

**From:** [Shirlee Smith](#)  
**To:** [donlingoldeis, POA](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter of Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 25, 2016 8:52:48 AM  
**Attachments:** [Donlin Gold Project.pdf](#)

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Good morning,

Attached is a letter of support for the Donlin Gold Project from The Aleut Corporations CEO Matthew Fagnani. If you have any questions please let me know.

Thanks, Shirlee



May 24, 2016

US Army Corps of Engineers  
Donlin Gold Project EIS

Dear Sirs,

I am writing today in support of the Donlin Gold project. If built, the Donlin Gold project would produce gold from a major ore-body, through a subsurface lease with the Calista Corporation and a surface use agreement with the Kuskokwim Corporation; which demonstrates support from the Regional and local Village Corporation.

The Donlin Gold project, located within the Yukon-Kuskokwim drainage, is one of the poorest regions in the United States. This project would provide high paying jobs in a region where few other employment opportunities exist. An estimated 3,000 jobs will be created during the construction phase, and between 600 to 1,200 jobs for the estimated mine life of 27.5 years. These jobs will have a significant and positive impact on the economy of the region and the state. Alaska's existing mines are operating to the highest standards and in a way that has the least impact on our renewable resources.

The State of Alaska has some of the most stringent regulations in regards to water standards and activities that may affect water or our fish populations. This project will provide responsible economic prospects for this region and the Alaska, while also protecting the subsistence resources that the locals depend on. The State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources enforces stringent regulations overseeing mining activities statewide that effectively protect the environment, wildlife, and human health.

This project should proceed as it will provide an economic boost to a region where few jobs exist. It has the potential to possibly lower the cost and increase the energy options to the region, such as the proposed natural gas pipeline which will have excess capacity. In addition, the mine will be operated in a way that minimizes impact to any resources that locals depend on.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matthew Fagnani", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Matthew Fagnani  
CEO-Aleut Corporation