



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Department of Natural Resources

DIVISION OF MINING, LAND & WATER
Mining Section

550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 900B
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3577
Minerals Property Management Main: 907.269.8642
Fax: 907.269.8649
Coal Regulatory/Abandoned Mine Lands Main: 907.269.8631
Fax: 907.269.8930
TDD: 907.269.8411

January 3, 2017

Sumitomo Metal Mining Pogo, LLC
Pogo Mine
3204 International Street
Fairbanks, AK 99701
Attention: Keri DePalma

Subject: Extension of the Pogo Mine Plan of Operations Approval (F20129500)

Dear Mrs. DePalma:

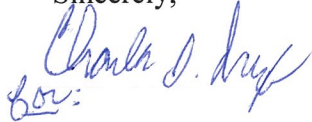
On December 5, 2016 the Department of Natural Resources received a letter (copy enclosed) from Sumitomo Metal Mining Pogo, LLC (Pogo) requesting an extension for submission of an updated application package to renew your Pogo Mine Plan of Operations Approval (F20129500) (POOA). Your letter states the mine reclamation and Right-of-Way (ROW) reclamation cost estimates and updated Reclamation and Closure Plan will be completed no later than February 7, 2017 and Pogo requests an extension to February 15, 2017 for submittal. Your current POOA is due to expire on February 6, 2017.

In order to allow for the continuation of your operations the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land & Water (DMLW) administratively extends POOA (F20129500) until June 1, 2017. This extension should be sufficient to allow for a thorough review of the complete application package and resolution of any requests for information or updates to the plan and cost estimates, and to accommodate a coordinated public notice process. Your request to extend the date for submittal of a complete application to February 15, 2017 is therefore approved.

A person affected by this decision may appeal it, in accordance with 11 AAC 02. Any appeal must be received within 20 calendar days after the date of issuance of this decision, as defined in 11 AAC .2.040(c) and (d), and may be mailed or delivered to the Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources, 550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1400, Anchorage, Alaska, 99501, faxed to 907-269-8918, or sent by electronic mail to dnr.appeals@alaska.gov. This decision takes effect immediately. If no appeal is filed by the appeal deadline, this decision becomes a final administrative order and decision of the department on the 31st day after issuance. An eligible person must first appeal this decision in accordance with 11 AAC 02 before appealing this decision to superior court. A copy of 11 AAC 02 may be obtained from any regional information office of the Department of Natural Resources.

If you have any questions regarding this approval, please contact Brent Martellaro at 907-451-2788.

Sincerely,

for:

Marty Lentz
Mining Section Chief

Enclosure: Copy of December 5, 2016 letter from Pogo

cc: Marty Lentz, ADNR
Brent Goodrum, ADNR
Kyle Moselle, ADNR
David Schade, ADNR
Brent Martellaro, ADNR
Charlie Cobb, ADNR
Stephanie Lovell, ADNR
Carolyn Curley, ADNR
Allan Nakanishi, ADEC
Tim Pilon, ADEC

December 5, 2016
COR-16-061
Certified Mail # 7015 3010 0000 7259 7568 & Via EMAIL

Kyle Moselle, Large Mine Project Manager
Office of Project Management and Permitting
Alaska Department of Natural Resources
400 Willoughby Street
Juneau, Alaska 99801-0101

**Re: Sumitomo Metal Mining Pogo, LLC (Pogo)
Plan of Operations - Application for Renewal**

Dear Kyle:

I am writing to follow-up on the November 8, 2016 meeting regarding the renewal of Sumitomo Metal Mining Pogo, LLC's (Pogo) Plan of Operations and to request a short extension of time to submit updated mine reclamation and ROW reclamation cost estimates and an updated Reclamation and Closure Plan in support of the renewal application.

Under Pogo's Plan of Operations Approval (F20129500), Pogo's application for renewal must be submitted no later than January 6, 2017 (30 days before the expiration date of the Plan of Operations Approval).

Pogo has engaged SRK Consulting (U.S.), Inc. (SRK) to update the mine reclamation and ROW reclamation cost estimates using the Standard Reclamation Cost Estimator (SRCE) Model. SRK is also updating Pogo's Reclamation and Closure Plan.

The SRCE Model was not previously used to develop the mine reclamation and ROW reclamation cost estimates in the current Plan of Operations Approval. SRK has indicated that additional time is needed to convert the mine reclamation and ROW reclamation cost estimates to the SRCE Model and update the Reclamation and Closure Plan. SRK anticipates that it will have the updated mine reclamation and ROW reclamation cost estimates and the updated Reclamation and Closure Plan completed no later than February 7, 2017.

No later than January 6, 2017, Pogo will submit its application for renewal without the cost estimates and the updated Reclamation and Closure Plan. Pogo requests an extension to February 15, 2017 to submit the updated cost estimates and the updated Reclamation and Closure Plan. We believe this request is reasonable and is not made for any purpose of delay.

Pogo understands that until the Department of Natural Resources issues a new approval, the existing Plan of Operations Approval continues to remain in effect.

We appreciate the Department of Natural Resources' consideration of this request.

If you have any questions, please contact me at keri.depalma@smmpogo.com; (907)-895-2879.

Sincerely,



Keri DePalma, CPG
Environmental Manager

cc: Tim Pilon; ADEC via email