



May 31, 201

Mr. Keith Gordon, Project Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District  
P.O. Box 6898  
JBER, Alaska 99506-0898

Attn: CEPOA-RD-Gordon

Dear Mr. Gordon,

I began working on the Donlin Gold Mine project starting in 1996 and worked there through 2014 when the permitting process began. I worked in various positions and I have witnessed first-hand the opportunities the project has brought to the people of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Region in Alaska. I am pleased to write in support of the Donlin Gold Project Draft EIS that is currently under review.

My first position was with the Calista Corporation as its Shareholder Hire Coordinator. My job was two-fold and involved teaching the residents job skills and how to take verbal instructions but also involved teaching the company contractors about the various cultures in each village to help with communication. Verbal communication did not often translate well to villagers who were taught skills by working with their hands. That job was double duty and lasted until around 2006 when I began to work with Donlin Gold as its Community Liaison and Camp Director.

The project was the biggest thing that had ever happened in the region for jobs, and it gave the residents a reason to make better choices about alcohol and drugs. One of my duties was to travel around the villages and conduct urine analysis (UA) tests. The first year we had around a 95% failure rate. The second year the UA failure rate was around 50% and the third year we had less than a 10% failure rate.

The project gave the people who wanted to work the chance to get cleaned up and get their act together. It was difficult at first for people to make the adjustment and the first year, we experienced a 386% turnover rate. For me it was predictable because residents were used to short-term jobs that allowed them to collect their paychecks and go on a binge. The difference with Donlin was that then they wanted to come back and I was the one who had to let them know it didn't work that way and eventually the alcohol abuse leveled off.

By the fourth year, the turnover rate was dwindling down and the last five or six years we had virtually no turnover. Our random monthly UA tests were no longer a problem for the people who came back to work from the villages. I now work for the Kuskokwim Corporation as their Community Liaison but would happily return to Donlin for work when and if the jobs become available.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that appears to read "Wassily Kameroff".

Wassily Kameroff