STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF MINING, LAND, AND WATER

DRAFT MINERAL ORDER No. 1229

<u>X</u> Closing Lands to Mineral Entry Opening Lands to Mineral Entry

I. Name of Mineral Order: Fritz Creek Heights Subdivision – ADL 232826

II. Reason for Mineral Order: This Mineral Order is based upon the attached *Commissioner's Administrative Finding,* applicable statutes, and the written justification contained in the following:

Kenai Area Plan, adopted (2001)

Preliminary Decision, Fritz Creek Heights Subdivision– ADL 232826, January 24, 2020 and the subsequent Final Finding and Decision for same

III. Authority: AS 38.05.185 and AS 38.05.300.

IV. Location and Legal Description: That portion of the N½NW¼SE¼SW¼, the SW¼NW¼SE¼SW¼ & the NE¼SW¼SW¼, Section 21, Township 5 South, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian, located within the Homer Recording District, Third Judicial District, Alaska.

V. Mineral Order: This order is subject to valid existing rights and is issued under the authority granted by *AS* 38.05.185 – *AS* 38.05.275 and *AS* 38.05.300 to the Alaska Department of Natural Resources. In accordance with *AS* 38.05.185(a), I find that the best interests of the State of Alaska and its residents are served by closure of the land described in this mineral order to entry under mineral location and mining laws of the State of Alaska. The above described lands are hereby **closed** to entry under the locatable mineral and mining laws of the State of Alaska.

Concur:

Martin W. Parsons, Director Division of Mining, Land and Water Department of Natural Resources

Date

Approved:

Corri A. Feige, Commissioner Department of Natural Resources Date

STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF MINING, LAND AND WATER

DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE FINDING MINERAL ORDER NO. 1229 Closing Lands to Mineral Entry

FRITZ CREEK HEIGHTS SUBDIVISION

Pursuant to *AS 38.05.035*, the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land, and Water proposes to issue a Final Finding and Decision to convey State-owned land into private ownership within the Fritz Creek Heights project area (ADL 232826). As noted in the Preliminary Decision – Proposed Land Offering Fritz Creek Heights Subdivision – ADL 232826, issued January 24, 2020, the project area is within Management Unit 215, Region 7, Homer (including Ninilchik River, Deep Creek, and Anchor River drainages) of the *Kenai Area Plan.* In accordance with the area plan, DMLW proposes to close the entire project area to mineral entry. The attached mineral order includes the legal description of area to be closed to mineral entry.

The Division of Mining, Land, and Water requests the mineral estate of approximately 17 acres, identified in the attached mineral order, be closed to mineral entry and location, in accordance with *AS 38.05.300* for a land disposal. Mining activity on the project area would be incompatible with the current and proposed land estate uses. The land does not contain any known mineral deposits and was not selected for mineral values. There are no mining claims on the land.

Public notice of the comment period for the proposed mineral order was conducted in accordance with *AS 38.05.945*. (Review of comments will be addressed in the final document.)

In accordance with AS 38.05.185 (a) and AS 38.05.300, I find that the best interests of the State of Alaska and its residents are served by closure of the land to entry under the mineral location and mining laws of the State of Alaska as described by Mineral Order (Closing) No. 1229.

Concur:

Martin W. Parsons, Director Division of Mining, Land and Water Department of Natural Resources Date

Approved:

Corri A. Feige, Commissioner Department of Natural Resources

Date