

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



ALASKA STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 1, 2019

Colonel Phillip Borders
Alaska District Commander
U.S. Army Corp of Engineers
P.O. Box 6898
Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska 99506-0898

Dear Colonel Borders:

We respectfully request that you extend the USACE deadline to accept public comments regarding your Pebble Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) to at least 270 days.

The USACE's inadequate, extremely limited 90-day public comment period will not allow Alaskans to fully examine the enormous DEIS and respond.

Senator Dan Sullivan told the Anchorage Daily News that he believes "more time to do the due diligence" is needed due to the large size of this project. Senator Lisa Murkowski, likewise, told the News that your comment period should be extended. Their assessment of the situation is very accurate. Notwithstanding your rejection on February 22nd 2019 of the extension request by the Bristol Bay Native Association, the Bristol Bay Native Corporation, and the Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation, the undersigned submit this similar request herein.

The Corps extended the comment period for the proposed Donlin mine to six months. Pebble has the potential to dwarf Donlin, and thus deserves a longer comment period than Donlin.

Because the Pebble DEIS includes tens of thousands of pages of detailed technical information, three months is insufficient for even the most dedicated public person to assess and respond to the sheer volume of material.

The Pebble Project would have far-reaching impacts on both the commercial and the subsistence economies of the region. It is, arguably, the most important proposed Alaska project of our time. Alaskans deserve a fair chance to weigh in on it.

Thank you for your careful consideration of our request.

Sincerely,


Representative Andy Josephson


Representative Matt Claman



Representative Jonathan Kriess-Tomkins


Representative Sara Hannan


Representative John Lincoln


Representative Ivy Spohnholz


Representative Geran Tarr


Representative Adam Wool


Representative Neal Foster


Representative Bryce Edgmon


Representative Harriet Drummond


Representative Grier Hopkins

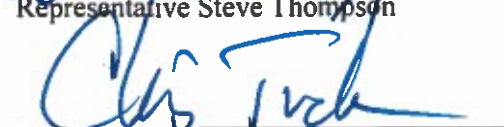

Representative Zack Fields

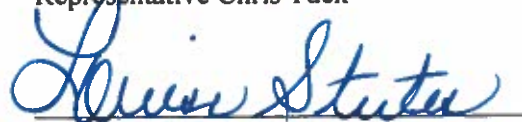

Representative Gabrielle LeDoux


Representative Dan Ortiz


Representative Andi Story


Representative Steve Thompson


Representative Chris Tuck


Representative Louise Stutes


Representative Tiffany Zulkosky

CC: Office of Senator Lisa Murkowski

Office of Senator Dan Sullivan