

# STATE OF ALASKA

SEAN PARNELL, GOVERNOR

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

### DIVISION OF MINING, LAND AND WATER Coal Regulatory Program

550 WEST 7<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, SUITE 920  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-3577  
PHONE: (907) 269-8650  
FAX: (907) 269-8930

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To: Distribution List

### RE: PUBLIC NOTICE SURFACE COAL MINING PERMIT RENEWAL PERMITS 01-83-796, 01-83-796-01, S-0601-A

On May 4, 2011, Usibelli Coal Mine Inc. (UCM), P.O. Box 1000, Healy, AK 99743 filed for a renewal of their permit to conduct surface coal mining activities at their Poker Flats Mine (permit numbers 01-83-796, 01-83-796-01, and S-0601-A).

The Poker Flats Mine Permit consists of a 2,565 acre mine site, and is located approximately five miles northeast of Healy, Alaska. The proposed mining activities are within: Sections 3-9, 17, 20, and 21, Township 12 South, Range 7 West, Fairbanks Meridian. The current activity in the permit area is focused on the reclamation of previously mined areas.

This renewal request is for an additional five-year term and includes the permit areas previously approved in the existing permits. The original permit was issued in 1976. No additional mining areas or revisions to the existing boundaries are proposed. Parts of the permit application have been revised to provide current information as required by 11 AAC 90.021 through 11 AAC 90.065. No changes or modifications to the operation or reclamation plan are being proposed. The application meets all of the requirements of the Alaska Surface Coal Mining Control and Reclamation Act (AS 27.21; 11AAC 90).

Pursuant to 11 AAC 90.201, the Department has determined that the reclamation bond in the amount of \$2,503,305.00 is sufficient to cover the associated reclamation liability.

Copies of existing Permit, Renewal Request, and Preliminary Findings of Fact and Decision are available for review at the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land and Water, 550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 920, Anchorage, AK 99501-3577, and at the Department's Fairbanks office at 3700 Airport Way, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709. A person who is or may be adversely affected by the issuance of this permit may file written comments or objections and may include with an objection, a request for an informal conference (AS 27.21.140). Comments should be sent to Russell Kirkham, at the Anchorage address listed above, by fax to (907) 269-8930, or by email to [coalprogram@alaska.gov](mailto:coalprogram@alaska.gov) with the subject "Poker Flats Mine Renewal". The deadline for comments is 5:00 p.m. on July 30, 2012.

For additional information, please contact Liping Jing at (907) 269-8634 or via e-mail listed above.