

Public Notice
State of Alaska
Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Air and Water Quality
610 University Avenue
Fairbanks, AK 99709-3643

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Division of Air and Water Quality, has received an application for a Site-Specific Water Quality Criteria in a 401 certification of a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit certification under Alaska Statutes 46.03, and applicable sections of the Clean Water Act. The Draft NPDES permit and the draft 401 certification were public noticed with the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on March 14, 2003. A copy of the draft permit, fact sheet and draft 401 certification are available at www.pogomineeis.com. The applicant has requested a Site Specific Criteria in the 401 certification under 18 AAC 70.235(b). 18 AAC 70.235(b) states: "If the department finds that the natural condition of a waterbody is demonstrated to be of lower quality than a water quality criterion set out in 18 AAC 70.020(b), the natural condition constitutes the applicable water quality criterion." As allowed under 18 AAC 70.235(b), the applicant proposes to measure the natural condition concurrent with the discharge.

Applicant: Teck Pogo Incorporated
3520 International Street
Fairbanks, AK 99701

Proposal: The following language is proposed to be added to the 401 certification of NPDES Permit AK-005334-1:

"If the actual natural condition of a sample taken from the Goodpaster River concurrent (within an hour) with an effluent sample from NPDES Outfall 001 is of lower quality than the water quality criterion set out in 18 AAC 70.020(b) for a parameter listed in Table 1 of the NPDES permit, the natural condition constitutes the applicable water quality criterion and the natural condition constitutes the Table 1 effluent limitation only for that effluent sample. The permittee is not required to take a natural condition sample but may do so to establish the natural condition concurrent with the discharge. The natural condition sample for NPDES Outfall 001 shall be taken at sampling station NPDES -001b."

Location: Pogo Mine Project, 38 miles NE of Delta Junction at approximately 64°26'36"N
144°56'30"W

Permit: Draft EPA NPDES Permit AK-005334-1

Comments or questions regarding this Site Specific Criteria may be directed to Luke Boles, ADEC, 610 University Avenue, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709, phone: 907-451-2142, fax: 907-451-2187, email: luke_boles@dec.state.ak.us. The deadline for comments to be submitted is October 20, 2003. Copies of the application for the Site Specific Criteria available upon request.

Dated at Fairbanks, Alaska, September 12, 2003.

Signed: **SIGNATURE ON FILE**

William D. McGee, Technical Engineer
State Water Discharge Permits and Certifications Plan

Clean Air, Clean Water