

From: [Craig, Bill](#)
To: [Bellion, Tara](#); [Evans, Jessica](#); [Smith, Neal](#)
Subject: FW: Comment of Support for Alternative 2 of the Donlin Gold Project
Date: Thursday, April 21, 2016 8:16:26 AM

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

From: donlingoldeis, POA [<mailto:POA.donlingoldeis@usace.army.mil>]
Sent: Thursday, April 21, 2016 7:58 AM
To: Craig, Bill
Subject: FW: Comment of Support for Alternative 2 of the Donlin Gold Project

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

From: Kimberley Gray [<mailto:Kimberley@agcak.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2016 11:37 AM
To: donlingoldeis, POA <POA.donlingoldeis@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment of Support for Alternative 2 of the Donlin Gold Project

Good morning.

I wanted to get off a quick note to show my support on Alternative 2 of the Donlin Gold Project.

I know some groups (I believe most of them are from outside Alaska) aren't aware of how Alaska is about its protection of the land and so are probably unaware that the State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources enforces stringent regulations overseeing mining activities statewide that effectively protect the environment, wildlife, and human health. The companies who now choose to develop projects in Alaska (such as Donlin Gold) have already demonstrated 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. The project will be scrutinized under a rigorous permitting process that reviews and analyzes all potential impacts, and should include the positive economic ones

The project is on surface land owned by The Kuskokwim Corporation (TKC), and Calista Corporation subsurface estate. These lands were selected under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) specifically for their mineral development potential. Royalties paid to Calista will in part be redistributed to other regional and village corporations, pursuant to the 7(i) and 7(j) provisions of ANCSA. Donlin Gold is proposing to develop this land in partnership with Calista Corporation and TKC who both support the project.

Some of the benefits include:

* 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.

* The jobs and the economic stimulus provided by Donlin Gold would help sustain communities in the YK region and fund traditional subsistence activities.

* 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.

* An estimated 3,000 jobs will be created during the approximate four-year construction phase, and between 600 to 1,200 jobs for the estimated mine life of 27.5 years. These jobs will have a significant and positive impact on the economy of the region and the state.

I'm sure it's been said before that mining (as ALL industries) are not what they were a hundred years ago. Companies have very high standards for safety and environmental concerns. Donlin has met numerous times with the local communities to share information, ask questions, hear comments and provide answers. Some might say they've gone above and beyond, but they probably wouldn't. I believe they know the importance of each step they are taking to make sure everything is done correct and of the highest standards possible. Standards they could live with at the end of the day.

Please don't let some groups or individuals that have no bearing on Alaska's future or are only looking out for their own self-interests tell us how and what we should do with our own land. We are such a very large state and so much of the land will remain untouched, but let's not cut out all options for growth and resource development.

Kimberley Gray

Events & Communications Coordinator

Associated General Contractors of Alaska

8005 Schoon Street

Anchorage, AK 99518

907-561-5354

cell 907-229-2824