

STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Alaska Coastal Management Program
and the
Division of Mining, Land and Water

SEAN PARNELL, GOVERNOR

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April 12, 2010

RE: PUBLIC NOTICE: Wishbone Hill EXPLORATION PERMIT RENEWAL

Dear Alaskan,

Usibelli Coal Mine Inc. (UCM), P.O. Box 1000, Healy, AK 99743 has filed for a renewal of their Wishbone Hill Coal Exploration Permit No. 01-86-795. This would renew the existing permit for two additional years.

The exploration activity is located in the Wishbone Hill area, approximately 8 miles east of Palmer, Alaska. The proposed exploration activities will be within: Township 19 North, Range 2 East (Seward Meridian), all of Sections 13, 24 and parts of sections 14, 22, 23, and 25-28; and Township 19 North, Range 3 East (Seward Meridian), all of Sections 3, 7-10 and parts of section 2, 11, and 15-19.

Authorized exploration activities will consist of drilling up to 20 drill holes and the excavation of several shallow trenches. Several drill holes may be left as monitoring well locations. There will be a geologic surface mapping program, and the construction of 1.5 miles of access trail. All sites will be reclaimed and all drill holes will also be reclaimed unless converted to hydrologic monitoring wells. Otherwise, drill holes will be sealed immediately upon completion of work at the site.

Pursuant to 11 AAC 90.167(b) the Division has determined that a reclamation bond in the amount of \$39,293 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 Control and Reclamation Act (AS 27.21 and 11 AAC 90).

The Department of Natural Resources will hold an Informal Conference at the Sutton Elementary School at 4 Wright Way, Sutton, AK 99674, on April 28, 2010. The informal conference will begin at 5pm.

5:00 – 6:00 p.m.	Introductions, Question and Answer
6:00 – 7:30 p.m.	Public Testimony

Copies of the application and preliminary 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 at (www.dnr.state.ak.us/mlw/mining/index.htm). Comments regarding this permit renewal should be sent to Russell Kirkham at the address listed above, by fax at (907) 269-8930, or by e-mail at russell.kirkham@alaska.gov.

The deadline for all written comments is 5:00 PM, Friday May 14, 2010.



Russell Kirkham