

To whom it may concern,

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3-14-16



Hello, I am writing because I want to comment on the Donlin Gold mine, I say we know the risks we take, it may be good for a while but are we in control of Mother Earth and what She does, I am not saying I am against it, and I am not saying I am for it.

I am not for Pebble, because that one will wave and take our land up and heart the heart of our way of life and it will not be good for our children or animals.

I am happy about Donlin because it's not outside people trying to take advantage of us and leave when times get ruff, I like this because I lived in Anchorage all my life, I am half upile and Irish and I have been in and out of prison and I keep seeing how many people come here for jobs, and help and in doing so are taken by temptation and drugs and

alcohol on a whole new level, and once they come in prison they are being forced in gangs and if they don't they get jumped and hurt, then they follow the ones that are bent on not bettering Alaska and our people.

I was once one of those people, I am 33 years old, been in this life and way for most of it and I made the same mistake the ones that move from the village here and meth and heroin is now reaching the villages because of these people that come to jail and get caught in following others and get talked into easy money. I am on a different path, I just was sentence to 25 years with 7 suspended for shooting at a police officer, no one was hurt and I am so grateful. But it's because of drugs and wrong people in my life from youth on

up which led to that day<sup>②</sup> that changed my life, I hate drugs, I hate what this system does to not only Natives but all in forcing them to think and be a certain way, I have nine years left and plan to take this time to better myself so maybe I can help you to use me and maybe the officer to share our story to the young ones.

You see that's why I am so happy to see that we are now creating jobs for our people, to keep them where we belong, with mother earth, so please be careful with her and now I say I am for it, I look forward to hearing from you. . . if not I will continue to pray for you all and read.

I am learning to love our people, ~~another~~

earth, family and God but it starts with self, people can we start to fight this war on drugs entering our homes... to protect the youth because their our future.

Be careful, but to be successful we must take risks, I pray this is a good risk for our State.

With Respect.

James J. Vink

I made my own choices, and take responsibility but if I can be easily influenced so will the ones that come to a city and not know what they are getting into.

James John Nick #448710  
Anchorage Commercial Complex - West  
1300 East 4th Avenue  
Anchorage, AK 99501

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Alaska District  
CEPOA-RD - Gordon

P.O. Box 6898

JBFR, AK 99506-0898



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