



# LAWS OF ALASKA

1969

Source

Chapter No.

HB 303

68

## AN ACT

Relating to limitations on acreage in coal leases and prospecting permits; and providing for an effective date.

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

\* Section 1. AS 38.05.140(a) is amended to read:

(a) No person may take or hold coal leases or permits during the life of coal leases on state lands exceeding an aggregate of 46,080 acres, except that a person may apply for coal leases or permits for acreage in addition to 46,080 acres, not exceeding a total of 5,120 additional acres of state land. The additional area applied for shall be in multiples of 40 acres and the application shall contain a statement that the granting of a lease for additional lands is necessary for the person to carry on business economically and is in the public interest. On the filing of the application, the coal deposits in the lands covered by the application shall be temporarily set aside and withdrawn from all other forms of disposal provided under secs. 135 - 180 of this chapter.

\* Sec. 2. AS 38.05.150(a) is amended to read:

(a) The commissioner may, and upon the petition of a qualified applicant, shall divide coal lands or the deposits of coal owned by the state into leasing tracts of 40 acres each, or multiples of 40 acres, and in the form which will permit the economical mining of the coal in the tract.

\* Sec. 3. AS 38.05.150(c) is amended to read:

(c) Where prospecting or exploration work is necessary to determine the existence or workability of coal deposits in an unclaimed and undeveloped area, the

commissioner may issue to qualified applicants prospecting permits for a term of two years, not exceeding 5,120 acres. If within the period of two years the permittee shows to the commissioner that the land contains coal in commercial quantities and submits a satisfactory mining plan for the coal's recovery, the permittee shall be entitled to a lease for all or part of the land in his permit. A coal prospecting permit may be extended by the commissioner for a period of two years, if he finds that the permittee has been unable, with the exercise of reasonable diligence, to determine the existence or workability of coal deposits in the area covered by the permit and desires to prosecute further prospecting or exploration, or for other reasons in the opinion of the commissioner warranting extension.

\* Sec. 4. This Act takes effect on the day after its passage and approval or on the day it becomes law without approval.