****COVID-19 DISASTER EXTENSION****
PAYMENTS DUE UNDER AS 38.05.210, .211
SEPTEMBER 25, 2020

RELATING TO THE EXTENSION OF TIME TO COMPLY WITH SECTIONS OF ALASKA STATUTES

I, Corri Feige, Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, do hereby authorize the extension of payments due under AS 38.05.210 and 38.05.211; pursuant to this Order, an extension of one year is granted as provided below. This Order takes immediate effect upon signature unless otherwise individually noted.

Background

The outbreak of the COVID-19 virus has caused significant restrictions on the ability of holders of state mining interests to travel to the state and to those interests. Restrictions placed on travel by the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, in order to flatten the spread of the virus and defend against over-taxing the state's health care services, has limited the ability of out-of-state mining claimants to travel to the State of Alaska to perform the required annual labor or generate sufficient revenue to make cash-in-lieu payments for labor. Restrictions did not just affect the out-of-state miners but also affected the ability of Alaskan miners to generate revenue and travel to and access remote mining locations requiring small aircraft or charter boat operations to perform the necessary activities to maintain their interests. I find that the financial hardship and inability of miners to access their claims, leasehold locations, and leases due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus places an inequitable burden on Alaska's miners to comply with state statutes through no fault of their own, but rather through an act of God.

Finding and Decision

Accordingly, pursuant to AS 38.05.020(b)(5), I find that it is in the best interest of the state to grant affected persons a one year extension for payments required by AS 38.05.210 and AS 38.05.211, and associated regulations. Upon written request to the Division of Mining, Land & Water, received on or before November 30, 2020, stating how the COVID-19 pandemic prevented a miner from timely performing annual labor, paying cash-in-lieu of annual labor, or paying rent on their claims, leasehold locations or leases, the due date for cash-in-lieu of annual labor and rental payments for the 2019-2020 mining labor year will be extended one year and will be due and must be paid on or before September 1, 2021.

Any miner who did not perform annual labor in the 2019-2020 labor year must pay cash-in-lieu of annual labor in order to maintain their claims, leasehold locations, and leases. In addition to any written request for an extension under this Order, all claim, leasehold location, and lease holders must still record affidavits of annual labor for the 2019-2020 labor year on or before November 30, 2020. The affidavit should detail the performance of the requisite labor performed by September 1, 2020, or whether cash-in-lieu of labor has already been paid, or whether the holder intends to pay cash-in-lieu of labor under an extension authorized by this Order on or

before September 1, 2021. The attached Addendum provides guidelines for seeking relief under this Order.

Corri Feige, Commissioner
Alaska Department of Natural Resources

Date: September 25, 2020

ADDENDUM - Guidelines for Seeking Relief

- To qualify for an extension for payments of cash-in-lieu of labor or annual rent provided by this Order, claim, leasehold location, and lease holders must:
    - Submit a written request to the Division of Mining, Land & Water ***on or before November 30, 2020***, stating how the COVID-19 pandemic prevented them from timely performing annual labor, paying cash-in-lieu of annual labor, or paying rent on their claims, leasehold locations, or leases, and requesting an extension of the due date for payments of cash-in-lieu of labor, annual rent, or both.
    - The request must be signed and must include:
        - The ADL number(s) or name of the claim(s), leasehold location(s) or lease(s); and
        - The name(s) and current mailing address of the holder(s).
    - Written requests may be hand delivered or submitted as an attachment to email at dnr.dmlw.mpm@alaska.gov FAX (907) 269-8949, or mailed to: Department of Natural Resources, 550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 900B, Anchorage, AK 99501-3577. ***Mailed requests must be received by the Department of Natural Resources by November 30, 2020.***
    - The request should explain the underlying reason for the request, as well as how or why COVID-19 factored into the inability to comply with the statutory and regulatory annual mining requirements.
- All affidavits of annual labor for the 2019-2020 mining year ***must still be recorded on or before November 30, 2020. Failure to record an affidavit of annual labor in a timely manner will result in abandonment of your claims.***
    - The affidavit must clearly detail if labor was timely performed, if cash-in-lieu of labor was already paid, or if a payment for cash-in-lieu of labor is expected to be paid in accordance with an extension requested under this Order.
    - The affidavit must still meet the requirements of AS 38.05.210(b) and AS 38.05.240.