

STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY LAND USE PLANNING COMMISSION

22 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0022

AMANDA E. BEAL COMMISSIONER

STACIE R. BEYER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PHONE: 207-287-2631

FAX: 207-287-7439

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PICKETT MOUNTAIN MINE REZONING APPLICATION, ZP779A WOLFDEN MT. CHASE, LLC T6 R6 WELS, PENOBSCOT COUNTY

PURPOSE: Pursuant to Chapter 12, Section 4,A of the Commission's rules, the Land Use Planning Commission will be holding a public hearing and seeking public comment on Wolfden Mount Chase LLC's (20 Main Street, Patten, ME 04765) application for a zone change for the proposed Pickett Mountain Mine Project (ZP779A). Wolfden proposes to rezone approximately 374 acres of land it owns in T6 R6 WELS from the General Management and Protection Subdistricts to a Planned Development Subdistrict (D-PD). The purpose of the proposed D-PD subdistrict is to develop and operate a metallic mineral mine.

The purpose of the hearing is to allow the applicant and members of the public the opportunity to present testimony and evidence as to whether the applicant's proposal meets the statutory criteria for approval under the provisions of 12 M.R.S. § 685-A(8-A); Sections 10.08 and 10.21,H of the Commission's Chapter 10 rules, *Land Use Districts and Standards*; and Section 4,B of the Commission's Chapter 12 rules, *Mining and Level C Mineral Exploration Activities*. The hearing will be governed by the Maine Administrative Procedure Act (5 M.R.S. Chapter 375) and Chapter 5 of the Commission's rules, *Rules for the Conduct of Public Hearings*.

TIME AND PLACE: The hearing will be held from Monday, October 16 through Wednesday, October 18, 2023, in Millinocket, as specified below, and at a date and location in the Bangor area to be determined. The Commission will provide additional notice once the Bangor area date, time, and venue are known. The portion of the hearing in Millinocket will include daytime technical sessions and evening public comment sessions. The portion of the hearing in the Bangor area will involve an evening public comment session only. Members of the public are welcome to attend and participate in any of the evening public comment sessions. Daytime technical sessions are devoted to testimony by the applicant and those previously granted intervenor status. Members of the public may attend the technical sessions but may not participate. The public comment and technical sessions will be live-streamed to allow interested persons to follow the proceedings remotely. Information on accessing the livestream will be made available on the LUPC's website and through the email notification list for the Wolfden Pickett Mountain Mine rezoning (see Future Notifications below).

Millinocket Public Comment Sessions

Both public comment sessions will be held at Stearns Jr./Sr. High School, 199 State Street, Millinocket, Maine.

Monday, October 16, 2023 6:30 p.m. to (end time to be determined by Presiding Officer)

Tuesday, October 17, 2023 6:30 p.m. to (end time to be determined by Presiding Officer)



The Commission anticipates that these sessions will be heavily attended, and speakers will likely be limited to 3 to 5 minutes each, based on the number of individuals interested in offering testimony. Members of the public who wish to speak may begin arriving at 6:00 p.m. to sign up on the list of speakers. Members of the public may not speak during more than one public comment session.

Technical Sessions for the Parties

The technical sessions will be held at Stearns Jr./Sr. High School, 199 State Street, Millinocket, Maine.

Monday, October 16, 2023 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 17, 2023 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 8:30 a.m. to (end time to be determined by Presiding Officer)

Members of the public may attend but may not participate in the technical sessions.

CONTINUANCE OF HEARING: As provided by Section 5.09 of the Commission's rules, this hearing may be continued and reconvened from time to time and from place to place by the Presiding Officer as circumstances require. The Presiding Officer shall provide reasonable notice to parties and the public of the time and place of any such reconvened hearing.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE: All members of the public are invited to attend and offer testimony relevant to the Commission's review of the proposal. The public is not required to submit written testimony before the hearing. Members of the public may simply attend a public comment session, sign up to speak, and give oral testimony. Written copies of oral testimony may be submitted at the time. A written comment period will follow the hearing.

ACCESSIBILTY CONCERNS: The Commission is committed to creating an inclusive and accessible experience for all attendees. Individuals with accessibility concerns are encouraged to reach out to Tim Carr at tim.carr@maine.gov in advance.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: A full copy of Wolfden's application for zone change may be viewed at:

- The LUPC's webpage on the project, https://www.maine.gov/dacf/lupc/projects/wolfden/wolfden_rezoning.html
- The LUPC's Ashland office at 45 Radar Road, Ashland; (207) 435-7969; hours: M-Th, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.; please call to make an appointment
- The LUPC's East Millinocket office at 191 Main Street, East Millinocket; (207) 485-8354; hours: M-Th, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.; please call to make an appointment
- The LUPC's Augusta office at 18 Elkins Lane, Harlow Building, Augusta; (207) 287-2631; hours: M-F, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.; please call to make an appointment

FUTURE NOTIFICATIONS: If you wish to receive email notices about upcoming public hearings, public comment periods, and important deadlines related to the Commission's review of the Pickett Mountain Mine application for a zone change, please visit

https://www.maine.gov/dacf/lupc/projects/wolfden/wolfden_rezoning.html and enter your email address in the blue box to the right. To receive notices about this project by mail, please contact the Commission by calling (207) 287-2631.