

STATE OF ALASKA

FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

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September 1, 2006

AUSTIN AHMASUK
P.O. BOX 693
NOME, ALASKA 99762

Re: Appeal of Decision to Approve Reclamation Plan for the Nome Rock Creek Mine, F20069578

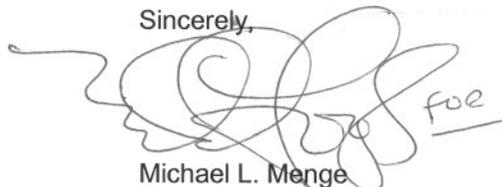
Dear Mr. Ahmasuk:

By electronic fax dated August 29, 2006, you appealed the Division of Mining, Land and Water's August 9, 2006 decision to approve Alaska Gold Company's Plan, required under AS 27.19.030 for the reclamation of the Rock Creek Mine Project. Your request was received in the commissioner's office within the time allowed by law (~~AS 38.05.065(i)~~):

I have decided to grant review of your appeal. Under 11 AAC 02.060 timely appealing a decision within the department stays the decision during the department's consideration of the appeal. However, I have determined that because the mine is located on privately owned lands that it is highly unlikely that there will be any undue degradation of the state's land and water resources while this appeal is being considered and that it is in the public interest to remove the automatic stay, thereby allowing the current plan approval to remain in force during the pendency of this appeal.

Following review of the casefile, applicable law, and any other pertinent documents, I will make a decision on this appeal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael L. Menge", with a stylized flourish extending to the left and the word "for" written in smaller letters to the right of the signature.

Michael L. Menge
Commissioner

cc:

Doug Nicholson, Alaska Gold Company
Dick Mylius, Acting Director, Division of Mining, Land and Water
Tom Crafford, Large Mine Coordinator
Rick Fredricksen, Mining Section Chief