

**From:** [donlingoldeis, POA](#)  
**To:** [Evans, Jessica](#)  
**Cc:** [Isaacs, Jon](#); [Craig, Bill](#); [Bellion, Tara](#); [Newman, Sheila M POA](#); [McClendon, Judy L RAO @ POA](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Donlin Gold Draft EIS comment  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 09, 2016 9:39:08 AM

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Jessica,

Please add these comments.

-----Original Message-----

From: Melvin Andrew [<mailto:mpandrew@msn.com>]  
Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2016 1:15 PM  
To: donlingoldeis, POA <[POA.donlingoldeis@usace.army.mil](mailto:POA.donlingoldeis@usace.army.mil)>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Donlin Gold Draft EIS comment

My name is Melvin Andrew and I live in Manokotak, AK. I am a Calista shareholder and Kwik, Inc. shareholder.

The importance of sustainability has reverberated in recent years and has echoed even more show in our traditional way of life. Our culture depends on our ability to survive changing to climate, environment, terrain, and yes; economy. Our ancestors have improvised, adapted, and overcome and have passed this down with a record of surviving in such harsh situations and environment.

We are faced with myriad of challenges in today's economy. Subsistence is the key economy that drives each community in western Alaska, especially the Yukon/Kuskokwim area that extends up the mighty rivers; Yukon and Kuskokwim.

However, with this adopted way of life that weaved in our culture, we have to find a common denominator to offset the increasingly difference in our numerator.

Donlin Gold will certainly create impacts in our environment and our imbedded desire and inherited value to keep our waters and land clean. Yet there is proven methods and ways to keep our environment safe to a certain level that will be acceptable to all, especially those who depend on it.

We can look that this potential economy driver to the region from one side of the spectrum, but it is wise and prudent to see it with the whole spectrum of life. Life as we know it today.

A subsistence way of life cannot succeed without the successful acceptance of a westernized way of economy. Fuel, boats, outboards, rifles, nets, and even management costs money. Of course, when a huge potentially positive factor sets in; negative issues are also looked at and mitigated. Mitigation improves, eliminates, and reduces many negative impacts, but more over, it creates an acceptable alternative and option to it.

The importance for due process to any large project takes time and detailed investigation, survey, and exploration. Then repeat it again.

I know Donlin has done that and with perserverance have proved their years of exploration that this project is doable and will benefit the region economically while protecting our most valuable resource; water and land.

I believe the benefits outweigh the impacts and possibly enhance the fisheries and economy of the region.

I support Donlin Gold's application for permits to go ahead with construction of the mine and long-term economic drive that will enhance our subsistence way of life.

