

**From:** [Craig, Bill](#)  
**To:** [Bellion, Tara](#); [Evans, Jessica](#); [Smith, Neal](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Donlin Gold Draft EIS comment  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 20, 2016 1:06:16 PM

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

From: donlingoldeis, POA [<mailto:POA.donlingoldeis@usace.army.mil>]  
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2016 10:29 AM  
To: Craig, Bill  
Subject: FW: Donlin Gold Draft EIS comment

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

From: David Friday [<mailto:David.Friday@ykhc.org>]  
Sent: Tuesday, April 19, 2016 4:21 PM  
To: donlingoldeis, POA <[POA.donlingoldeis@usace.army.mil](mailto:POA.donlingoldeis@usace.army.mil)>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Donlin Gold Draft EIS comment

I am concerned about the detrimental affects that the proposed Donlin Creek mine would have on our environment and our way of life. The proposed open pit mine is scary to say the least about the pollutants, chemicals and other toxins that it would release when exposed. These chemicals and other toxins will rise into the air and spread to other areas in that manner.

Secondly, the holding pond for the deadly chemicals, no matter how secure, is going to attract waterfowl and contaminate them that way. These waterfowl then will be harvested by the locals who in turn are going to be infected with poison from the holding tanks. Cancer which is now growing as never before will be the major health risk from this type of occurrence. Plus, the holding pond, no matter how secure is chemical disaster waiting to happen. In the event of an earthquake in the area, it will release all these dangerous pollutants eventually into the Kuskokwim River that the length of the river inhabitants depend on for their livelihood. Kuskokwim River is our bread and butter for the whole region and more. 25 years of employment for a select few and a few dollars for the Native corporations involved does not even cover the enormous and potential risks involved in the magnitude of this type of project.

Furthermore, the mega barges that are going to be involved will disrupt the summer activities for all concerned for the length of the river from the mouth of the Kuskokwim River to the proposed dock below the proposed mine. Some parts of the Kuskokwim River villages are having erosion problems and the mega barge activities are going to exasperate this enormous problem. The subsistence fishing throughout the length of the river is going to be greatly compromised by this activity as never seen before.

In closing, there's just too much risk involved that could affect our subsistence and our way of life in a detrimental way and if anything should happen, no one, government or industry or those involved could not repair or reverse the damage in any way, shape or form. Just the enormity of the project creates uncertainty and the scenario of the disaster is too great to comprehend at this time for all involved. I am absolutely against this type of activity in the now pristine environment and wilderness.

Thank you,

David J. Friday

Citizen of Bethel and the United States of America

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