



Dear Mr. Gordon,

Thank you for the opportunity to express my full support of the Donlin Gold project specifically, alternative **two** of the Draft EIS.

As a 5<sup>th</sup> generation Alaskan, a small business owner, and the son of a placer mining family, I believe that Donlin Gold has the potential to significantly impact the State of Alaska and Yukon-Kuskokwim Region in several positive ways. With Alaska's current budget crisis and the oil and gas industry in such turmoil, it is imperative that Alaska diversify its economy and develop our natural resources responsibly.

Donlin Gold will not only provide stable, high-paying jobs to residents in one of the poorest regions in our state, but the trickle down effect of a project of this magnitude has the potential to provide opportunities for small business owners like myself. Donlin has committed to using as many local Alaskan businesses as possible, bringing more business and profits to Alaska's economy during the construction and lifespan of the mine.

Donlin Gold has gone above and beyond with community outreach, encouraging conversation and suggestions from any and all impacted regions or groups, including residents and tribal leaders of the YK region, the Iditarod Trail Committee, and the Iron Dog Organization. Alternative two of the DEIS is a product of those discussions, incorporating alternatives that don't necessarily make the best business sense, but is best for the region, land, and various user groups. We should be proud to have such a responsible and committed company doing business in our state.

Environmental responsibility is something that Donlin Gold takes very seriously, which means a lot to me as a resident of Alaska and an avid fisherman. They have conducted fishing activity and river use surveys on the Kuskokwim River, so mining operations to not disturb residents' subsistence way of life and practices. The project was designed to reduce the overall footprint of the mine and allow for safe management of water over the mine life and post closure.

The Donlin Gold Mine will provide significant benefits and opportunities to our state while upholding a commitment to responsible development and land stewardship. Again, thank you for the opportunity to express my support for the Donlin Gold project Draft EIS, alternative two.

Respectfully,

Daniel Siira  
Owner  
Latitude 61 Technologies  
907-223-0019  
[dan@lat61.com](mailto:dan@lat61.com)

*daniel & alicia*

4021 Iona Circle  
Anchorage, AK 99507

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

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