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April 18
, 2016

Greetings,

I am a fourth generation Alaskan that has hunted, fished, subsisted, worked and raised a family in Alaska. I fully support Donlin Golds' Alternative 2 proposal to develop a world class mine on Native Corporation lands in the Kuskokwim. The lands were selected by the Native people of the region so that their shareholders would benefit from the development and production of the mine. Precisely the purpose behind Congress' grant of entitlement of these lands to Calista and the Kuskokwim Corporation.

The proposed mine will generate 3000 construction jobs for four years and then 600 to 1200 good paying year round jobs for the life of the mine. This will be a significant positive impact on the economy of the region and the state. Well-paying meaningful work will allow residents to remain in the Yukon Kuskokwim region and have the cash income to enable and enjoy a subsistence lifestyle.

The improved transportation and infrastructure to support the mine will bring with it better services and lower cost energy, goods and services to all residents of the region. The projected barge traffic is not at all unreasonable in context with the other traffic (100 to 200 boats) on the river. The Kuskokwim River has historically been used for just such transportation and Donlin's proposal is not a significant increase over existing use or impacts.

This area of Alaska has a long mining history. It needs to continue with the Donlin mine constructed and operated in a safe, environmentally conscious manner. With consideration to bettering the lives of the residents of the region and all of Alaska and the nation for that matter. Donlin's proposal appears to me to meet that threshold and should be permitted as proposed.

Sincerely,


E. Neil MacKinnon

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