

**From:** [donlingoldeis, POA](#)  
**To:** [Craig, Bill](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Donlin Gold Draft EIS comment  
**Date:** Thursday, February 25, 2016 6:46:01 AM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Debra Samson [[mailto:Debra\\_Samson@ykhc.org](mailto:Debra_Samson@ykhc.org)]  
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 6:15 PM  
To: donlingoldeis, POA <[POA.donlingoldeis@usace.army.mil](mailto:POA.donlingoldeis@usace.army.mil)>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Donlin Gold Draft EIS comment

Ok, now that I realize how to send in my comment...

Since I can't make it to the Bethel meeting, but I'm listening to it closely on the radio, I just need to say again and again, that the people of the communities all the way up and down the river are very dependent on the fish in the river! If you see the Ak Dept of Fish and Game statistics, they show that the subsistence users of the fish are the #1 harvesters of the fish. They depend on the fish as a way of life and survival.

I once told one of my friends, that Ak Fish and Game has published an advisory recommendation that pregnant women and young children, should limit how much pike they should eat in a week, due to the mercury levels. Her response was: We have been depending on these fish over all the centuries, and that she was not about to start to limit how much she should eat because come outsiders come and tell her to limit her fish intake.

Please help us protect the fish so they don't get contaminated any more than they are already exposed to!

The river is the lifeline of fishing and travel for all the communities. Fish drifting already competes with the barges as it is already, and I can't imagine how much worse it would get with all the extra barges that would be required for this project.

Thank you for hearing our concerns.

Debra Samson

Bethel Alaska resident

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