

November 23, 2020

Tongass National Forest
Greens Creek Mines NEP SEIS/
8510 Mendenhall Loop Road
Juneau, Alaska 99801

RE: Hecla Greens Creek Mining Company Expanding ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

To All This Concerns,

In the upcoming DEIS for Greens Creek Mine's expansion with potential "significant environmental impacts", the USFS must require the pre-mine baseline assessments provided by Greens Creek Mine in their originating pre-requisite vision, along with resulting impacts, before other additions can be legally considered for expansion and approval in a land and resource use management plan. This baseline data must be added into the administrative consideration of federal land conservation and environmental protections that are established to balance the heavy intrusion of big-\$\$\$ outside businesses.

Chichagof Island's Hoonah has not forgotten neighboring Admiralty Island Greens Creek mine's past effort to deposit its tailings into our Sealaska land near an important salmon-producing river! That proposal put Hoonah on alert to the far-reaching focus of out-of-state Alaska industry intentions on Tlingit & Haida homeland.

The gall for this "scoping" process to proceed without legal tribal governing interests, is insulting. Alaska Native are the dominant "private property" landowners in the state of Alaska through Tribally successful legal US court actions. Our status must be foremost recognized in all processes.

There are three (3) legal land designations in Alaska: Federal (60% w/ 15 agencies), the **1959** State of Alaska constitution's private property is separate from the **1971** AK Native Lands Claims Settlement (ANCSA)'s private property holdings. Alaska Natives are major – not minor – when it comes to the legal definition of "group", "private property rights" legal interests. These holdings originated from, and are the result, of the Tongass indigenous tribal groups in cooperation with each other. Tlingit & Haida and ANCSA belong to indigenous Native Alaskans – NOT the State of Alaska's bigoted pro-industrial commitment over democracy and human investment.

Already, the USFS's convoluted "cooperating agencies" reveal the puppetry-governing we face: US Army's Corps of Engineers, the US executive office's 1970 Environmental Protection Agency (a contradiction in terms), the (R)-state legislature, its City & Borough of Juneau, and (R)-AK congressional powers.

Somehow, the legality of CBJ authority overcomes the purpose of the US Department of the Interior's Admiralty Island National Monument's "monumental purpose" to political

representation only. This is the same kind of "management" wording that eliminated the Xuna Tlingit out of Glacier Bay National Park "and Refuge" to accommodate industrial exploitation in partnership with the State of Alaska corporations, (R)-AK- DC, and its clone municipalities.

This sort of bullying and elimination tactics opposes and insults the required human intelligence-input. Not to mention **the US Constitution's Bill of Rights** that has been shot to hell in all processes against the People defending their home.

Considering the cumulative USFS Tongass-focused actions today in history, both industry and (R)-governing lawmakers are in full exploitation mode, **again** without consideration to the health and vibrancy of grassroot inhabitants, neighborhoods, and communities. ZERO respect to the legally established tribally recognized authority. It is corporate politics as usual with the intention of bucking hard-fought environmental and land conservation laws of The People, working against our intent to protect clean water, air, and land, managing for the long-term.

The likes of Don Young's ugly mouth against Alaska Native issues has poisoned many minds to see us only as "nuisances", or worse, the US-AK v. AK Native Villages as "the enemy".

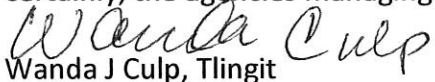
Locally provided INTELLIGENCE has been shunned and belittled throughout time, effectively eliminating our voices into meaninglessness. (R)-DC, the state legislature, and its municipalities are driving focus commitment to exploitation to all of Alaska's natural resources at all costs...

...DURING A CV-19 CRISIS DUE TO GLOBAL WARMING!!! All industrial-induced!

The state of Alaska has been out of federal law compliance for decades, and neither the State nor its governing agencies have any intention of complying.

The Secretary Agriculture's Forest Service; the Secretary of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Fish & Wildlife Services, and National Park Services are all invested into public law, like it or not, through the 1981 Federal Subsistence Board.

Let this process not become a court issue. Assure the addressing of all legal protocols ahead of time. If I, as a hunter, fisher, and gatherer of natural resources must know and follow all laws, certainly, the agencies managing public and private interests can do the same.


Wanda J Culp, Tlingit
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