



## NEWS NUGGETS

Compiled by Shane Lasley

### 25 years of sustainability at Red Dog

Teck Resources Ltd. June 29 released its 2014 Sustainability Report. The 25th anniversary of Teck's Red Dog mine, which operates under an innovative operating agreement with the Iñupiat people of Northwest Alaska, is among the highlights featured in the report. Situated roughly 100 miles north of the Arctic Circle, Red Dog is among the largest zinc mines in the world. In 1982, Cominco (now Teck) and Iñupiat-owned NANA Regional Corp. signed a landmark agreement that directs how the mine is operated and ensures sustainable benefits for the region and its people. A quarter century since operations began at Red Dog, the mine continues to be an economic engine and serves as a positive example of indigenous people and mining companies working together. Other sustainability highlights in the report include: the strengthening of endangered herd of 24 caribou in north-eastern British Columbia due to the birth of nine calves through a maternal penning program supported by Teck; 170,000-metric-ton reduction in greenhouse gas emissions at Teck operations as a result of programs implemented since 2011; the recycling of 38,000 metric tons of waste at Teck operations; a 16 percent increase in the number of women in operational and technical roles; and an approval from the Government of British Columbia for Teck's Elk Valley Water Quality Plan, which featured collaboration with indigenous peoples, local communities, environmental organizations and governments. "Teck's commitment to sustainability is reflected in the actions of our employees, who are dedicated to doing the right thing for communities, the environment and future generations. Their actions and their commitment is the heart of our constant pursuit of responsible resource development and the key to our company's success," said Don Lindsay, Teck's president and CEO. The company, which has been named to the Dow Jones Sustainability World Index in each of the past five years, has reported annually on its sustainability performance since 2001. Teck's DJSI ranking places its sustainability practices among the top 10 percent of the world's 2,500 largest public companies. Teck's full sustainability report is available at [www.tecksustainability.com](http://www.tecksustainability.com).

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### MINING POLICY



In 2010, two decades after applying for permits, Coeur Mining began operations at its Kensington gold mine.

## Pricey mining delays

SNL investigates costs of notoriously long mine-permitting process in U.S.

By SHANE LASLEY

Mining News

Permitting delays are becoming the bane of companies endeavoring to develop mines in the United States, a country that is otherwise considered a stable and richly endowed mining jurisdiction. SNL Metals & Mining has published a report that shows a notoriously lengthy process is resulting in U. S. mines losing up to half their value before receiving final approvals for development.

"The longer the wait, the more the value of the investment is reduced, even to the extent that the project ultimately becomes an unviable investment," the mining research firm penned in its report: "Permitting, economic value and mining in the United States."

The National Mining Association, which commissioned the investigation, hopes the findings will supply U. S. lawmakers with the impetus to approve critical minerals legislation aimed at facilitating a timely permitting process.

"For years, we have witnessed U. S. mines' struggle to move forward due to an inefficient permitting system plagued by duplication, uncertainty and delays." National Mining Association President and



HAL QUINN

CEO Hal Quinn said. "This study now confirms the connection between the delays and their effect on companies' decisions to invest in domestic mining projects. Hopefully, it will strengthen the resolve of Congress to fix a broken permit system that threatens to break down a minerals supply chain that is critical for U.S. manufacturing."

### 20-year Kensington permit

SNL detailed three mines – HudBay Minerals' Rosemont copper-gold-molybdenum mine in Arizona, Coeur Mining's Kensington gold mine in Southeast Alaska and Antofagasta's Twin Metals copper-nickel-platinum group metal project in northeastern Minnesota – as case studies for permit delays in the United States.

Of the three, only Kensington is currently in operation – albeit, it took 20 years for permit approvals.

When Coeur Mining turned its permit applications for Kensington in 1990, the company anticipated receiving final approvals to begin developing the moderate-sized underground gold mine in 1993.

At the time, Coeur estimated it would cost US\$195 million to build a mine at Kensington that could churn out about 200,000 ounces of gold per year at about US\$225 per ounce.

Once the project was on the cusp of receiving its permits, however, the authorizations were appealed.

see PERMITTING DELAYS page 11

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