



PUBLIC NOTICE

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC)
Wastewater Discharge Authorization Program
555 Cordova Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ISSUANCE OF AN ALASKA POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (APDES) PERMIT TO DISCHARGE TO WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES

A Fact Sheet and associated documents are available for review. For inquiries or to request copies of documents, contact:

ADEC Contact: Allan Nakanishi, P.E.
555 Cordova Street
Anchorage, AK 9901
907-269.4028
Allan.Nakanishi@alaska.gov

Public Notice Issuance Date: April 29, 2011
Public Notice Expiration Date: May 31, 2011

Permit No.: AK0053627-1

Applicant:

Alaska Gold Company
Rock Creek Mine
P.O. Box 640
Nome, AK 99762

Proposed Project and Location:

The Alaska Gold Company operates the Rock Creek Mine located near Nome, Alaska. The proposed APDES permit AK-0053627-1 would authorize the discharge treated wastewater to Rock Creek is from the Rock Creek Mine tailings storage facility, the main pit, and recycle water pond. The permit authorizes discharges while the mine remains in temporary closure status (i.e., no active process operations or tailings deposited to TSF during the term of this permit). The permit includes effluent limits and monitoring requirements for proposed discharges to Rock

Creek. The effluent limits are both technology- and water quality-based. No mixing zones are authorized.

Tentative Determination:

ADEC has tentatively determined to issue a discharge permit to the above listed applicant.

Public Comments:

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on the APDES draft permit must be submitted within 30 days of the issuance of this public notice. Please direct written comments and requests to the attention of Allan Nakanishi, P.E. at the address or email identified above. All comments should include the name, address, and telephone number of the commenter and a concise statement of comment on the permit condition(s) and the relevant facts upon which the comment is based. Comments of either support or concern that are directed at specific, cited permit requirements are appreciated. Mailed comments and requests must be postmarked on or before the expiration date of the public notice.

ADEC will consider all comments in making the final decision and will answer the comments in a Response to Comments that will be issued when ADEC issues a final permit. The Response to Comments will be made available to the public.

Any interested person may submit a written request for a public hearing if no hearing has already been scheduled. A request for a public hearing shall state the nature of the issues to be raised, as well as the requester's name, address and telephone number. ADEC will hold a public hearing whenever ADEC finds, on the basis of requests, a significant degree of public interest in a draft permit. ADEC may also hold a public hearing if a hearing might clarify one or more issues involved in a permit decision or for other good reason in ADEC's discretion.

ADEC will transmit the final permit, fact sheet (amended as appropriate), and Response to Comments to anyone who provided comments during the public review period or requested to be notified of ADEC final decision.

**DEADLINE FOR WRITTEN COMMENTS OR REQUEST FOR PUBLIC HEARING:
May 31, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. AST**

Administrative Record:

The APDES draft permit, fact sheet, permit application, and associated documents are available for public review at the ADEC offices located in Anchorage and Fairbanks. Please contact the office of your choice to arrange for hard copies of the documents to be available for your review.

555 Cordova Street
Anchorage, AK 99501
907-269-6285

610 University Avenue
Fairbanks, AK 99709
907-451-2100

If you would like further information or to see any additional supporting technical documents, contact Allan Nakanishi, P.E.

The documents are also accessible from the ADEC website at:

<http://www.dec.state.ak.us/water/wwdp/index.htm>

Disability Reasonable Accommodation Notice

The State of Alaska, Department of Environmental Conservation complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you are a person with a disability who may need a special accommodation in order to participate in this public process, please contact Deborah Pock at (907) 269-0291 or TDD Relay Service 1-800-770-8973/TTY or dial 711 within 30 days of publication of this notice to ensure that any necessary accommodations can be provided.