



P.O. Box 1000  
Healy, Alaska 99743  
Phone: 907-683-2226

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March 25, 2013

Mr. Russell Kirkham  
Coal Regulatory Program Manager  
Division of Mining, Land & Water  
550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 920  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3577

**RE: Coal Exploration Permit No. 02-86-795-Hoseanna and Emma Creeks 2013 Renewal Request**

Dear Mr. Kirkham:

Usibelli Coal Mine, Inc (UCM) requests renewal of Coal Exploration Permit No. 02-86-796 for permit term – July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2015. A payment of \$500.00 is attached. The cost for public notice will be submitted under a different cover letter for the requisite filing fee upon receipt of DNR's invoice.

During the 2011 to 2013 permit term UCM completed 9 of the proposed 20 drill holes and monitoring wells at Jumbo Dome and 2 proposed monitoring wells at Popovich Nose. The enclosed permit renewal application includes an updated proposed exploration map for Jumbo Dome. At this time there are no additional wells or drill holes proposed for Popovich Nose. The proposed exploration plan does not include any additional trails or drill holes than were addressed in the 2011-2013 permit renewal application and therefore UCM recommends no change in the current bond amount of \$56,443.

Sincerely,

Tamara Scholten PE, PMP  
Senior Environmental Engineer  
Usibelli Coal Mine, Inc.

eAttachments:

1. Exploration Permit Application



- 2.3 Number of Acres of Federal Land (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_
- 2.4 USGS 1:250,000 or 1:63,360 Quadrangle Names: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2.5 Distance and Direction to Nearest Community (in miles): \_\_\_\_\_
- 2.6 Attach map of exploration site and adjacent area.

**3.0 Period of Exploration**

- 3.1 Begin (Month/Day/Year): July 1, 2013
- 3.2 End (Month/Day/Year): June 30, 2015

**4.0 Ownership of Surface/Subsurface Mineral Estate**

If the surface or the mineral estate is owned or leased by someone other than the applicant, answer 4.1 - 4.5, as appropriate (**attach additional pages as needed**).

- 4.1 Surface Owner
  - Name: See Original Permit Documents
  - Address: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

- 4.2 Mineral Estate Owner
  - Name: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Address: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

- 4.3 Surface Land Leaseholder
  - Lease #: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Name: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Address: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

- 4.4 Mineral Estate Leaseholder
  - Lease #: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Name: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Address: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

- 4.5 Adjacent Surface & Mineral Estate Leaseholders
  - Lease #: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Name: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Address: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

- 4.6 Right to Enter: Provide a statement describing the basis by which the applicant claims the right to enter the land for the purposes of conducting exploration and reclamation, Reference relevant federal, state, and local government prospecting permits or lease documents. Attach copies of supporting documents, as appropriate.

<b>5.0 Fees</b>	<b>Ref: 11 AAC 90.011</b>
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- 5.1 Permit Fee \$500.00 Attach receipt. (Refer to fee schedule below)  
 Exploration - notice of intent \$100  
 Exploration- substantial disturbance \$500 + cost of all public notices

<b>PART B: NOTICE OF INTENT TO EXPLORE</b>	<b>Ref: 11 AAC 90.161</b>
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<b>6.0 Intention to Explore</b>
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- 6.1 Describe intended exploration activities, including major' pieces of equipment and their use.
- 6.2 Will exploration activities substantially disturb the natural surface of the land?  
 YES  NO  
 If yes, proceed to Part C; if no, answer 6.3 and proceed to Part D. (See definition on page 1 of this form.)
- 6.3 Describe practices to be used to protect the environment from adverse impacts resulting from exploration activities.

<b>PART C: EXPLORATION PERMIT APPLICATION</b>	<b>Ref: 11 AAC 90.163; 11 AAC 90.167</b>
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<b>7.0 Exploration Area Description</b>
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- Note: all technical data in this application must be accompanied by:
- 1) names of persons and organizations who gathered and analyzed data;
  - 2) dates of data collections and analysis;
  - 3) description of procedures used; and
  - 4) names, addresses and positions of officials of each agency consulted.
- 7.1 Indicate type(s) of surface disturbance:  blasting.  mechanical excavation  Drilling, altering coal or water exploration holes and wells,  road or trail construction or modification  aircraft landing construction/modification  marine docking facility construction/modification  construction of structures  placement of excavated material or debris on surface  other, specify \_\_\_\_\_
- 7.2 Provide a map of at least a scale of 1:63,360 enlarged 2.5 times (~1:25000), showing the following existing surface features:
- a. existing roads and trails;
  - b. occupied dwellings and other structures;
  - c. pipelines, airfields and marine docking facilities;
  - d. bodies of water; .
  - e. historic, archeological and cultural features;
  - f. topographic and drainage features; and

g. habitats of endangered or threatened species.

7.3 Using existing information, briefly describe, with cross references to the map in 7.2, the surface topography, geology, surface waters, predominant land use, and other physical features.

7.4 Using existing information, briefly describe, with cross references to the map in 7.2, vegetation cover and important habitats of fish, wildlife and plants.

7.5 Does the exploration area include critical habitat of threatened or endangered species; or species such as eagles, migratory birds or other animals protected by state or federal law; or habitats of unusually high value for fish and wildlife?

YES  NO

If yes, describe impact, control measures, management techniques and monitoring methods to be utilized to protect these species and habitats.

7.6 Does the exploration area include known archeological resources; or districts, sites, structures or objects listed on the National Register of Historic Places?

YES  NO

If yes, identify and describe, and describe protection measures to be implemented.

## **8.0 Exploration and Reclamation Methods**

8.1 Provide a map of at least a scale of 1:63,360 enlarged 2.5 times, showing the following exploration and reclamation features (if appropriate, this may be combined with the map required under 7.2):

- a. the area to be disturbed by exploration and reclamation; .
- b. access routes, including new roads, trails or other transportation facilities to be constructed, and existing facilities to be used or modified;
- c. proposed excavations and trenches;
- d. water or coal exploratory holes to be drilled or altered;
- e. earth or debris disposal areas; f. sediment control measures, such as sediment ponds and structures for diverting overland flow, if required; and
- g. other exploration or reclamation features.

8.2 Provide a description of exploration and reclamation methods and a discussion of how the exploration will comply with the performance standards in 11 AAC 90.167. Cross-referencing the map in 8.1, describe, at a minimum, the following:

- a. types and uses of equipment;
- b. design, construction, maintenance and removal of any proposed new roads, trails or other transportation facilities;
- c. alteration and restoration of existing transportation facilities;
- d. blasting procedures;
- e. earth or debris disposal;
- f. backfilling and regrading of all excavations, artificial flat areas, embankments or other disturbed areas to their approximate original contour;
- g. topsoil removal, storage and redistribution;
- h. seed mix, application rates, seeding method and other procedures to be implemented in the establishment of a vegetative cover on all disturbed areas;
- i. procedures for plugging and abandoning exploration holes, boreholes, wells or other exposed underground openings;

- j. procedures and control practices to be implemented to minimize disturbance to the prevailing hydrologic balance, including, if necessary, sedimentation control;
- k. handling and disposal of known acid-forming or toxic-forming materials, if any; and
- l. removal of all facilities and equipment.

- 8.3 Provide a time table for each phase of exploration and reclamation including starting and ending date, type of disturbance, area of disturbance, and reclamation measures.
- 8.4 Give an estimate of the quantity of coal to be removed during the exploration. Specify method used to measure quantity.
- 8.5 Give a detailed estimate of the cost of reclamation of all areas to be affected by exploration activities.

**PART D: EXPLORATION ON LANDS UNSUITABLE FOR MINING**

**Ref: 11 AAC 90.165**

9.1 Does the proposed exploration area include any area previously designated as unsuitable for all or certain types of mining by the Commissioner of Natural Resources?

YES  NO

If yes, respond to 9.2 and 9.3. . .

9.2 Indicate petition name and number: \_\_\_\_\_

9.3 Describe the basis for the designation of the area as unsuitable for mining and why exploration in the area is not incompatible with the values or features which led to the designation of the area.

**PART E:**

The applicant states to the best of his or her knowledge and belief that all statements made in the notice of intent to explore or in the application to explore are true and correct.

Applicant's Name: Fred Wallis Title: V.P. Engineering

Address: PO Box 1000 Healy, AK 99743

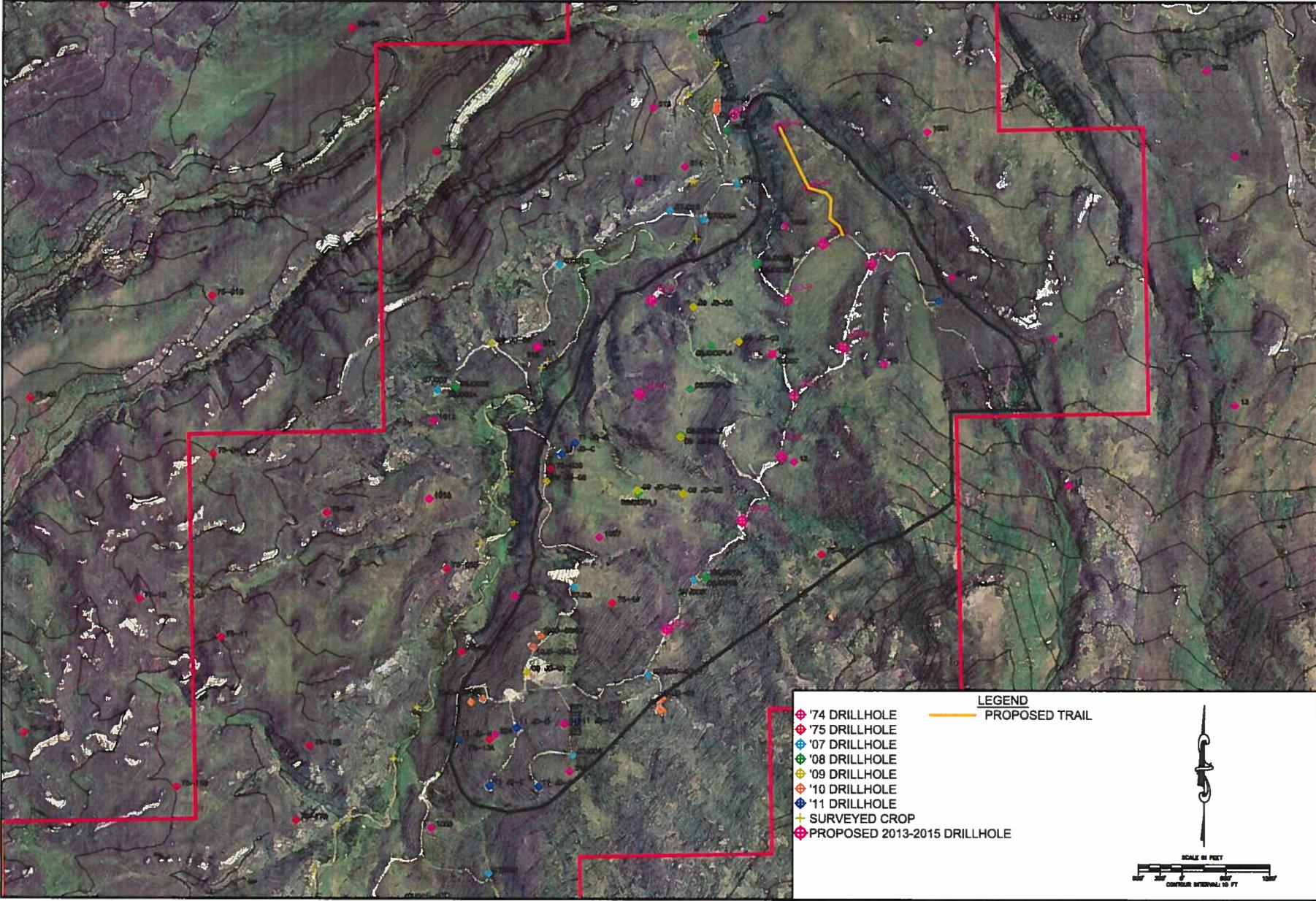
Applicant's Signature: [Signature] Date: 3/22/13

Subscribed and sworn before me by Fred Wallis this the 22nd day of Mar., 2013

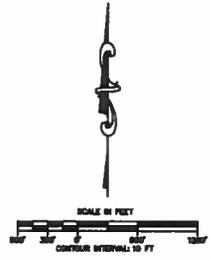
Notary Public: [Signature] My commission expires 9/1/2016



Note: Attach a copy of power of attorney, or resolution of Board of Directors that grants authority)



- LEGEND**
- ◆ '74 DRILLHOLE
  - ◆ '75 DRILLHOLE
  - ◆ '07 DRILLHOLE
  - ◆ '08 DRILLHOLE
  - ◆ '09 DRILLHOLE
  - ◆ '10 DRILLHOLE
  - ◆ '11 DRILLHOLE
  - + SURVEYED CROP
  - ◆ PROPOSED 2013-2015 DRILLHOLE
  - PROPOSED TRAIL





USIBELLI COAL MINE, INC.

DRAFT																					
JUMBO DOME MINE																					
EXPLORATION PLAN PROPOSED 2013-2014 RUBBLE STRUCTURE																					
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