

Smith, Neal

From: Tom Irwin <tirwin@ithmines.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 27, 2016 8:29 AM
To: donlingoldeis, POA
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Donlin Gold Draft EIS Comment Letter from THM April 27, 2016
Attachments: Donlin Gold Draft EIS Comment Letter from THM April 27, 2016.pdf

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

Mr. Gordon,
Please find attached – Donlin Gold Draft EIS Comment Letter from Tower Hill Mines, Inc.
Respectfully,

Thomas E. Irwin
President
Tower Hill Mines, Inc.
(907) 347-8685



LIVENGOOD GOLD PROJECT

April 27, 2016

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

POA.donlingoldeis@usace.army.mil

RE: Donlin Gold Project Draft EIS

Mr. Gordon,

Tower Hill Mines, Inc. (THM) appreciates the opportunity to express support of Donlin Gold's Proposed Project Development Plan – Alternative 2. This project presents a rare opportunity for the State of Alaska and is one that THM believes will provide significant socioeconomic benefits statewide.

An estimated 3,000 jobs will be created during the approximate four-year construction phase and up to 1,200 jobs for the estimated 27.5 year mine life. These are excellent paying jobs covering a wide variety of professional disciplines that provide both employment and training opportunities for the local communities. Additional opportunities exist for businesses supplying services, equipment, and materials associated with the project. These jobs will have a significant and positive impact on the economy of the region and the state. Revenues flowing through the ANCSA corporations will benefit both the rural and urban Alaska Native populations throughout Alaska.

The project description demonstrates a thorough understanding of environmental concerns and features sound management principles that protect the environment and subsistence resources in the region. These plans are based on the rigorous evaluation of dozens of project alternatives as well as 17 plus years of scientific environmental, geological, and engineering studies. We believe that the proposed site-specific plans included in Alternative 2, such as a fully-lined tailings facility, a natural gas pipeline from Cook Inlet through Rainy Pass, and barge

transport of supplies to the Junjuk port site are the most practicable approaches to providing the best environmental protection possible consistent with the project purpose. Donlin Gold's partner companies, Barrick Gold Corporation and NOVAGOLD Resources, are professionally positioned to make the proposed project alternative a safe and viable reality.

The Donlin Gold Project proponents have also demonstrated a commitment to responsible development through community engagement and transparent communication with its stakeholders. Donlin Gold hosted numerous community meetings throughout the expansive Yukon Kuskokwim region and has even provided informational materials translated into the Yup'ik language to inform residents about the proposed project. This multi-year effort underscores Donlin Gold's commitment to responsible development of the project in a manner that will benefit a rural region with few private sector opportunities.

Thank you for the opportunity to support Donlin Gold's Proposed Project Development Plan – Alternative 2.

Respectfully,



Thomas E. Irwin
President
Tower Hill Mines, Inc.

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