FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 29, 2011

No. 11-14

Department of Environmental Conservation to Hold Fugitive Dust Workshop

Who: Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

What: Fugitive Dust Workshop

When: Thursday, March 31, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Where: Alpine Lodge, Glacier Room, 4920 Dale Road, Fairbanks, AK

Contact: Tom Turner, DEC Program Manager, (907) 269-8123

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) will hold a public workshop meeting to discuss fugitive dust issues and regulation options for fugitive dust control. The meeting will be held in Fairbanks on Thursday, March 31, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Alpine Lodge, Glacier Room, 4920 Dale Road, Fairbanks, AK.

Fugitive dust originates from a wide variety of sources including unpaved roads; mining and the transportation of mined materials; abrasive blasting; construction activities; and the use, handling, or storage of bulk materials (sand/dirt/gravel/abrasive blasting aggregates).

In recent years, DEC has received an increasing number of complaints about fugitive dust from a variety of activities. As a result, DEC is assessing its air quality regulations in 18 AAC 50 to ensure that current regulations are adequate to address the complaints and sources of fugitive dust. ADEC is conducting workshops to solicit public input on fugitive dust control. At the workshops, DEC staff will discuss fugitive dust, including the composition of particulate matter; current air quality regulations and statutes; existing air permit requirements; potential sources of fugitive dust; options for control for non-permitted sources; and the next steps needed to move forward to address fugitive dust.

For additional information on fugitive dust or the public workshops, please contact Nattinee Nipataruedi at (907) 465-5128, nattinee.nipataruedi@alaska.gov, or Tom Turner at (907) 269-8123 or thomas.turner@alaska.gov