

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF FINAL FINDINGS OF FACT AND DECISION
SURFACE COAL MINING PERMIT RENEWAL
PERMIT # 01-89-796 & 02-89-796**

The Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land and Water (DMLW) has received a request from Usibelli Coal Mine, Inc. (UCM), P.O. Box 1000, Healy, Alaska 99743 to renew the surface coal mining permit for the Wishbone Hill Mine, Permit Numbers 01-89-796 & 02-89-796.

The Wishbone Hill Mine is on State of Alaska, Mental Health Trust, and private land approximately 5 miles west of Sutton, Alaska. The area can be found on the Anchorage C-5 quad map. The mine is located in Sections 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 34, 35, and 36, Township19 North, Range 2 East, and Section 1, Township18 North, Range 2 East, of the Seward Meridian.

This renewal request is for an additional five-year term and includes the permit areas previously approved in the existing two permits. No additional mining areas or revisions to the existing boundaries are proposed. Parts of the permit application have been revised to provide current information as required by 11 AAC 90.021 through 11 AAC 90.065. No changes or modifications to the operation or reclamation plan are being proposed. The application for permit renewal has been evaluated and deemed complete on August 24, 2011. As part of the review of the existing operation and reclamation plans, parts of the permit application have been revised to provide updated information. After review, DMLW found that the application for renewal meets all the requirements of the Alaska Surface Coal Mining Control and Reclamation Act (AS 27.21 and 11 AAC 90) and has been approved.

Copies of the existing permit, the Preliminary Findings of Fact and Decision, and the Final Findings of Fact and Decision are available for review at the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land and Water, 550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 920, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3577 or on our website at (www.dnr.state.ak.us/mlw/mining/index.htm).

The applicant or a person which is or may be adversely affected by this decision may request in writing a hearing under AS 27.21.150 to review the reasons for this decision. Any request for a hearing must be received within 30 calendar days after the date of notification of the decision. The request for a hearing may be mailed or delivered to Joe Balash, Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources, 550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1400, Anchorage, AK 99501; or faxed to 907.269.8918; or sent by electronic mail to: dnr.appeals@alaska.gov.