

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 10

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900 Seattle, WA 98101-3140

OFFICE OF WATER AND WATERSHEDS

March 17, 2010

VIA Electronic Filing

Ms. Eurika Durr, Clerk of the Board U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Ariel Rios Building 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20005

VIA First Class Mail

Mr. Mike D.J. Bonneau General Manager, Teck Alaska Incorporated Red Dog Operations 3105 Lakeshore Drive Building A, Suite 101 Anchorage, Alaska 99517

Re: NPDES Appeal No. 10-04

Red Dog Mine - NPDES Permit No. AK-003865-2 Notification of Withdrawal of Permit Conditions

Dear Mr. Bonneau:

On January 8, 2010, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10 issued the above-referenced National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit to Teck Alaska Incorporated. On February 18, 2010, the Environmental Appeals Board notified Region 10 that Trustees for Alaska and the Center on Race, Poverty and the Environment, on behalf of several entities and individuals, filed a petition for review of the permit. On February 26, 2010, Region 10 issued a notification pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 124.16(a)(2) that the following contested permit conditions were stayed as a result of the petition for review:

- Part I.A.1, Table 1 effluent limitations for lead (monthly average limit), selenium (daily maximum limit), zinc, and weak acid dissociable (WAD) cyanide
- Part I.A.7.a effluent limitations for Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)

The remainder of the January 8, 2010, NPDES permit conditions were determined to be uncontested and severable from the contested conditions and, in accordance with 40 C.F.R. §§ 124.16(a)(2) and 124.20(d), will become fully effective and enforceable on March 31, 2010.



Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 124.19(d), the Region hereby withdraws the following conditions from 2010 NPDES Permit No. AK-003865-2:

- Part I.A.1, Table 1 effluent limitations for lead (monthly average limit), selenium (daily maximum limit), zinc, and weak acid dissociable (WAD) cyanide
- Part I.A.7.a effluent limitations for Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)

Those permit conditions that are not withdrawn, which include the entire permit except the conditions identified above, will become fully effective and enforceable on March 31, 2010. As a result of this withdrawal, the following conditions in the 1998 NPDES Permit No. AK-003865-2 remain in effect until further agency action.

• Part I.A.1 – effluent limitations for lead (monthly average limit), selenium (daily maximum limit), zinc, TDS, and total cyanide

Please feel free to contact Patty McGrath at (206) 553-0979 or Cindi Godsey at (907) 271-6561 should you have questions regarding this letter.

Michael A. Bussell

Director, Office of Water

cc: Environmental Appeals Board

Millie Hawley, President, Native Village of Kivalina IRA Council

Caroline Cannon, President, Native Village of Point Hope IRA Council

Pamela Miller, Alaska Community Action on Toxics

Brook Brisson, Northern Alaska Environmental Center

Enoch Adams, Jr., Kivalina

Leroy Adams, Kivalina

Andrew Koenig, Kivalina

Jerry Norton, Kivalina

Joseph Swan, Sr., Kivalina

Brent Newell, Center for Race, Poverty, & the Environment

Victoria Clark, Trustees for Alaska

Don Kuhle, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

George Helfrich, National Park Service

Jack DiMarchi, State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources

Ukallaysaaq Tom Okleasik, Northwest Arctic Borough

Jackie Hill, Maniilag Association

Marie Greene, NANA Regional Corporation, Inc.

Tim Pilon, State of Alaska, Department of Environmental Conservation