



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Anchorage Field Office
4700 BLM Road
Anchorage, Alaska 99507-2591
<http://www.blm.gov/ak>

October 27, 2011

In Reply Refer To:
3720 (AKA010)
AA-006648
AA-012608

Memorandum

To: FOR RECORD

From: Larry Beck
Environmental Protection Specialist

Subject: Red Top Retort Site 2011 Community Relations

This Memorandum For Record summarizes The BLM's community relations efforts concerning hazardous materials removal from the Red Top Retort Site (RTRS) during 2011. The BLM Anchorage Field Office has been funded to conduct a Time Critical Removal Action at the RTRS during 2011, and an Action Memorandum to implement the removal was signed by the Field Manager on April 1, 2011.

To fulfill its obligation for conducting community relations BLM offered consultation with the affected community for this site: Bristol Bay Native Corporation; Aleknagik Natives, Ltd; and the City of Aleknagik; and offered government-to-government consultation with the Native Village of Aleknagik by formal letters on June 22, 2011 (attachments 1 through 4). BLM presented the plan for cleanup of the RTRS at a joint community meeting at Aleknagik on August 23, 2011 (attachments 5 through 7 with roster of attendees at attachment 8).

The formal hardcopy Administrative Record (AR) for the RTRS is maintained at the BLM Anchorage Field Office Public Room, and an electronic version is available for download/viewing at www.blm.gov/ak/redtopretort. Notice of availability of the AR would have been published in the region's newspaper, except that the Bristol Bay Times ceased publication during early August 2011.

Attachments



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Gusty Chythlook, Sr., President
Native Village of Aleknagik
P.O. Box 115
Aleknagik, Alaska 99555

Dear Mr. Chythlook:

The purpose of this letter is to formally initiate government-to-government consultation with the Native Village of Aleknagik regarding the cleanup of the Red Top retort site. This site is on lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) that are selected for conveyance to Aleknagik Natives Limited under authority of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

The five-acre site is on the east bank of the Wood River approximately two miles downstream from the village of Aleknagik. The legal description for the site is US Survey 12403, Lots 1 and 2, Seward Meridian, Alaska. The site is the former location of the Red Top Mine millsite where mercury was extracted (by retort) from cinnabar ore. The retort area has been the subject of several cleanup efforts since 1989 and currently only a small area, approximately 20 by 30 feet, remains contaminated by residual mercury.

The BLM has recently obtained funds to complete removal of contaminated soils from the site and has awarded a contract for this to North Wind Services, LLC, an Alaska Native-owned corporation. The BLM and North Wind will conduct the cleanup according to a work plan approved by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC). Our cleanup goal is to achieve "Cleanup Complete" status with ADEC without restrictions on future use of the site.

We look forward to working with the Native Village of Aleknagik throughout this project. We will provide you with a copy of the work plan before field work begins and the cleanup report when it is completed. We anticipate the field work for this project will occur during late summer or fall of 2011.

To help keep all interested parties informed, we have created a webpage for the Red Top retort site which can be accessed at: www.blm.gov/ak/redtopretort. On the webpage we provide information about the history of the site and a link to all of the significant documents pertaining to the history of the cleanup of the site.

Please consider if you would like the BLM to schedule an individual consultation with the Native Village of Aleknagik, or if you would like to meet jointly with the BLM, the City of Aleknagik, Aleknagik Natives Limited, Bristol Bay Native Corp., and interested residents of your area. Please contact my office at (907) 267-1246 or (800) 478-1263 if you would like to discuss this project or schedule a meeting.

Sincerely,

/s/
James M. Fincher
Field Manager

Cc:

Berna Andrews, Mayor
City of Aleknagik
P.O. Box 33
Aleknagik, Alaska 99555-0033

Bobby Andrew, President
Aleknagik Natives Limited
P.O. Box 1630
Dillingham, Alaska 99576-1630

L. Tiel Smith, Land & Resources Manager
Bristol Bay Native Corporation
111 West 16th Avenue, Suite 400
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

LLM:AKA013:LBeck:lm:6/16/2011:907-267-1226:EMaildrive:01300 Lands Branch:FY2011:
Jun.:AA-006648, AA-012608 Native Village of Aleknagik Consultation Letter



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Berna Andrews, Mayor
City of Aleknagik
P.O. Box 33
Aleknagik, Alaska 99555-0033

Dear Ms. Andrews:

The purpose of this letter is to formally initiate consultation with the City of Aleknagik regarding the cleanup of the Red Top retort site. This site is on lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) that are selected for conveyance to Aleknagik Natives Limited under authority of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

The five-acre site is on the east bank of the Wood River approximately two miles downstream from the village of Aleknagik. The legal description for the site is US Survey 12403, Lots 1 and 2, Seward Meridian, Alaska. The site is the former location of the Red Top Mine millsite where mercury was extracted (by retort) from cinnabar ore. The retort area has been the subject of several cleanup efforts since 1989 and currently only a small area, approximately 20 feet by 30 feet, remains contaminated by residual mercury.

The BLM has recently obtained funds to complete removal of contaminated soils from the site and has awarded a contract for this to North Wind Services, LLC, an Alaska Native-owned corporation. The BLM and North Wind will conduct the cleanup according to a work plan approved by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC). Our cleanup goal is to achieve "Cleanup Complete" status with ADEC without restrictions on future use of the site.

We look forward to working with the City of Aleknagik throughout this project. We will provide you with a copy of the work plan before field work begins and the cleanup report when it is completed. We anticipate the field work for this project will occur during late summer or fall of 2011.

To help keep all interested parties informed, we have created a webpage for the Red Top retort site which can be accessed at: www.blm.gov/ak/redtopretort. On the webpage we provide information about the history of the site and a link to all of the significant documents pertaining to the history of the cleanup of the site.

Please consider if you would like the BLM to schedule an individual consultation with the City of Aleknagik, or if you would like to meet jointly with the BLM, the Native Village of Aleknagik, Aleknagik Natives Limited, Bristol Bay Native Corp., and interested residents of your city. Please contact my office at (907) 267-1246 or (800) 478-1263 if you would like to discuss this project or schedule a meeting.

Sincerely,

/s/
James M. Fincher
Field Manager

Cc:

Gusty Chythlook, Sr., President
Native Village of Aleknagik
P.O. Box 115
Aleknagik, Alaska 99555

Bobby Andrew, President
Aleknagik Natives Limited
P.O. Box 1630
Dillingham, Alaska 99576-1630

L. Tiel Smith, Land & Resources Manager
Bristol Bay Native Corporation
111 West 16th Avenue, Suite 400
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

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Bobby Andrew, President
Aleknagik Natives Limited
P.O. Box 1630
Dillingham, Alaska 99576-1630

Dear Mr. Andrew:

The purpose of this letter is to formally initiate consultation with Aleknagik Natives Limited regarding the cleanup of the Red Top retort site. This site is on lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) that are selected for conveyance to your corporation under authority of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

The five-acre site is on the east bank of the Wood River approximately two miles downstream from the village of Aleknagik. The legal description for the site is US Survey 12403, Lots 1 and 2, Seward Meridian, Alaska. The site is the former location of the Red Top Mine millsite where mercury was extracted (by retort) from cinnabar ore. The retort area has been the subject of several cleanup efforts since 1989 and currently only a small area, approximately 20 feet by 30 feet, remains contaminated by residual mercury.

The BLM has recently obtained funds to complete removal of contaminated soils from the site and has awarded a contract for this to North Wind Services, LLC, an Alaska Native-owned corporation. The BLM and North Wind will conduct the cleanup according to a work plan approved by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC). Our cleanup goal is to achieve "Cleanup Complete" status with ADEC without restrictions on future use of the site.

We look forward to working with Aleknagik Natives Limited throughout this project. We will provide you with a copy of the work plan before field work begins, and the cleanup report when it is completed. We anticipate the field work for this project will occur during late summer or fall of 2011.

To help keep all interested parties informed, we have created a webpage for the Red Top retort site which can be accessed at: www.blm.gov/ak/redtopretort. On the webpage we provide information about the history of the site and a link to all of the significant documents pertaining to the history of the cleanup of the site.

Please consider if you would like the BLM to schedule an individual consultation with Aleknagik Natives Limited., or if you would like to meet jointly with the BLM, the City of Aleknagik, Native Village of Aleknagik, Bristol Bay Native Corporation, and interested residents of your area. Please contact my office at (907) 267-1246 or (800) 478-1263 if you would like to discuss this project or schedule a meeting.

Sincerely,

/s/
James M. Fincher
Field Manager

Cc:

Berna Andrews, Mayor
City of Aleknagik
P.O. Box 33
Aleknagik, Alaska 99555-0033

Gusty Chythlook, Sr., President
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L. Tiel Smith, Land & Resources Manager
Bristol Bay Native Corporation
111 West 16th Avenue, Suite 400
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Mr. Smith:

The purpose of this letter is to formally initiate consultation with the Bristol Bay Native Corporation regarding the cleanup of the Red Top retort site. This site is on lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) that are selected for conveyance to Aleknagik Natives Limited (surface estate) and your corporation (subsurface estate) under authority of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

The five-acre site is on the east bank of the Wood River approximately two miles downstream from the village of Aleknagik. The legal description for the site is US Survey 12403, Lots 1 and 2, Seward Meridian, Alaska. The site is the former location of the Red Top Mine millsite where mercury was extracted (by retort) from cinnabar ore. The retort area has been the subject of several cleanup efforts since 1989 and currently only a small area, approximately 20 feet by 30 feet, remains contaminated by residual mercury.

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We look forward to working with your corporation throughout this project. We will provide you with a copy of the work plan before field work begins and the cleanup report when it is completed. We anticipate the field work for this project will occur during late summer or fall of 2011.

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Please consider if you would like the BLM to schedule an individual consultation with the Bristol Bay Native Corporation, or if you would like to meet jointly with the BLM, the City of Aleknagik, the Native Village of Aleknagik, Aleknagik Natives Limited., and interested residents of your area. Please contact my office at (907) 267-1246 or (800) 478-1263 if you would like to discuss this project or schedule a meeting.

Sincerely,

/s/
James M. Fincher
Field Manager

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2011-10-27 MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

Copies of Attachments 5-8 are in hardcopy and are maintained in the Administrative Record at the Anchorage Field Office.
Copies can be made available upon request.