

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF MINING, LAND AND WATER

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November 10, 2008

Dear Miner:

Attached you will find the **2009** Hardrock, Placer Mining or Suction Dredge Application. As always we encourage you to submit your application early. This cover letter contains important information pertaining to the application. Please review this information carefully.

In an effort to reduce paperwork and processing time there are three separate applications. This is the same method used for 2008 applications.

1. Hardrock Exploration
2. Placer Mining
3. Suction Dredging

Federal Operators:

If your operation involves federal land managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and you want to use this application as a Notice of Intent (NOI) /Application for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit, please obtain BLM approval of any bonding requirements prior to the submission of the application to the State Division of Mining, Land & Water. Bonding forms are available at BLM and DNR.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Permitting:

Your application can be submitted to the EPA as a Notice of Intent (NOI) /Application for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit.

Applicants must fill in and sign item #27 of the Placer Mining Application to apply for the EPA General Permit. If your application is for suction dredging, fill and sign item # 22 of the Suction Dredge Application to apply for the EPA General permit.

Multi-Year Renewal Requirements:

For those miners who have been issued a multi-year permit, the following forms still need to be submitted annually:

1. Reclamation page with signature.
2. Bond renewal form
3. Reclamation statement.
4. Coastal Zone Management Certification Statement and Consistency Evaluation forms if you operate within Alaska Coastal Zone Management boundaries.

Suction Dredging:

1. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires suction dredge operators to obtain a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit. Contact the EPA well in advance of your intended "start-up" date to determine if your operation can be permitted under the General Permit for Alaska Placer Miners. Please contact Cindi Godsey at 1-800-781-0983 (within Alaska) or (907) 271-6561.

2. Suction dredges may require authorization from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE). A Corps of Engineers permit may be required for any mining activity utilizing mechanized equipment on "waterways" or "wetlands", or access across waterways or wetlands. The APMA may act as an application for the COE General Permit for Placer Mining in Alaska. Contact the COE Placer Mining Permit Section well in advance of intended "start-up" to ensure your application contains all required information. Please contact: Don R. Rice, Mining Coordinator at 1-800-478-2712 (within Alaska) or (907) 753-2712.

Processing Fees:

At the present time, an annual application fee is \$150.00. A Multi-Year is \$150 for the first year and \$50 for each year thereafter, for up to 5 years, payable in advance. A 5 year application is \$350.00.

DECEMBER 31, 2008 DEADLINE:

1. 2008 applicants whose proposed operations involved a total disturbance of less than five acres, are required to submit an Annual Reclamation Statement, whether or not activity took place in 2008. (AS 27.19.050(c).
2. For activity involving cross-country access of equipment or operations within Alaska Coastal Zone Management (ACZM) boundaries, you are advised to submit the application by December 31, 2008.

Alaska Mining License:

The Department of Revenue will resume issuing the licenses. For Mining License Tax tracking purposes, the Social Security Number or Federal EIN Number of each owner and operator of the activity must be entered in the space provided on the application (attach an additional sheet if necessary). This information will remain confidential and will only be provided to the Department of Revenue. Please call 907-269-6620 if you have questions.

Notice of Mining Activity:

The Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) requires that all mining operations file a notice of legal identity. [Section 3\(h\)\(1\) of the Act](#) defines the term "mine" and includes related milling operations within that definition. Mine development, rehabilitation activities, and exploration work at an established mine are within the Act's scope. All types of mining, including placer, dredge, and hydraulic operations must be inspected. Government owned or operated mines and mills, whether federal, state, county, or other, are included within the jurisdiction of the Act. All such operations located anywhere in the United States, as well as in any of its territories, protectorates, or commonwealths, must be inspected.

Applications for Legal Identity can be obtained at the local field office or can be filed online at www.msha.gov. Please contact the Anchorage, AK field office at (907) 271-1250 for more information and assistance.

If assistance is required, please contact one of our offices – Anchorage (907) 269-8647 or Fairbanks (907) 451-2774. We post the applications and related forms to our web page at: <http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/mlw/forms>.

Sincerely,

Kerwin Krause
Geologist, Minerals Property Manager