



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101

AUG 04 1998

RECEIVED
AUG 06 1998

Reply To
Attn Of: ECL-117

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Ms. Deborah Vo
Executive Director
Alaska Inter-Tribal Council
421 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 201
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Ms. Vo:

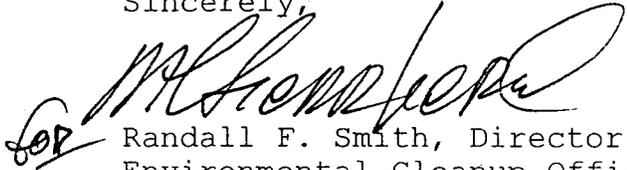
This letter is in response to your July 27, 1998, memorandum to Chuck Findley, Deputy Regional Administrator for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 10, regarding the Red Devil Mine. EPA appreciates your concerns and has recently been in contact with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) regarding their plans for the site. During those discussions, BLM notified EPA that they have prepared a workplan for addressing the most immediate environmental concerns; a copy of this workplan has been forwarded to EPA for review. BLM intends to implement the first phase of cleanup actions early next field season. In the interim, EPA will review the information that BLM has collected to date in order to better understand what additional actions may be necessary at the site.

Because the Red Devil Mine is located on BLM property it is the responsibility of the Department of Interior (DOI) to address issues potentially impacting human health or the environment that may be posed by the site. BLM has authority under CERCLA to take necessary actions, or with EPA support, to compel private parties who may be liable under CERCLA to undertake such actions as may be needed to mitigate environmental concerns. Although EPA does have a regulatory oversight responsibility at the site, we anticipate that Region 10's role will be primarily advisory in nature as we work with BLM to determine what actions may be required at the Red Devil site. It should also be noted that the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation is likely to be an active participant in determining the scope of actions necessary to protect human health and the environment.

Mike Alcorn is the BLM project manager for this site, and can be reached at (907) 267-1442. Matt Carr, On-Scene Coordinator in EPA's Alaska Operations Office, will be EPA's primary contact. If you have questions, please contact Matt at

(907) 271-3616

Sincerely,



Handwritten signature of Randall F. Smith in cursive script.

Randall F. Smith, Director
Environmental Cleanup Office

- cc: Rick Albright, EPA AOO
- Mark Ader, EPA ECL
- Nick Ceto, EPA ECL
- Scott Sufficool, EPA TO
- Mike Alcorn, BLM - Anchorage
- Matt Carr, EPA AOO
- Lynn Tomich Kent, ADEC