

## **Donlin Gold Project EIS**

Western Interior Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (RAC)

Presentation regarding the Development of Alternatives

Tuesday, February 26, 2014

### **Project Team Attendees:**

Keith Gordon, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

### **Overview:**

The Donlin Gold Project EIS presentation was given on Wednesday, February 26, 2014, in Aniak, Alaska. Jack Reakoff, RAC Chair moderated the session. Keith Gordon spoke on behalf of the Corps via teleconference.

The 15 minute presentation included a summary of the project components, an overview of the EIS process, a synthesis of the scoping comments, and the process for developing alternatives. Keith focused on the example of alternatives that might reduce barging and barge impacts. Keith responded to questions after his presentation.

### **Issues Raised:**

Question: Is a cyanide heap leach included in the project?

*Response: The Donlin Gold Project would not use the heap leach method. Cyanide is used in the proposed ore extraction process, but within a contained processing facility, with controls for cyanide detoxification before tailings are released from the building. The Donlin Gold Project will comply with the International Cyanide Management Code.*

Question: Are there any Doyon Ltd. land holdings that would be affected by the proposed pipeline route? Doyon Ltd. should be included in the conversations about the project if their lands are impacted.

*Response: Doyon Land holdings are not affected or impacted by the proposed pipeline route.*

Comment: The pipeline route may provide access and related issues for ATV's.

Comment: Big River has a very important sheefish spawning area upstream of the pipeline crossing. The name of the area (Big River spawning area) means effectively major sheefish spawning site.

Comment: The Corps needs to analyze the effects of barge traffic.