

## Village of Lower Kalskag Tribe PO Box 27 Lower Kalskag, AK 99626

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## 1.Cyanide

- A. What happens when cyanide binds with other naturally occurring and introduced elements such as mercury? In the YK region there is already a higher level of exposure to mercury than is typical.
- B. What does this exposure mean to salmon which may already be stressed from adapting to the higher rates of mercury? And, when an additional chemical is added to a population that can be in decline?
- C. Part of the argument is that the cyanide from mining will be at levels that is not lethal as people can detoxify from the cyanide. This assumes that people are healthy; but what about those with issues such as diabetes, substance abuse and cancer? What about children, Elders, newborns and pregnant women?
- D. And what does it mean when cyanide binds with mercury? What about with the potential additive impact on people given the Red Devil Mine cleanup and concerns about chemicals form that site? What about the bioaccumulation on fish and from fish?
- E. How will employees be trained in the use of cyanide? What are the safeguards that will be in place?
- F. Given Montana has banned the use of cyanide, is there an alternative Donlin could use for mining?
- G. How will the cyanide be safely transported to the Donlin Mine? How will they ensure there are NO spills/damages of the cyanide as it being transported? What is the safest way to transport it?

## 2. Site restoration after mine is closed

What species will be planted for re-vegetation? How will the site be re-vegetated to its previous state? What about the facilities, what happens to them and their upkeep, including the tailings pond(s)? How will ongoing monitoring of tailings occur and for how long? How long will Donlin's commitment remain to the closed mine, once they have closed the mine? And what will that commitment look like, ten years after the mine's closure, given concerns about the Red Devil Mine?

3. To what extent will baseline studies on the fish, salmon (as well as the other species of fish), be conducted before the mine begins? When would these be available to the public? And what data will be collected to ensure the best understanding of the current state of health of the salmon and other fish species? Once this baseline data is collected how will the health of the fish be monitored? If there is found to be an unanticipated impact on the fish from the mining how will Donlin respond and how in a timely way?