

From: [Karl I. Gohlke](#)
To: [donlingoldeis_POA](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Donlin Gold Draft EIS comment
Date: Friday, May 27, 2016 9:13:52 AM

Good Day,

I am supporting the Donlin Gold Project for several reason:

- The social and economic benefits of this project to the region, state, and to the nation. Job opportunities which will lead to reduced out-migration, helping to maintain rural schools and culture, including traditional ways of life. The potential for lower cost energy options to the region such as the proposed natural gas pipeline which will have excess capacity should there be an interest in accessing natural gas to address the energy needs of the YK region. These are some things the outside environmentalist have no concept about the social and economic impact for the villages which will improve their quality of life.

The project is designed to reduce the overall footprint of the mine and allow for safe management of water over the mine life and post closure. The natural gas pipeline proposal will reduce the amount of diesel barges on the Kuskokwim River. The use of natural gas for power generation, instead of diesel, will also reduce air emissions. Donlin Gold project will be the first large mine in Alaska to use a synthetic liner underneath it's entire tailings impoundment and the tailings pond will be constructed of engineered rock fill and use a downstream construction method that is the most stable of all tailings dam types, designed for water storage and to withstand earthquakes. Most interesting is the project will employ state of the art mercury emissions controls ensuring the emissions well fall below air quality standards.

The job skills and training received while working at the mine will prepare the workforce for future work opportunities, creating a value that extends beyond the life of the mine. This project will have 3,000 construction jobs for 4 years and between 600 and 1,200 jobs for the 27.5 estimated years of mine life resulting in a significant and positive impact on the economy of the region and the state. In addition to direct employment and contracting opportunities associated with Donlin Gold, many indirect business opportunities are anticipated in areas such as logistics, transportation, training, education and health care.

As ANCSA corporations, Calista and TKC have two primary goals: generate profit for the corporation and its shareholders and provide other socio-economic opportunities and benefits to shareholders and their descendants. The Donlin Gold project will assist Calista and TKC in meeting these goals. The important part of the ANCSA is through the ANCSA 7(i) and 7(j) revenue sharing provisions, the Donlin Gold project will provide revenue to all Alaska Native regional and village corporations and their shareholders; another significant fact the environmentalist doesn't concern themselves with because they don't live in the villages or reap the benefits from.

The Donlin Gold Project continued presence in the region over the past two decades, and the partnerships developed between the company and Alaska Native

Corporations and with local communities, represent tremendous opportunities for shareholders and the broader YK community.

Karl

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