



P.O. Box 240605  
Douglas, AK 99824

907.586.1254 phone  
907.463.3433 fax  
FTFAKFoundation.org  
firstffinc@gmail.com

November 18, 2020

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Attn. Matthew Reece  
Tongass National Forest  
Greens Creek Mine NEP SEIS  
8510 Mendenhall Loop Road  
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: Scoping comments on the Greens Creek Mine North Extension Project

Mr. Reece:

First Things First Alaska Foundation (FTFAF) is submitting scoping comments on the proposed Hecla Greens Creek Mine Tailings Disposal Facility North Extension Project.

FTFAF is dedicated to preserving Alaska's economic viability and future through education. FTFAF works to educate the public by monitoring and researching natural resources management issues and highlighting reasonable use, access, economic opportunity, and development. All of which can be done while protecting the environment.

Key issues that should be considered in the development of the SEIS are:

- The economic impact to communities of a mine closure.
- The socioeconomic impact to communities crippled by COVID-19 of a mine closure.
- The benefits of the consolidation of the impacted area over the 2013 plan.
- The benefits of the limitation of areal impact on monument lands relative to past analysis.
- The benefits of reduction in wildlife, vegetation, and wetland impacts relative to previous plans.
- The improved long-term reclamation results of consolidated facility.

**First Things First Alaska Foundation (FTFAF) is dedicated to preserving the economic viability and future of Alaska through education. There is a clear need to educate the public on the benefits of responsible economic development and natural resource management.**

First Things First Alaska Foundation Comments  
November 12, 2020  
Page 2 of 2

- Continued reliance on the State of Alaska environmental data in addition to all other available and appropriate data.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide scoping comments on the Greens Creek Mine North Extension Project.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joseph E. Kahklen". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Joe Kahklen  
President