## Tribal Involvement in the Permitting Process

DEC Actions Permit Issuance Plan (PIP) Permit Vriter Assigned, Potentially Affected Community & Tribes Identified Permit Drafted Permit Drafted Permit Drafted Permit Drafted Priod for Draft Permit Posted Online with Supporting Documents

Tribal as Actions Bas

Can Self-Identify as 'Affected', Based on PIP, Contact DEC Early Notification to Potentially Affected Local & Tribal Governments

Reply to Notification with Info and Concerns for DEC to Consider Opportunity to Formally Comment on Draft Permit Permit Effective 30 Days After Issuance, Appeal Period

The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) strives to develop sound permits based on a full understanding of local conditions, informs tribes about potential permitting actions that may affect them, and provides opportunities for tribal input during the permitting process.

# APDES Information, for Tribes

The Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) Program develops and issues permits to discharge wastewater to waters of the US, including discharge from industrial operations, sewage treatment plants, and construction projects.

### **Early Tribal Notification**

DEC conducts an 'Affected Tribe Determination' to identify tribes potentially affected by a proposed APDES permitting action. Identified tribes are sent an 'Early Tribal Notification' letter detailing the potential permit, and encouraged to contact DEC with local concerns or knowledge. Tribes are notified again when the draft permit is available for public review and formal comment.



Gina Shirey - APDES Local & Tribal Government Coordinator 410 Willoughby Ave, Ste 303 Juneau, AK, 99801-1800 (907)465-5272 gina.shirey@alaska.gov

#### **Tribal Website and Outreach Materials**

DEC is committed to producing tools that assist tribes in navigating and participating in the permitting process. We have developed the APDES tribal web page to make these materials easily accessible:

http://dec.alaska.gov/water/TribalCommunication/tribes.html.

#### Materials now available:

- Permit Issuance Plan
- Guidance Documents
- Tribal Communication Protocol
- APDES Frequently Asked Questions
- Wastewater Permits in Alaska
- Compliance and Enforcement Information
- Sign up for APDES Permit and Program Updates

