## Smith, Neal

From: Stephen Grabacki < graystarpacific@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2016 7:57 PM

To: donlingoldeis, POA

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Donlin Gold -- support Alternative 2

We support alternative 2 of Donlin's proposed mine development, because of --

• The social and economic benefits of this project to the region, state, and to the nation;

- o Through ANCSA 7(i) and 7(j) revenue sharing provisions, the Donlin Gold project will provide revenue to all Alaska Native regional and village corporations.
- o The jobs and the economic stimulus provided by Donlin Gold would help sustain communities in the YK region and fund traditional subsistence activities.
- o Rural Alaska is being impacted most by the reduction of state and federal dollars. Alternative 1 (the no project alternative) will likely have a negative impact on the YK region.
- 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.
- Job opportunities which will likely lead to reduced out-migration, helping to maintain rural schools and culture, including traditional ways of life.

Donlin Gold's project description demonstrates an understanding of environmental concerns, and features vigorous environmental management principles.

Alaska's existing mines are operating to the highest standards and in harmony with our renewable resources, and Donlin will be the same.

We support alternative 2 of Donlin's proposed mine development.

Thank you for your attention. Regards,

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