

From: [Miller, Mike](#)
To: [donlingoldeis, POA](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Donlin Gold Draft EIS comment
Date: Tuesday, May 24, 2016 9:30:42 AM

Gentlemen/Ladies:

I am writing in favor of Proposed Pipeline Alternate #2 for the following reasons.

- The Donlin Gold project could produce gold for 27.5 years, while providing HIGH paying jobs in a region where few other opportunities exist.
- The State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources enforces stringent regulations overseeing mining activities statewide that effectively protect the environment, wildlife, and human health.
- New mining operations in the area, should they come to fruition, can be of great economic benefit to Alaska and local communities, as well as Alaska Native corporations and shareholders.
- This project will provide responsible economic prospects for this region and for Alaska, while protecting the subsistence resources.
- The proposed pipeline in Alternative 2 is designed to minimize impacts on the Iditarod National Historic Trail. There would be insignificant impacts to the trail and no impacts to the Iditarod Sled Dog race.
- Construction of the gas pipeline would be sensitive to the timing of the Iditarod and Iron Dog races as well as hunting season.
- The EIS process gives Alaskans and other stakeholders adequate time to fully review the project documents, and to provide input on the plans.
- The project will offer long-term opportunities for rural Alaskans to develop skills and to enable them to continue living in rural Alaska and to prosper.
- 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.
- Donlin Gold's project description demonstrates 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.
- Potential for lower cost energy options to the region exist, such as the proposed natural gas pipeline which will have excess capacity.
- Job opportunities which will likely lead to reduced out-migration, helping to maintain rural schools and culture, including traditional ways of life.

Regards,

Mike

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