Pogo Project Update

Environmental Group Withdraws Permit Appeal

Editor's Note: Shortly after the May issue of the *Resource Review* came off the press, the Northern Alaska Environmental Center (NAEC) withdrew its administrative appeal of the Pogo Mine wastewater discharge permit, allowing work to resume immediately on the project.

Although RDC is pleased NAEC withdrew its appeal, the points raised on page 10 in Message From the President, "Pogo Mine: The Failure of Process," are still valid.

The thorough and professional job that Teck-Cominco's subsidiary, Teck-Pogo, did in permitting the project was apparent. The State and EPA defended the project and convinced the NAEC to withdraw the appeal.

An agreement reached between Teck-Pogo and NAEC provides that the Center will withdraw its appeal of the NPDES permit in exchange for the company committing to additional monitoring of the Goodpaster River. Teck-Pogo also agreed to put a stakeholder group in place to conduct an ongoing review of the project.

The added stipulations were minimal and some had been offered previously by Teck-Pogo. The stipulations do not change the fact that the EPA discharge permit already addressed NAEC's primary concerns — there would be no unregulated activity and no adverse impacts to surrounding waterways.

RDC commends state and federal officials, Teck-Pogo, the Governor, legislators and NAEC for working together to break the impasse and reach an equitable solution, allowing for hundreds of Alaskans to go back to work immediately. Construction on the mine has now resumed and production could begin late next year.





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Registration deadline is Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Return this form with your check payable to AMEREF

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29th Annual Meeting

Thursday, June 10, 2004 Sheraton Anchorage Hotel Noon

Keynote Speaker The Honorable Michael O. Leavitt Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency



For sponsorship information or to register for the luncheon, visit:

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