



April 13, 2016

Mr. Keith Gordon
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Regulatory Division CEPOA-RD
P.O. Box 6898
JBER, Alaska 99506-0898

Dear Mr. Gordon,

Chugach Alaska Corporation (Chugach) is an Alaska Native Regional Corporation established pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) of 1971, as amended, 43 U.S.C. § 1601, *et seq.* As an Alaska Native Corporation we understand the unique challenges associated with development of ANCSA lands, which must be done responsibly in order to maintain cultural values and protect subsistence rights, while also providing economic benefits to the people of the region.

I am writing to express our support for Alternative 2 in the Draft EIS for the Donlin Gold Mine Project. The Donlin Gold project will provide hundreds of good paying jobs and other economic benefits for the people of the Calista region, where opportunities are significantly limited. In addition, the infrastructure development from the project will lower the costs of essential goods and services, which is greatly needed in a region that is one of the most expensive in the state to live.

Calista holds the mineral rights for the Donlin gold property, and TKC holds the surface estate. These land selections were made during ANCSA specifically so that shareholders could benefit from development of a mine within their region. Donlin Gold has been working proactively with the shareholders and has diligently advanced the project in an environmentally responsible manner to ensure the safety and sustainability of the region.

We appreciate the opportunity to submit these comments of support for the Donlin Gold project.

Sincerely,

Gabriel Kompkoff
Chief Executive Officer



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