

835 Ridgecrest Drive; PO Box 2986, Bethel, AK 99559-2986 | Toll Free: 1-855-543-1427 | PH (907)543-1426 | FX (907)543-1427 www.kuskokwimcouncil.org

March, 28, 2013

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Division Don Kuhle, Project Manager PO Box 6898 Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson, AK 99506-0898 Don.P.Kuhle@usace.army.mil comments@DonlinGoldEIS.com

RE: Scoping Comments for the Proposed Donlin Gold Mine

Dear Mr. Kuhle:

The Kuskokwim River Watershed Council (KRWC) has reviewed the scoping comments prepared by the following groups and submitted to you on March 27, 2013:

ALASKA'S BIG VILLAGE NETWORK — ALASKA COMMUNITY ACTION ON TOXICS — ALASKANS FOR RESPONSIBLE MINING — ALASKA INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL — CENTER FOR WATER ADVOCACY — COOK INLETKEEPER —EARTHWORKS — GRANT FAIRBANKS — GROUND TRUTH TREKKING —NORTHERN ALASKA ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER — ORUTSARARMIUT NATIVE COUNCIL

The KRWC wishes to fully endorse these scoping comments, and has since adopted them as our own comments for the legal record as part of the National Environmental Policy Act scoping process.

Attached we have included these comments, as well as the supporting documents and references cited with them as attached under **ABVN** et al. **Donlin Gold Scoping Comments 3.27.13** References to these comments are also attached.

Please consider the KRWC as an important regional stakeholder as you evaluate scoping documents and begin preparations for a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The Board of Directors fervently believes **ALL** the impacted villages, listed below, in the Kuskokwim River basin were not properly heard with the short span of only 3 months of scoping meetings to a very large project as the Donlin Gold proposal.

The KRWC and its Board of Directors is hereby pleased to support the scientific and social conclusions presented by these groups in the scoping comments for suggested alternatives in the DEIS. Please consider the KRWC to be in agreement with these suggestions and comments regarding the DEIS.

Sincerely,

John Oscar,

Executive Director

Kuskokwim River Watershed Council

Akiachak, Akiak, Aniak, Atmautluak, Bethel, Chefornak, Crooked Creek, Eek, Georgetown, Goodnews Bay, Kasigluk, Kipnuk, Kongiganak, Kwigillingok, Lower Kalskag, McGrath, Medfra, Mekoryuk, Napaimute, Napakiak, Napaskiak, Nightmute, Nunapitchuk, Newtok, Toksook Bay, Kwethluk, Oscarville, Platinum, Quinhagak, Red Devil, Sleetmute, Stony River, Takotna, Telida, Tuluksak, Tuntutuliak, Tununak, Umkumiut, Upper Kalskag