

## Smith, Neal

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**From:** Judy Patrick <judy@judypatrickphotography.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2016 2:14 PM  
**To:** donlingoldeis, POA  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comment in strong support of Donlin Mine project Alternative 2

I am in full support of the development of this mine. I have watched Donlin Gold (for several years!) carefully consider each step of the various phases of this project from the watershed to village concerns to far reaching transportation and energy issues. I strongly believe that the development of this mine will only bring positive benefits to the Southwest Alaska region and Alaska Native people statewide.

When I think of all the good that has come out of the Red Dog Mine in Northwest Alaska, I can only assume that the same benefits will occur in the Southwest Alaska region after the construction of the Donlin Gold project. Some of these benefits include good paying local year-round jobs which provides steady income which contributes to stable families which leads to a decline in drug and alcohol abuse which leads to a reduction in child abuse and molestation, and it goes without saying that is a benefit that no social program can accomplish at any cost. So it's not just a question of economics, but the positive social impact is priceless.

Please allow, no encourage, development of this mine and it's necessary infrastructure especially the gas pipeline which will provide additional future economic opportunities (not necessarily mining) in the region.

Thank-you for your consideration,  
Judy Patrick

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