Prepared for Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities.

PRELIMINARY EVALUATION OF BEDROCK POTENTIAL FOR NATURALLY OCCURRING ASBESTOS IN ALASKA

D. N. Solie1 and J. E. Athey2 (2014, 2015)

North American Datum of 1983
National Elevation Dataset (hills shade)

Peer Reviewed by: D. S. Steven2 (2015, 2016)

Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF), has been instrumental in developing Alaska State laws regulating the testing and use of NOA in construction material sources in Alaska (http://www.dot.alaska.gov/stwddes/desmaterials/noa.shtml) provides helpful information on testing methodology and sampling be collected and tested to verify the actual presence or absence and amount of NOA in an area. The NOA program website (http://www attraverso3.alaska.gov/transportation-urban-development-program-mine-subsidence/index.html) provides useful information on asbestos development in a series of maps covering the state of Alaska.

This map series is intended as a guide to bedrock areas where naturally occurring asbestos might occur. Just because a map indicates a bedrock area where asbestos might occur does not mean asbestos is present. Interpretation of NOA potential was based on published rock unit descriptions. The naturally occurring asbestos develops in predictable geological settings worldwide. Rock types from these settings, shown on this series of maps covering the state of Alaska, must have the right chemistry to form them given the right conditions.

The distribution of NOA potential and occurrences is the result of searching the Alaska Resource Data File (ARDF; http://mrdata.usgs.gov/mineral-resources/mrds-ak.htm) for references to asbestos in Alaska. While there are certainly occurrences of asbestos in Alaska, the NOA program website (http://www.dot.alaska.gov/stwddes/desmaterials/noa.shtml) provides information on the use of NOA in construction material sources in Alaska (http://www.dot.alaska.gov/stwddes/desmaterials/noa.shtml).

To summarize locations of known asbestos occurrences, DGGS searched the Alaska Resource Data File (ARDF; http://mrdata.usgs.gov/mineral-resources/mrds-ak.htm) and Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has been instrumental in developing Alaska State laws regulating the testing and use of NOA in construction material sources in Alaska.

As a health hazard, asbestos is usually linked with man-made building materials and renovation dust, but asbestos is also found with orthopyroxene, clinopyroxene, and inter-

Tremolite collected from a marble unit near Fairbanks, Alaska

Chrysotile in serpentinite (UAMES 34964) collected from Cosmos Creek, Fortymile River, Eagle Quadrangle, Alaska; MRDS Deposit

Chrysotile (UAMES 34962) collected from Dahl Creek, Cosmos Hills area, Kobuk District, Alaska, by Eskil Anderson. There are 17 asbestos occurrences in Alaska, including six MRDS deposits and 11 unique occurrences.

There is limited information on the occurrence of asbestos on these maps. The maps provide a general indication of areas where asbestos might occur.

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