

From: [Michelle Toohey](#)
To: [donlingoldeis, POA](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Donlin Gold Draft EIS comment
Date: Tuesday, May 31, 2016 11:41:30 AM
Attachments: [Dotlin Project.pdf](#)

Please see attached public comment letter on the Donlin Gold Draft EIS. mt

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May 25, 2106

Mr. Keith Gordon, Project Manager
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District
P.O. Box 6898
JBER, Alaska 99506-0898

Attn: CEPOA-RD-Gordon

Dear Mr. Gordon,

My wife and I own a golf course in Soldotna, Alaska. We have four children who still live and work here and 13 grandchildren, most of who reside here as well. We have one son and two son-in laws who work for the oil and gas industry. One son-in-law who is the Government Affairs Manager for Shell Alaska is one of over 400 employees left here after the company's announcement it was ceasing exploration in Alaska. This is a scary time for Alaskans who are looking for any and all opportunities for economic development. The Donlin Gold Mine Project in the Yukon-Kuskokwim region of Alaska represents a huge opportunity and we are happy to write in support of the project and the Draft EIS currently under review.

The company has spent over two decades in the region building the project, working with villagers to address their needs, and through state of the art technology to protect the environment. The company has kept the region's pristine land, fish and game first of mind as the project advances with grave concern for the residents' subsistence way of living.

The Y-K is one of the poorest regions of the state and its remote location only exacerbates the problem. The projects inclusion of infrastructure, such as the natural gas pipeline could be used to bring cheaper energy to the region. That and the hundreds of good paying jobs that will offer new skillsets, can make a huge difference to the region's economy. We cannot afford to pass up the thousands of good paying jobs the project will bring.

The people in the region have worked with the companies involved in the project for years and years. In that time, Donlin Gold has held many meetings with shareholders, has listened to their concerns and has made substantial changes to the project as a result.

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This project has been too long in coming and represents a huge boon to Alaska's economy. Now is the time to move forward with the Donlin Gold Mine Project for the benefit of our people. Your consideration is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signatures of Pat and Myrna Cowan in cursive script.

Pat and Myrna Cowan