

From: donlingoldeis.POA
To: Craig_Bill
Subject: FW: Donlin Gold Draft EIS comment
Date: Thursday, February 25, 2016 6:50:47 AM

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

From: Liebing, Mike BIS [<mailto:Mike.Liebing@otis.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2016 12:47 PM
To: donlingoldeis, POA <POA.donlingoldeis@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Donlin Gold Draft EIS comment

I would like to provide my opinion as a member of the public and as a citizen of Alaska. I wish to clearly add my voice in support of the continued responsible development of the Donlin Gold Mine.

I am a 50 + year old life-long Alaskan and have seen both good and bad development of resources within the State. We, as a state have a long tradition of successfully developing natural resources and that track record has led to much prosperity for the people of Alaska as well as enriching the nation by adding to our on shore reserves and production of oil, gas and minerals vital to the security of the nation.

I do not subscribe to the notion that all development and resource extraction is in the long term good, I strongly support this specific project for the following reasons.

- 1) This project has been developed in harmony and with tremendous input from the local population. They have taken concrete actions to ensure the support from the tribes and villages of the region and conducted themselves with the highest respect for the traditions and cultures of their neighbors.
- 2) They have consistently sought the highest and best science in developing their plans for the mine development, always selecting the "Best" methodology which is seldom or never the cheapest.
- 3) The economic benefits that this mine will bring to this economically challenged area will not only bring money into an area with few source of income, but will allow the preservation of a way of life that is increasingly difficult to sustain. The exodus from rural to urban Alaska in search of a sustainable economic life is one of the most serious challenges facing our native culture in Alaska
- 4) This project has the potential to also bring a much more economic energy source (natural gas) to an area that is economically crippled by the cost of energy.

This project, if permitted to continue through to production, will be a model to which other mines will be compared and potentially raise the standards for all other areas. The developers of this project deserve the right to pursue this full force under the watchful eyes of regulator at both the state and federal level. The legally established processes for this development must be allowed to continue and not be derailed by forces outside the area being effected who consistently oppose any significant development on ideology rather than any concrete basis in science of law.