









### During Mine Operation

- ◆ Regular Inspections, Environmental Monitoring, Annual Reports and Annual Meetings
- ◆ Environmental Performance Audits by independent 3<sup>rd</sup> party, every 5 years
  - Permit modifications/renewals/reissuances
  - Financial Assurance adjustments
- ◆ Project webpage maintained with historical and current information

} Public Notice & Comment

### Post Closure

- ◆ 30 years of post-closure monitoring

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Federal Agencies

- ◆ US Environmental Protection Agency
- ◆ US Army Corps of Engineers
- ◆ US Fish and Wildlife Service
- ◆ NOAA-National Marine Fisheries Service
- ◆ Bureau of Land Management/U.S. Forest Service

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### MAJOR FEDERAL REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

- ◆ US EPA CWA Section 402 NPDES Discharge Permit - NPDES → APDES Nov 2010 for mining
- ◆ US ACOE CWA Section 404 Dredge and Fill Permit
- ◆ US ACOE Section 106 Historical and Cultural Resources Protection
- ◆ NMFS Threatened and Endangered Species Act Consultation
- ◆ NMFS Essential Fish Habitat
- ◆ USFWS Threatened and Endangered Species Act Consultation
- ◆ USFWS Bald Eagle Protection Act Clearance
- ◆ USFWS Migratory Bird Protection

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Federal National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Process

## Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### NEPA Process for EIS

A means for considering and evaluating alternatives  
**Not a permit**

- Triggered by major federal action (Notice of Intent)
- Designation of Lead Federal Agency
  - Probably not EPA, but U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Selection of 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Contractor to manage the EIS

**5 Components**

- ◆ Scoping (delineation of issues)
- ◆ Draft EIS
- ◆ Public Comment
- ◆ Final EIS
- ◆ Record of Decision (ROD)

---

---

---

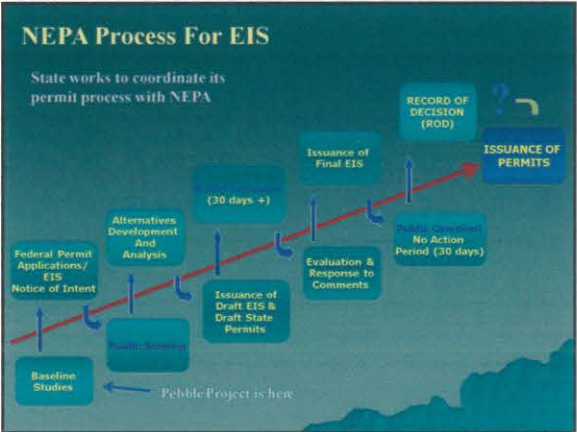
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Baseline Studies

- ◆ Surface Water Quality & Quantity
- ◆ Groundwater Quality & Quantity
- ◆ Aquatic Life (Includes Marine & Freshwater Fish, Invertebrates, etc.)
- ◆ Wildlife
- ◆ Wetlands
- ◆ Socioeconomics
- ◆ Subsistence
- ◆ Traditional Ecological Knowledge
- ◆ Cultural Resources
- ◆ Air Quality
- ◆ Meteorology
- ◆ Health Impact Assessment
- ◆ Visual Resources
- ◆ Noise

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Pogo Example

- ◆ Agency Discussions and Baseline Studies Initiated in 1997
- ◆ Public input on Scoping 2000/2001
- ◆ Public Review of Draft EIS and Draft State Permits; Public Meetings, Spring 2003
- ◆ Final EIS Completed in October 2003
- ◆ State Permits Issued in December 2003

So, for Pogo, ~ 3 years of baseline studies followed by 3+ years of permitting

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Public Participation

- ◆ Pre-Application meetings and outreach
- ◆ Environmental Impact Statement Process
  - Scoping (meetings, public notice)
  - Draft EIS (meetings, public notice)
  - Final EIS (public notice)
- ◆ Tribal Consultation (Government to Government)
- ◆ Open Communication (website, meetings, etc)

} Required formal opportunities for public comment

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



## Summary

- ◆ Pre-application baseline studies consultation
- ◆ Understand what the issues are (Scoping) as early as possible - Public Process
- ◆ "DESIGN FOR CLOSURE"
- ◆ Technical review of mine plan and environmental data
- ◆ Coordination of public notice, hearings, public comments
- ◆ Determine and update financial requirements for reclamation and closure
- ◆ Ensure appropriate monitoring (air, water, fish, wildlife, reclamation success, etc)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Learn More At:

<http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/opmp/>  
or  
<http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/mlw/mining/large/mine.htm>

or contact

Tom Crafford, Mining Coordinator DNR/OPMP

[Tom.Crafford@alaska.gov](mailto:Tom.Crafford@alaska.gov)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

