The Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources (Commissioner) received an application, dated April 9, 2014, from Donlin Gold LLC (Donlin), for a natural gas pipeline right-of-way (ROW) lease under Alaska Statute 38.35 (ROW Leasing Act), in association with the Donlin Gold Project. Public notice of the application was conducted in accordance with AS 38.35.070 on April 14, 2014.

The proposed Donlin Pipeline would transport natural gas from the Beluga Natural Gas Pipeline system to the Donlin Gold mine. The 14-inch diameter pipeline would originate 7.7 miles north of the Beluga Power Plant and terminate at the Donlin Gold mine site, approximately 10 miles north of the community of Crooked Creek. Of the proposed 315-mile-long pipeline, approximately 207 miles would be located on State of Alaska owned lands. The proposed pipeline would have a maximum operating pressure of 1,480 pounds per square inch gauge (psig) and be buried for most the route. The operating pipeline right-of-way lease would include one compressor station and one metering station. Donlin has requested a 150-foot-wide right-of-way for pipeline construction and a 50-foot-wide right-of-way for operations.

In accordance with Alaska Statute 38.35.080, the Commissioner has prepared an analysis of the application that finds Donlin to be fit, willing, and able to operate the pipeline in the manner required by Alaska Statute 38.35.100. The public is invited to comment on the Commissioner’s Analysis and Proposed Decision for this application.

DNR will hold public hearings concerning the Donlin Pipeline decision on the dates listed below. The public may provide testimony during the hearing or submit written comments in person or by mail.

McGrath Community Center  February 27, 2019  4:00-6:00pm
Tyonek Tribal Center   February 28, 2019  1:00-2:00pm
Bethel Cultural Center   March 4, 2019  6:00-8:00pm
Aniak Community Center   March 6, 2019  7:00-9:00pm
Atwood Conf. Center (Anchorage)  March 12, 2019  5:30-7:30pm
Skwentna Roadhouse   March 13, 2019  11:00am-1:00pm

Additionally, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is proposing to close the lands within the proposed ROW, plus 100 feet on either side, to mineral entry through Mineral Order 1212 for the protection of the pipeline. The mineral order would take effect upon issuance of the ROW lease and end upon the expiration or termination of the lease. The order would potentially affect up to 14,706 acres of State-owned lands, reducing to roughly 6,250 acres after construction.
Documents concerning the proposed ROW lease and Mineral Order are available online: http://dog.dnr.alaska.gov/Home/Newsroom. The public may obtain hard copies of documents, at cost, from the State Pipeline Coordinator’s Section (SPCS) upon request (see contact information below). Electronic copies of the documents are also available at the Anchorage Loussac library, the Kuskokwim Consortium Library, the McGrath Community Library, and the Aniak Public Library.

All comments about the Commissioner’s Analysis and Proposed Decision must be submitted in writing to the SPCS before 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 22, 2019.

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DNR complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with disabilities who may need auxiliary aids, services or special modifications to participate in this review may call 269-8411 TTY/TDD. Please provide sufficient notice in order for the department to accommodate your needs.

DNR reserves the right to waive technical defects in this publication.

/s/ Tom Stokes  
State Pipeline Coordinator  
Department of Natural Resources  

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