

From: [Rick Fredericksen](#)
To: comments@DonlinGoldEIS.com
Subject: Comments on Donlin Gold Project EIS Scoping
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I urge the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers to consider three important topics in the Donlin Gold EIS: (1) the social and economic benefits of this project to the region, state, and to the nation; (2) the potential for lower cost energy options to the region; and (3) the job opportunities which will likely lead to reduced out-migration, helping to maintain rural schools.

The Donlin Gold project has established an incredible record in the use of local hire and the promotion of locals to significant field project management positions. The project will be a significant economic engine to the area over several decades at a time when oil and gas revenues to the state are rapidly declining. I urge the Corp to consider the following important facts:

- (1) The Donlin Gold project could produce gold for 27.5 years, while providing well paying jobs in a region where few other opportunities exist. (2) The State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources enforces stringent regulations overseeing mining activities statewide that effectively protect the environment, wildlife, and human health. (3) New mining operations in the area, should they come to fruition, can be of great economic benefit to Alaska and local communities, as well as Alaska Native corporations and shareholders. (4) This project will likely provide responsible economic prospects for this region and for Alaska, while protecting the subsistence resources. (5) The energy infrastructure (gas pipeline) to support this project may open the door for lower cost energy solutions in the region. (6) The EIS process gives Alaskans and other stakeholders adequate time to fully review the project documents, and to provide input on the plans. (7) The project will benefit Alaska Native corporations statewide. Royalties paid to The Kuskokwim Corporation and Calista Corporation will in part be redistributed to other regional and village corporations under the 17i provision of ANCSA. (8) The project will provide long-term opportunities for rural Alaskans to develop skills and to enable them to not only continue living in rural Alaska, but to prosper. (9) Donlin's project description demonstrates an understanding of environmental concerns, and features vigorous environmental management principles. (10) Alaska's existing mines are operating to the highest standards and in harmony with our renewable resources.

Respectfully,

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