

ALASKA HAS ONE OF THE MOST ROBUST REGULATORY SYSTEMS IN THE WORLD



PERMITTING PROCESS DOES NOT GUARANTEE A YES

- ✓ Agencies often ask for changes to proposals based on regulations and stakeholder input.
- ✓ Companies make design and engineering changes and resubmit.
- ✓ Final approved project may not look like what was initially proposed.

LARGE MINES REQUIRE DOZENS OF FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL PERMITS

- ✓ Anywhere from 60-100 permits will be obtained prior to operating a large mine in Alaska.
- ✓ More than two dozen agencies participate in mining regulation.
- ✓ Multiple opportunities for public comment.

RECLAMATION: IT'S THE LAW!

- Mine site must be returned to a stable condition compatible with post-mining land use.
- Reclamation plan must be approved by DNR Commissioner prior to operations beginning.



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REGULATORY OVERSIGHT CONTINUES DURING OPERATION

- ✓ Throughout the mine life, state and federal agencies monitor and enforce compliance to the permit requirements.
- ✓ Third-party audit of the system: a double check by a qualified expert who is not associated with the state or the mining company.
- ✓ Ecological monitoring ensures environmental protection by sampling downstream water and fish. If conditions remain healthy during mining, the permits are effective.



Red Dog Mine, Alaska

STATE OF ALASKA REQUIRES FINANCIAL ASSURANCE FROM ALL MINERS

- ✓ Every mine operator must post financial assurance, regardless of where company is headquartered or who owns the land.
- ✓ Reviewed every 5 years or whenever there is a significant change.
- ✓ Amount is tailored to specifics of the mine design, location, and other unique characteristics.
- ✓ Financial assurances for Alaska mines total approximately \$800 million dollars.

