

From: [Ted Hawley](#)
To: [donlingoldeis_POA](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] DONLIN GOLD EIS
Date: Monday, May 30, 2016 5:38:25 PM

Dear Mr. Gordon and EIS Reviewers

I am in support of the Donlin Gold Project, Alternative 2 as proposed by Donlin Gold, for the following reasons:

1. The State of Alaska is in dire economic straits, in particular because the primary basis of the economy is oil development, and the price of oil is down. Alaska must diversify its economy to survive, and this project could be one of the starter projects that provides some long term stable revenue to the State. If this project were shut down by the permitting process, the message that will be sent to the world is that Alaska and the United States are not open for business, and business will go elsewhere.
2. The Alaskan Native communities in proximity to the proposed project are some of the poorest in the United States, and really need reasons to continue to exist. Long term employment and taxes coming into the communities will make a difference in their ability to continue to live their traditional lifestyles to the greatest extent possible.
3. With proper permitting, the environmental impacts associated with the project will be controlled and mitigated. The face of mining has changed in the United States, and the primary emphases at any large scale modern day american mine are safety, community, and environmental responsibility. Mining companies realize that they can potentially lose millions of dollars if they don't do these things right.

Please proceed with the NEPA process, and strive to get to a favorable record of decision as soon as possible!

Respectfully,

William T. Hawley