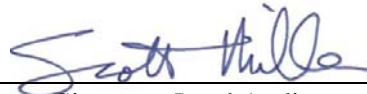
**2. TRANSPORTATION:** *Protect communities and the environment during cyanide transport.*

Standard of Practice 2.1: *Establish clear lines of responsibility for safety, security, release prevention, training and emergency response in written agreements with producers, distributors and transporters.*

**in full compliance with**  
**The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 2.1**  
 not in compliance with

**Basis for Audit Finding:** Veladero has a sodium cyanide supply contract with DuPont, which specifies that the operation take ownership of the cyanide at the time of delivery. DuPont is by contract solely responsible for the production and transport of sodium cyanide to the delivery point at Veladero. DuPont is a signatory producer to the ICMC and subcontracts the supply chain transportation from Memphis, Tennessee to the mine. The supply chain is comprised of truck and rail transportation to the Ports of New Orleans, Louisiana or Jacksonville, Florida. From the Port, the sodium cyanide is shipped to Buenos Aires, Argentina. DuPont's Argentinean subsidiary manages the logistics for movement through customs and truck transportation to the mine. None of the supply chain subcontractors are signatory to the ICMC; however all subcontractors have been subject of a formal audit or a less formal due diligence by ICMI-qualified auditors. According to these third-party audit and due diligence reports the transportation subcontractors are compliant or at least consistent with the ICMC with clear lines of responsibility for safety, security, release prevention, training, and emergency response.

Veladero Mine  
Name of Facility

  
Signature Lead Auditor

Feb. 28, 2008  
Date

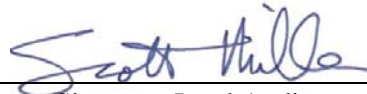
Standard of Practice 2.2: *Require that cyanide transporters implement appropriate emergency response plans and capabilities and employ adequate measures for cyanide management.*

- in full compliance with**
- The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 2.2**
- not in compliance with

**Basis for Audit Finding:** DuPont is by contract solely responsible for the production and transport of cyanide to the delivery point at Veladero. The supply chain is comprised of truck and rail transportation to either the Port of New Orleans, Louisiana or the Port of Jacksonville, Florida. DuPont loads intermediate bulk container (IBC) plywood boxes into sea cargo containers. The Intermodal Cartage Co. Inc. (ICCI) trucking company picks up these sea containers for transportation to a rail yard for transportation by the Canadian National Railway (CN). ICCI, while not signatory nor certified by ICMI as compliant with the ICMC, has undergone a third-party audit by an ICMI approved auditor and has been described as fully compliant. CN is also not signatory, nor certified, by ICMI, but an ICMI certified third-party auditor indicates that DuPont has done appropriate due diligence associated with the CN transportation segment to ensure that the cyanide is transported in a “manner consistent with the requirements of the Cyanide Code Transportation Protocol.” CN transports the sea containers to the port. From the port, the sodium cyanide is shipped to Buenos Aires, Argentina. DuPont uses one of three shipping companies (Mediterranean Shipping Company S.A., Hamburg Sud, or Maersk Line) for this segment of the supply chain. The shipping companies are also not signatory, nor certified, by ICMI, but an ICMI certified third-party auditor indicates that DuPont has done appropriate due diligence associated with these transportation segments to ensure that the cyanide is transported in a “manner consistent with the requirements of the Cyanide Code Transportation Protocol.” DuPont’s Argentinean subsidiary manages the logistics for movement through customs and truck transportation to the mine. DuPont use Transportes Cruz del Sud S.A.(CDS), a truck transportation company, to provide transportation from the port directly to the mine. CDS, while not signatory nor certified by ICMI as compliant with the ICMC, has undergone a third-party audit by ICMI approved auditors and has been described as fully compliant. Veladero, DuPont and CDS have developed a Cyanide Management Plan that defines clear lines of responsibility for safety, security, release prevention, training, and emergency response.

DuPont is a signatory producer to the ICMC and has conducted audits and due diligence by qualified third-party independent auditors on the transportation security, safety, training and emergency response aspects. None of the supply chain subcontractors are signatory to the ICMC; however all subcontractors have been subject of a formal audit or a less formal due diligence by an ICMI qualified auditor.

Veladero Mine  
Name of Facility

  
Signature Lead Auditor

Feb. 28, 2008  
Date

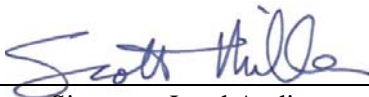
**3. HANDLING AND STORAGE: *Protect workers and the environment during cyanide handling and storage.***

Standard of Practice 3.1: *Design and construct unloading, storage and mixing facilities consistent with sound, accepted engineering practices, quality control/quality assurance procedures, spill prevention and spill containment measures.*

- in full compliance with**
- The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 3.1**
- not in compliance with

**Basis for Audit Finding:** Veladero is currently using two temporary solid sodium cyanide storage areas including a warehouse where one-ton “bag in box” intermediate bulk containers (IBC) are stored and a fenced area on the Valley Fill Leach Facility with the IBCs stored in 40-foot sea containers. The temporary storage areas have been approved by local authorities while the cyanide warehouse is empty pending formal regulatory approval. The solid sodium cyanide briquettes are mixed with barren solution in cyanide mixing and storage tanks within the Merrill-Crowe Plant building. The design and construction of the cyanide warehouse, mixing and storage facilities have been completed appropriately as documented in final design and construction drawings prepared by qualified Professional Engineers. The cyanide warehouse, mixing and storage facility quality control and assurance procedures and documentation include construction level drawings with detailed specifications noting foundation compaction and concrete reinforcement, and piping and tankage materials. The liquid cyanide storage tanks each have a high-level alarm and level indicator. The temporary solid cyanide warehouse storage facility has adequate ventilation, is located within a secure and roof-covered building or within a secure fenced area on the leach facility. The cyanide mixing and storage area is also a secure locked room within the larger Merrill-Crowe plant building with adequate fan driven ventilation. During unloading at both sites, traffic and access is controlled by the operators with warning cones. The cyanide warehouse and the mixing and storage areas are within concrete containment or HDPE lined area to contain releases and precipitation that may contact cyanide. As also covered under Standard of Practice 4.7, the mixing and liquid storage containment area is constructed and interconnected with the Merrill-Crowe containment area for spill prevention and the containments sized to contain 110 % of largest tank volume. Both the solid cyanide storage areas and the mixing / liquid storage area are locked and control room personnel must provide permission for entry. Veladero thoroughly rinses the bags and then disposes of the bags and boxes within yellow labeled tote containers for pick up by their contractor ECO San Juan for transportation and incineration in San Juan. Incineration is considered an environmentally sound method for the disposal of the bags and boxes. Strict controls are in place to prevent other uses of these materials.

Veladero Mine  
Name of Facility

  
Signature Lead Auditor

Feb. 28, 2008  
Date

Standard of Practice 3.2: *Operate unloading, storage and mixing facilities using inspections, preventive maintenance and contingency plans to prevent or contain releases and control and respond to worker exposures.*

- in full compliance with**
- The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 3.2**
- not in compliance with

**Basis for Audit Finding:** Veladero has developed Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to prevent exposure and releases of cyanide during unloading from the sea cargo containers and stacking, mixing and storage, and processing. The SOPs consist of “*Manipulacion De Cianuro De Sodio*” (Sodium Cyanide Handling Procedure) and “*Preparación de Solucion Cianuro*” (Preparation of Cyanide Solution) that covers the responsibilities for the site handling and storage. The procedures require that cyanide boxes be stacked no more than three high during unloading of trucks or within the warehouse. The procedures also require that all cyanide mixing be completed by qualified operators under the observation by another qualified operator. Personnel protection equipment requirements during cyanide box movement or cyanide mixing include a Tyvek® suit, hardhat, full-face dust mask, rubber boots, and gloves. Veladero uses inspection forms and a computer database preventative maintenance program that identifies and tracks all maintenance activities at the unloading and the storage warehouse (and temporary cyanide storage on the leach facility) and tank areas. As also covered under Standard of Practice 4.1, Veladero has an inspection program that includes daily, shift and monthly inspections. Findings are entered into work requests, and then work orders when required. Contingency planning documents have been developed and implemented to address power failure, and extreme rainfall management.

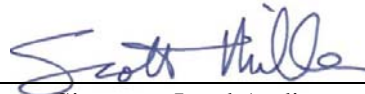
**4. OPERATIONS:** *Manage cyanide process solutions and waste streams to protect human health and the environment.*

Standard of Practice 4.1: *Implement management and operating systems designed to protect human health and the environment utilizing contingency planning and inspection and preventive maintenance procedures.*

- in full compliance with**
- The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 4.1**
- not in compliance with

**Basis for Audit Finding:** Veladero has developed and implemented operator task-specific SOPs that address protection of human health and the environment for the operation of the Merrill-Crowe circuit. In addition, Veladero has Operating Plans and task-specific SOPs that describe all aspects of the Valley Fill Leach Facility, water balance and processing. These SOPs and operating plans were found to have adequate contingency planning, routine inspections, and a preventive maintenance program. SOPs address all the cyanide management tasks such as unloading and storage of cyanide boxes,

Veladero Mine  
Name of Facility

  
Signature Lead Auditor

Feb. 28, 2008  
Date



mixing of liquid cyanide, cleaning and disposal of cyanide bags and boxes, management of the ore placement and heap leach operations. Contingency planning documents have been developed and implemented to support the process solution and pond management, control of solution inventory during power failure, and extreme rainfall events. Veladero has developed and implemented a procedure to identify and evaluate changes in operation related to safe management of cyanide. This procedure was developed and is followed as part of the ISO 140001 program and addresses any process change with the potential to impact the environment or worker safety. Veladero generates their own electricity onsite and has backup generators to ensure that essential process equipment and systems continue to operate during power failures and conducts inspections that include regular testing of the backup power generators. Veladero uses a computer based preventive maintenance system, Oracle®, to identify, issue work orders and document all preventive maintenance activities.

Standard of Practice 4.2: *Introduce management and operating systems to minimize cyanide use, thereby limiting concentrations of cyanide in mill tailings.*

**in full compliance with**

**The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 4.2**  
 not in compliance with

**Basis for Audit Finding:** Veladero is a heap leach operation and does not generate or dispose mill tailings.

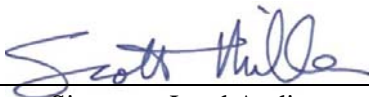
Standard of Practice 4.3: *Implement a comprehensive water management program to protect against unintentional releases.*

**in full compliance with**

**The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 4.3**  
 not in compliance with

**Basis for Audit Finding:** Veladero has developed a comprehensive water balance that addresses the uncertainty and variability of climatic data to prevent overtopping of the Valley Fill Leach Facility. Process facility inspection procedures and data collection programs have been implemented to update and calibrate the water balance model every 15 days during the rainy season. Veladero has two weather stations and measures and records precipitation data for incorporation into the model and operational planning. Daily shift inspections include the in-heap storage and pond levels and available freeboard monitoring that is incorporated into the water balance model and operational planning to prevent potential overtopping.

Veladero Mine  
Name of Facility

  
Signature Lead Auditor

Feb. 28, 2008  
Date

Standard of Practice 4.4: *Implement measures to protect birds, other wildlife, and livestock from adverse effects of cyanide process solutions.*

**in full compliance with**

**The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 4.4**

not in compliance with

**Basis for Audit Finding:** Veladero has one sludge process pond located on the leach facility containing process solution with WAD cyanide concentrations at or above 50 mg/L. All other process solution is within the Valley Fill Leach Facility. The sludge pond is netted to prevent bird and wildlife exposure. Veladero's other wildlife protection facilities include a perimeter fence around the processing area and ponds such as the Primary Sump and Contingency Pond. Ponding on the surface of the heap leach facility is controlled by the using mobile equipment to fluff the ore, reduction of solution application or by shutting down solution application in the ponding areas.

Standard of Practice 4.5: *Implement measures to protect fish and wildlife from direct and indirect discharges of cyanide process solutions to surface water.*

**in full compliance with**

**The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 4.5**

not in compliance with

**Basis for Audit Finding:** Veladero is designed and operated as a zero-discharge operation. Review of the operation performance history, design criteria and the project water balance indicate that facilities operation is consistent with the zero-discharge requirements. Monitoring information indicates there is no impact to surface water quality from the heap leach operations and processing facilities. Spill prevention and emergency response plans have been developed to comply with the zero-discharge operating requirements.

Standard of Practice 4.6: *Implement measures designed to manage seepage from cyanide facilities to protect the beneficial uses of groundwater.*


**in full compliance with**

**The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 4.6**

not in compliance with

**Basis for Audit Finding:** The Veladero Valley Fill Leach Facility and processing facilities are designed and operated to protect groundwater resources. The cyanide facilities include a number of seepage control technologies: double geomembrane liner systems below the in-heap solution storage and process ponds with leak collection and recovery systems; composite liner under the heap leach facility outside the impoundment area; and concrete containments in process areas to protect

Veladero Mine  
Name of Facility

  
Signature Lead Auditor

Feb. 28, 2008  
Date

groundwater. Veladero completes weekly monitoring of the leak collection and recovery systems and quarterly water quality sampling and analysis of a groundwater monitoring network.

Argentina has not established regulatory water quality standards for cyanide levels in groundwater or applicable legislation regarding beneficial uses of groundwater. For Veladero, the numerical standard applied for groundwater protection is 0.2 mg/liter Total Cyanide. Groundwater monitoring data demonstrate that the operation has not exceeded this numerical standard at the groundwater

*Standard of Practice 4.7: Provide spill prevention or containment measures for process tanks and pipelines.*

- in full compliance with**
- The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 4.7**
- not in compliance with

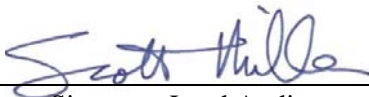
**Basis for Audit Finding:** The Veladero operation has secondary curbed or walled concrete containments for all cyanide storage and processing areas. Other secondary containments include geomembrane-lined channels for process solution pipelines. The secondary containments in the cyanide processing areas have been designed to contain at least 110 % of the largest tank volume and the 100-year, 24-hour storm event. Secondary containments in the cyanide mixing room and process areas have automated pumping systems for collection and management of process leakage. SOPs have been developed to address management of spill response and clean-up within the containments. Review of the operation indicates that all tanks, piping and containments are constructed of materials appropriate for handling high pH cyanide solutions.

*Standard of Practice 4.8: Implement quality control/quality assurance procedures to confirm that cyanide facilities are constructed according to accepted engineering standards and specifications.*

- in full compliance with**
- The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 4.8**
- not in compliance with

**Basis for Audit Finding:** The project construction of the heap leach and process facilities has been verified by qualified engineering companies and includes detailed quality control / quality assurance (QC/QA) data collection and documentation. The QC/QA documents indicate that the construction was completed according to engineering standards and specifications. Veladero has committed to retain all QC/QA information in the Process Department.

Veladero Mine  
Name of Facility

  
Signature Lead Auditor

Feb. 28, 2008  
Date

Standard of Practice 4.9: *Implement monitoring programs to evaluate the effects of cyanide use on wildlife, surface and ground water quality.*

- in full compliance with**
- The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 4.9**
- not in compliance with

**Basis for Audit Finding:** Veladero has environmental monitoring programs developed to evaluate the performance of the cyanide management systems on wildlife, and surface and groundwater quality. The environmental programs have been prepared, approved and implemented by qualified professionals and include all appropriate sampling and analysis documentation. Review of field sampling forms, chain of custody and quality assurance data was completed. Veladero monitors water quality monthly in the Potrerillos River drainage basin both up and down gradient of the Valley Fill Heap Leach at SW-11E (upgradient point), SW-6, and daily at the Primary Sump and Contingency Pond. Groundwater quality is measured and reported to the authorities for the nine monitoring wells in the Potrerillos River drainage basin on a monthly basis.

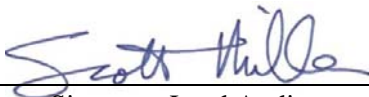
**5. DECOMMISSIONING:** *Protect communities and the environment from cyanide through development and implementation of decommissioning plans for cyanide facilities.*

Standard of Practice 5.1: *Plan and implement procedures for effective decommissioning of cyanide facilities to protect human health, wildlife and livestock.*

- in full compliance with**
- The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 5.1**
- not in compliance with

**Basis for Audit Finding:** Veladero has developed written closure plans and cost estimates that address decommissioning of all cyanide equipment, pipelines and facilities including management of heap leach draindown and stored solution with the Valley Fill. Veladero has developed an implementation schedule that considers the treatment and evaporation of all process solution, detoxification and rinsing of equipment, and removal and decommissioning of ponds and other containments. Veladero is ISO 14001 certified, which requires a review and update of closure plan and costs estimate every 2 years.

Veladero Mine  
Name of Facility

  
Signature Lead Auditor

Feb. 28, 2008  
Date

Standard of Practice 5.2: *Establish an assurance mechanism capable of fully funding cyanide related decommissioning activities.*

- in full compliance with**
- The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 5.2**
- not in compliance with

**Basis for Audit Finding:** Veladero has developed cost estimates with sufficient detail for the full closure of the cyanide-related facilities and activities, assuming implementation by a third-party. Barrick is providing a corporate self guarantee to cover the full cost of cyanide facility decommissioning at Veladero. In support of the corporate self guarantee, Veladero provided audited financial statements for Minera Argentina Gold S.A. and a report from qualified financial auditors that evaluated Barrick audited financial records for their ability to meet financial tests for financial self guarantee for its cyanide-related decommissioning activities using 40 CFR 264.143(f), 30 CRF 800.23, and 10 CFR 30, and in accordance with standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

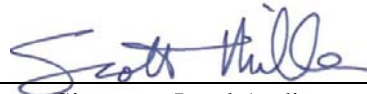
**6. WORKER SAFETY:** *Protect workers' health and safety from exposure to cyanide.*

Standard of Practice 6.1: *Identify potential cyanide exposure scenarios and take measures as necessary to eliminate, reduce and control them.*

- in full compliance with**
- The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 6.1**
- not in compliance with

**Basis for Audit Finding:** Veladero has identified potential cyanide exposure scenarios and developed procedures and plans to eliminate, reduce and control exposure. Veladero operating plans and individual task specific SOPs provide details for safe operation of cyanide equipment, personal protective equipment requirements and inspection requirements. Veladero has successfully implemented a program where job safety assessments are completed and documented prior to every cyanide related task. Veladero has weekly Process Group Meetings to provide information and training to employees as well as solicit input from employees on worker safety issues. Veladero has a Change Management procedure (This document is called "Procedimiento Control De Cambios en el Proceso"). This procedure was developed and is followed as part of the ISO 140001 program and addresses any process change with the potential to impact the environment or worker safety and requires any proposed changes in process operations and cyanide management be formally evaluated with the area supervisors prior to implementation. All changes are communicated to the workforce and training requirements updated.

Veladero Mine  
Name of Facility

  
Signature Lead Auditor

Feb. 28, 2008  
Date

Standard of Practice 6.2: *Operate and monitor cyanide facilities to protect worker health and safety and periodically evaluate the effectiveness of health and safety measures.*

**in full compliance with**

**The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 6.2**

not in compliance with

**Basis for Audit Finding:** Veladero has developed SOPs for the cyanide usage areas designed to prevent the generation of hydrogen cyanide (HCN) gas and has located key cyanide process facilities outside or in well-ventilated buildings with appropriate HCN monitors. Veladero has defined process equipment and standard operational plans for control of cyanide, caustic, and pH. There are HCN sensors and alarms located at the cyanide mixing and storage tanks. Veladero has developed extensive HCN monitoring information for all operator tasks using mobile HCN detectors. All operators are required to carry mobile HCN monitors once per month with the data being evaluated and compiled to monitor work practices and identify potential areas of concern. Veladero also has mobile HCN detectors for use in confined space entry. Veladero has established requirements for personal protective equipment at all relevant process areas and for all cyanide-related activities. Veladero has implemented monitoring equipment maintenance and calibration programs. Veladero has installed safety showers with low-pressure eyewash stations and non-acidic fire extinguishers at relevant cyanide usage areas. Veladero provides the cyanide safety information (Material Safety Data Sheets and first aid procedures in Spanish) at all key process locations and on the Veladero Intranet. Veladero has implemented an accident investigation process to report and investigate all cyanide related incidents.

Warning signs are located in areas of cyanide usage to alert workers that cyanide is in use and include the use of PPE. Unloading, storage, mixing and process tanks and piping containing cyanide are identified to alert workers of their contents, and the direction of cyanide flow in pipes is designated.

Standard of Practice 6.3: *Develop and implement emergency response plans and procedures to respond to worker exposure to cyanide.*

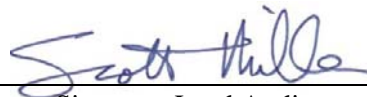
**in full compliance with**

**The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 6.3**

not in compliance with

**Basis for Audit Finding:** Veladero has developed an Emergency Response Plan and implemented the Plan through training and installation of emergency response equipment. Veladero has safety equipment including safety showers with eyewash stations, first aid equipment (amyl nitrite, medical oxygen bottles, and resuscitators), emergency response vehicles (4 ambulances, 2 firetrucks, 1 HazMat Truck and 1 High Alpine Rescue Vehicle), and employee first aid training. Veladero regularly inspects and maintains the first aid and emergency response equipment. Veladero has an Emergency Response Team for all shifts. The team is trained to provide first aid for cyanide exposure including oxygen and amyl nitrite administration. Veladero has a program to store and replace cyanide exposure antidotes in accordance with the manufacturer's requirements at several

Veladero Mine  
Name of Facility

  
Signature Lead Auditor

Feb. 28, 2008  
Date

locations on the property. In the event of a worker exposure, Veladero will provide onsite first aid. Veladero has three onsite medical facilities that is always staffed by at least one physician each. Veladero also has two offsite medical facilities located along the 160-kilometer access road. The onsite medical physicians will provide intravenous cyanide antidote for treatment of the patient if required. Veladero has conducted cyanide exposure drills, and tests the relevant emergency procedures at least once per year.

**7. EMERGENCY RESPONSE:** *Protect communities and the environment through the development of emergency response strategies and capabilities.*

Standard of Practice 7.1: *Prepare detailed emergency response plans for potential cyanide releases.*

- in full compliance with**
- The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 7.1**
- not in compliance with

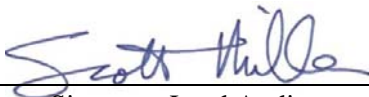
**Basis for Audit Finding:** Veladero has developed and implemented an Emergency Response Plan (ERP) and procedures to respond to cyanide related emergencies and emergency control management that address potential cyanide releases including containment plans and analysis of potential scenarios. The emergency response plans will be evaluated and updated at least annually.

Standard of Practice 7.2: *Involve site personnel and stakeholders in the planning process.*

- in full compliance with**
- The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 7.2**
- not in compliance with

**Basis for Audit Finding:** The ERP has been designed to be implemented entirely by trained, onsite personnel. Veladero has onsite fire fighting capabilities, a fully equipped emergency response vehicle, a HazMat vehicle and trained First Responders, firefighters and hazmat personnel. Veladero's emergency response teams are trained to respond to all potential cyanide incidents at the site. Veladero's Emergency Response Plan has been developed with the involvement and input of its workforce. Veladero's workforce has the ability to participate in the emergency response planning process through weekly safety meetings and mock drills. Veladero involves site personnel in mock drills and revises the emergency response procedures as needed.

Veladero Mine  
Name of Facility

  
Signature Lead Auditor

Feb. 28, 2008  
Date

Standard of Practice 7.3: *Designate appropriate personnel and commit necessary equipment and resources for emergency response.*

- in full compliance with**
- The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 7.3**
- Not in compliance with

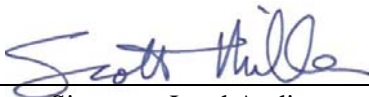
**Basis for Audit Finding:** Veladero has committed, in the ERP and training SOPs, the necessary emergency response equipment and first aid to manage all cyanide incidents at the operation and to use onsite medical facilities. Veladero has certified First Responders, medical physicians, physician assistants, firefighters and HazMat personnel. Veladero's ERP defines the primary and alternative response coordinators for the Incident Command Team (ICT). The ICT is commanded by an Incident Commander Leader, who is trained for emergencies in that department. The ERP has a list of potential team members and Commanders in the event that the Department Supervisor is not available. The Incident Commander and ICT are responsible for the overall management of the emergency (human resources, equipment, material and supplies, communication, production and decisions) at the site. The ERP contains a list of onsite emergency responders, the ambulance service and the onsite medical hospital and clinics. Veladero requires training and certification for First Responders, including administering first aid to personnel exposed to cyanide, administering amyl nitrite, locations of cyanide antidote kits, hazard awareness associated with sodium cyanide and HCN gas, and victim and rescuer decontamination procedures. The ERP includes radio channel, office and 24-hour cell phone telephone numbers for the Emergency Response Team and Commanders. The ERP has a section describing Veladero Personnel Duties and Responsibilities for the Incident Commander and Manager Succession. The section details the responsibilities of the Incident Commander and the Safety and Environmental Departments. The ERP contains a list of emergency response equipment for the onsite transportation route. All emergency equipment and supplies are inspected monthly by the Safety Department.

Standard of Practice 7.4: *Develop procedures for internal and external emergency notification and reporting.*

- in full compliance with**
- The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 7.4**
- not in compliance with

**Basis for Audit Finding:** Veladero's Emergency Response Plan and related facility plans detail the procedures (including current contact telephone numbers) for internal and external emergency notification and reporting.

Veladero Mine  
Name of Facility

  
Signature Lead Auditor

Feb. 28, 2008  
Date



Standard of Practice 7.5: *Incorporate into response plans and remediation measures monitoring elements that account for the additional hazards of using cyanide treatment chemicals.*

- in full compliance with**
- The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 7.5**
- not in compliance with

**Basis for Audit Finding:** Veladero has prepared cyanide response and remediation plans that address appropriate uses and situations for cyanide treatment chemicals. Veladero has developed plans to sample and monitor soils and groundwater in the event of a cyanide spill. All contaminated soils are to be excavated, loaded, hauled and disposed of in the heap leach facility. Liquid spills are to be contained by perimeter berms and pumped into containers for return to the process facilities. Sodium hypochlorite is only to be used in cases where the solution is fully contained on site and will not encounter aquatic life.

Standard of Practice 7.6: *Periodically evaluate response procedures and capabilities and revise them as needed.*

- in full compliance with**
- The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 7.6**
- not in compliance with

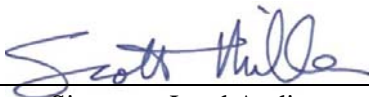
**Basis for Audit Finding:** Veladero has committed to annual evaluation and update of the Emergency Response Plan, if needed based on review of the incidents and drills. Additionally, at least once per year Veladero will conduct HazMat emergency response drills. Veladero is committed to conducting mock drills annually. Four cyanide related mock drills were conducted over 2006-2007.

**8. TRAINING:** *Train workers and emergency response personnel to manage cyanide in a safe and environmentally protective manner.*

Standard of Practice 8.1: *Train workers to understand the hazards associated with cyanide use.*

- in full compliance with**
- The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 8.1**
- not in compliance with

Veladero Mine  
Name of Facility

  
Signature Lead Auditor

Feb. 28, 2008  
Date

**Basis for Audit Finding:** Veladero provides training to all employees, with the potential to be exposed to cyanide, on the hazards of cyanide and provides annual refresher training. Veladero retains all cyanide training records for employees. The cyanide related performance assessment tests are also retained in employee permanent records.

Standard of Practice 8.2: *Train appropriate personnel to operate the facility according to systems and procedures that protect human health, the community and the environment.*

**in full compliance with**  
**The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 8.2**  
 not in compliance with

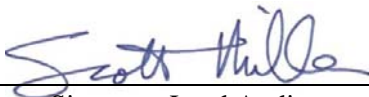
**Basis for Audit Finding:** Veladero has prepared and implemented SOPs for cyanide management tasks that detail health and safety procedures for all aspects of cyanide unloading, handling, mixing and storage, heap leach operations, and Merrill-Crowe operations.

Veladero has an extensive training program that includes New Hire, Work Specific, and Specific Procedure training. New hire training is given to all employees and covers cyanide hazard recognition, health effects, safe practices, basic PPE, general emergency procedures in case of spills or inhalation risk, and communication requirements. The work specific training is given to employees and contractors that have the potential to be exposed to cyanide. The work specific training includes more detail on cyanide safety, first aid and antidote use, PPE requirements and specific work area cyanide management procedures. The procedure training is task specific training provided by employee supervisors covering cyanide handling and mixing, heap leach operations, and Merrill-Crowe plant operation. All task-specific training is conducted by individuals that have undergone a "Train the Trainer" course and have at least two years of working in the process area. Veladero's training program identifies the specific cyanide management elements that each employee must be trained in to perform that specific job properly. All Veladero employees, with the potential to be exposed to cyanide, receive annual refresher training that includes cyanide safety. Veladero employees working in specific cyanide management tasks receive annual refreshers for those tasks. Veladero requires written tests to evaluate the effectiveness of cyanide training and those training records are retained throughout an individual's employment, documenting the training received. The records include the name of the employee and the trainer, the date of training; the topics covered, and test results demonstrating an understanding of the training materials.

Standard of Practice 8.3: *Train appropriate workers and personnel to respond to worker exposures and environmental releases of cyanide.*

**in full compliance with**  
**The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 8.3**  
 not in compliance with

Veladero Mine  
Name of Facility

  
Signature Lead Auditor

Feb. 28, 2008  
Date

**Basis for Audit Finding:** Veladero has provided training in response to cyanide releases for all production and maintenance personnel and developed a First Responder Team. Veladero has developed procedures and plans for cyanide-related tasks. The Emergency Response Plan, the Operation Pre-Plans and procedures define the response required by operators if a person is exposed to cyanide or if there is an environmental release. All Veladero employees, with the potential to be exposed to cyanide, receive annual refresher training that includes cyanide safety, cyanide hazards recognition, first aid, and incident response. All training records by individual employee are retained.

Emergency Response Coordinators and members of the Emergency Response Team at Veladero receive the following specialized training every two years: Basic Trauma Life Support, Vehicle Rescue, Rescue with Ropes, Basic CPR, Hazardous Materials, Cyanide Intoxication First Aid, Mine Rescue, Cyanide Management, Cyanide Use, Hazmat and Emergency Psychology.

Veladero conducts one mock cyanide emergency response drills per year that include both human exposure and environmental release. The drills are analyzed and improvements made to training procedures and the emergency response plan as required by the drill results.

**9. DIALOGUE: Engage in public consultation and disclosure.**

Standard of Practice 9.1: Provide stakeholders the opportunity to communicate issues of concern.

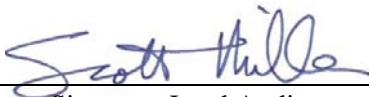
- in full compliance with**
- The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 9.1**
- not in compliance with

**Basis for Audit Finding:** Veladero has several programs to provide stakeholders the opportunity to communicate concerns. These programs include public mine visits and tours, publication of a monthly magazine, preparation of informational pamphlets, organization of workshops on mining issues, development of community relations workshops and development of suggestion box Program. Mine visits include a tour of the leach facilities and an overview from the general lookout. Veladero provides the following pamphlets during mine visits, workshops and community meetings:

- o Veladero, Valle de Lixiviación (Veladero Valley Leach)
- o Manejo de Cianuro en Veladero (Cyanide use in Veladero)
- o Transporte Insumos Mineros (Mine Supplies Transport)

The pamphlets are easy to follow and are focused to teach safe practices and information regarding cyanide and gold production at the mine. These pamphlets are distributed at site visits and any other event where mine personnel participate. Veladero also promotes workshops at local universities, schools and institutes where cyanide and other mining related subjects are discussed.

Veladero Mine  
Name of Facility

  
Signature Lead Auditor

Feb. 28, 2008  
Date

Standard of Practice 9.2: *Initiate dialogue describing cyanide management procedures and responsively address identified concerns.*

- in full compliance with**
- The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 9.2**
- not in compliance with


**Basis for Audit Finding:** Veladero provides the opportunity to communicate issues of concern with the public through contact with the local stakeholders during presentation of workshops and during the mine site visits.

Standard of Practice 9.3: *Make appropriate operational and environmental information regarding cyanide available to stakeholders.*

- in full compliance with**
- The operation is**  in substantial compliance with **Standard of Practice 9.3**
- Not in compliance with

**Basis for Audit Finding:** Veladero is required by Argentinean regulations to provide operational and environmental information related to cyanide exposures and emergencies, spills, and offsite releases of cyanide on a quarterly basis. These quarterly reports are available to the public on request from the Argentinean authorities. Barrick provides operational and environmental information in its annual corporate safety and health, environment and social responsibility reports, and on its website ([www.Barrick.com](http://www.Barrick.com) and [www.barrick.cl](http://www.barrick.cl)).

Veladero Mine  
Name of Facility

  
Signature Lead Auditor

Feb. 28, 2008  
Date