

PUBLIC NOTICE
FINAL FINDINGS OF FACT AND DECISION
CHICKALOON COAL EXPLORATION PERMIT APPLICATION
PERMIT NUMBER E-1501

The State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land and Water (DMLW) has received a request from Riversdale Alaska LLC, a subsidiary of Riversdale Resources PTY LTD, Level 2 Chifley Tower, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, 2000, to review a coal exploration application under 11 AAC 90.163. The Department is issuing a written Findings of Fact and Decision in compliance with the requirements of 11 AAC 90.907(h) and AS 27.21.030 and AS 27.21.100 for a coal exploration application. A Permit for Coal Exploration may be issued at a later date.

The proposed exploration activities are located approximately three miles northwest of Chickaloon within all or parts of Sections 8, 12-24, and 27-32, Township 20 North, Range 5 East, of the Seward Meridian. A total of 9,927.60 acres of land are within the Chickaloon exploration area in which Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority is the owner of subsurface rights and the State of Alaska is the owner of surface rights.

The proposed activities will consist of drilling up to 25 exploration holes and three shallow trenches. In order to acquire data on the groundwater resources within the exploration area some of these drill holes may be retained as hydrologic monitoring wells. All drill sites will be reclaimed and all drill holes not retained as monitoring wells will be sealed immediately upon completion of work at the site. All equipment used on site will be removed upon completion of the exploration program.

Pursuant to 11 AAC 90.167(b) the Division has determined that a reclamation bond in the initial amount of \$89,180.00 is sufficient to cover the associated reclamation costs. Detailed bond calculations are in the permit application.

The application complies with the requirements of the Alaska Surface Coal Mining Program (AS 27.21 and 11 AAC 90). All proposed exploration and reclamation activities are consistent with 11 AAC 90.167.

The Final Findings of Facts and Decision are available for review at the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land and Water, 550 W. 7th Ave., Suite 920, Anchorage, AK 99501-3577, or on our website (www.dnr.state.ak.us/mlw/mining/index.htm). The applicant or a person with an interest which is or may be adversely affected by this decision may request in writing a hearing under AS 27.21.150 to review the reasons for this decision. The request for a hearing may be mailed or delivered to Daniel S. Sullivan, Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources, 550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1400, Anchorage, AK 99501; faxed to 907.269.8918; or sent by electronic mail to dnr.appeals@alaska.gov. The request for a hearing must be received within 30 days after the applicant is notified of this decision; the request must be received by 5:00 p.m. of August 22, 2012.

Publish Date: July 23, 2012