Re: Department Approval of the Revised Conceptual Site Models dated January 2003

Dear Mr. Kulas,

The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Contaminated Sites Program (CSP) reviewed the Draft DMTS Fugitive Dust Risk Assessment Conceptual Site Model (dated January, 2003) submitted by Exponent January 16, 2003. Based upon our review, the revised conceptual site model (CSM) satisfactorily addresses our previous comments and therefore is approved by the program.

The DEC looks forward to receiving a revised Draft DMPS Fugitive Dust Risk Assessment Work Plan reflecting the changes made to the revised CSM. Based upon conversations with Scott Shock and others from Exponent it is our understanding that the revised draft risk assessment work plan will reflect information from the January 2003 CSM and address our comments outlined in the DEC January 10, 2003 letter.

Upon receiving the revised draft risk assessment work plan the CSP will public notice a 30-day review period. The CSP’s term contractor, Ecology & Environment (E&E), will concurrently be reviewing the draft work plan and compiling the public comments. The CSP expects to provide you our comments on the draft risk assessment work plan in early April 2003.

As you are aware, DEC will be participating in the Arctic Economic Development Summit Tuesday, February 4, 2003 at 2:00 pm. In addition, DEC will be hosting informal open houses in Noatak and Kivalina to discuss the risk assessment work plan. Mary Siroky of
DEC's Statewide Public Service group will be the moderator and host for these meetings. The open houses will provide an opportunity for the attendees to comment on the draft risk assessment work plan. The public can also provide written comments to the CSP Red Dog Mine Project Manager, Rich Sundet located in our Anchorage office (269-7578). The open houses are scheduled for February 6, 2003 in Noatak and February 7, 2003 in Kivalina. A representative from Exponent will provide a presentation to the public regarding the risk assessment work plan at these meetings.

Exact times and specific locations of the open houses will be issued in the public notice and in separate correspondence from Mary Siroky to the interested stakeholders. A copy of her letter is to be provided to you and included with the draft work plan that Exponent will mail to interested stakeholders.

It is our understanding that Exponent will be able to give a presentation on the risk assessment work plan at the Alaska Forum on the Environment, February 14, 2003 at the Egan Convention Center in Anchorage from 1:45 pm – 5:00 pm.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me at (907) 465-5152 or Rich Sundet at (907) 269-7578.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Pingree
CSP Technical Services Section Manager

cc: Scott Shock, Exponent, Bellevue, WA (by mail and facsimile)
    Jerry Booth, Booth & Associates, Greenacres, WA (by mail and facsimile)
    John Wood, P.E., AIDEA, Anchorage
    Larry Hartig, Hartig, Rhodes, Hoge & Lekisch, Anchorage
    Charlotte MacCay, Teck Cominco, Anchorage
    Paul Glavinovich, Nana Corporation, Anchorage
    Mara Bacsujlaky, Northern Alaska Environmental Center, Fairbanks
    Mike Frank, Trustees for Alaska, Anchorage
    Amy Crook, Center for Science in Public Participation, Victoria, British Columbia
    Judy Gottlieb, National Park Service, Anchorage
    Mary Siroky, DEC, Juneau
    Cam Leonard, SOA Dept. of Law
    Louise Flynn, E&E, Anchorage
    Alma Cardenas, E&E, Seattle
    Pete McGee, DEC, Fairbanks
Tom Chapple, Director A&W Division, Anchorage
Ron Klein, DEC, Anchorage
Elmer Horwath, Sr., Native Village of Noatak IRA
Hilda Booth, IGAP, Noatak
Herbert Walton, Noatak
Philip Booth, Noatak
Galen Swan, Mayor of Kivalina
Jerry Norton, Sr., Native Village of Kivalina
Colleen Koenig, Kivalina IRA
Millie Hawley, IGAP, Kivalina
Walter Sampson, Nana, Kotzebue
Noah Naylor, NW Arctic Borough, Kotzebue
Enoch Shiedt, Sr., Maniiliq Assn., Kotzebue
Rich Sundet, DEC, Anchorage