

## **Donlin Gold Project EIS**

Holy Cross Scoping Meeting

Community Hall

Wednesday, March 20, 2013, 6:00 pm

### **Attendance:**

Approximately 14 residents attended the scoping meeting held in Holy Cross. Don Kuhle of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers made a presentation about the Donlin Gold Project EIS. Among the cooperating agencies, the Bureau of Land Management was in attendance, while EPA and ADNR participated by teleconference.

### **Issues Raised:**

*This is a brief summary of issues and comments. A complete Scoping Report with meeting transcripts and detailed analysis of all comments will be issued in May 2013.*

- Will Donlin Gold be hiring only Calista Corporation shareholders for the jobs? Will they hire people from the Yukon River villages?
- If there is a spill, what is the spill response? Would it result in contamination on the Kuskokwim River?
- Donlin Gold needs to get information out to the villages on what type of jobs will be available so that we can start preparing our young people for these jobs.
- If we are opposed to the Donlin Gold project, will the project move forward?
- How will all these villages be affected by the Donlin Gold project? There could be the benefit of jobs, but then the mine packs up and leaves. What is left afterwards?
- The villages on the Kuskokwim River will benefit from the Donlin Gold project. What do we (Yukon River villages) get out of it?
- Are there any components on the Yukon River side? You should study the Iditarod River as it is close to the mine site and drains into the Yukon River.
- How will all the barges on the Kuskokwim River interfere with subsistence fishing activities?
- Putting pipeline underground is not a good idea. If it leaks or breaks it will cause problems. It will affect our land and even Native Allotments.
- I am concerned about open public access to the pipeline route. I sit on the Health Board and we know the risk of drug use increasing due to new road access and highways to village Alaska.
- We are concerned about barges on the Kuskokwim River, When the water level gets too low barges can run aground and cause problems.
- Is BLM for or against the pipeline? Or the Donlin Gold Mine project?
- Are you the agencies who can allow Donlin Gold to move forward?

- There will be an impact on moose and other animals around the mine site. The animals near the mine site will be affected.
- Water quality on the Kuskokwim River needs to be monitored. You should confirm there is no mercury or other contamination coming from the mine.
- Can you send a DVD about the project to our school classes to share with our children? This would help the students to get prepared for training and jobs.