

Bethel

RECEIVED

JAN 14 2013

January 14, 2013

Mr. Don Kuhle  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
CEPOA-RD  
P.O. Box 6898  
JBER, AK 99506-0898

Roberta Chavez, Wildlife Biologist  
P.O. Box 1183  
Bethel, AK 99559

Dear Mr. Kuhle:

My name is Roberta Chavez I've been a resident of Bethel with serious concerns of the development of Donlin Gold Project. For the past few years subsistence fishermen have experienced strict restrictions and closures on the Kuskokwim River. While they have taken conservation efforts in protecting Chinook salmon stocks it is going to add extra stress on the declining stocks with the barge traffic going up and down the River. Will the 110 day season coincide with subsistence/commercial fishing season? It will definitely cause extra concern for our subsistence fishermen how already are experiencing difficulties meeting their subsistence needs.

Alaska frequently experiences earthquakes what is going to guarantee that the tailings from the acid rock drainage will stay contained in tailings storage facility? It could possibly leach into the ground water and eventually end up in the Kuskokwim River. All our efforts protecting our salmon fish stocks will be in vain.

It is stated that it will be a 27 year project, and once Donlin Gold up and leaves, who is going to be stuck with the tailings and acid rock that is left behind? It will be the people who live on the Kuskokwim River to clean up and deal with the mess left behind. The future generation will be stuck cleaning up the mess.

Sincerely,



Roberta Chavez, Wildlife Biologist