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# NEWS RELEASE

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## GOVERNMENT OK'S EXPANSION OF PROPOSED GOLD PROJECT

VICTORIA -- Energy and Mines Minister Anne Edwards today approved an increase in production levels for the proposed Quesnel River Gold Project, located 70 km southeast of Quesnel.

"The outlook is very positive that the Quesnel River Gold project will go ahead as planned this year," said Frank Garden, MLA-Cariboo North. "We look forward to the project adding to the mining industry in the Cariboo."

Kinross Gold Corp., is working to obtain the necessary permits and licences for the project from other government agencies so that construction can start in April 1994. Meetings in Quesnel took place last week.

"The Quesnel River Gold project was shown to be environmentally sound when it first received provincial approval in 1990," said Edwards. "The changes in the company's mine plan give an extra margin of environmental protection as well as increased production."

Kinross Gold requested additional fresh water to allow an increase in production from 500 to 800 metric tonnes per day. The province approved the use of Sandy Lake as the source of water for the project based on the company's commitment to protect fisheries flows in the Sandy Lake/Rudy Creek drainage.

An approval-in-principle was originally granted for the project in July 1990, and was converted to a mine development certificate in March 1993. Kinross Gold acquired the rights to the Quesnel River property in 1992 and with today's approval, has reached an important milestone towards project start-up.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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