To: Matthew Reece, Friday, May 5, 2023

Tongass National Forest Greens Creek Mine,

NEP SEIS 8510 Mendenhall Loop Road, Juneau, AK 99801

From: James Bilodeau, Hecla Greens Creek Mining Company

Dear Mr. Reece,

I am writing to express my support for the North Extension Project (NEP) and the expansion of the Tailings Disposal Facility (TDF) and related infrastructure at Hecla Greens Creek Mining Company (HGCMC), particularly in favor of Alternative D.

Alternative D offers the best solution for the expansion of the TDF, as it builds on the existing success of our facility, avoids any new disturbance beyond the existing lease boundary, and prevents direct disturbance to sensitive habitats, environmental resources, and eliminates the need for a new tailing’s facility.

I have worked for Greens Creek for 10 years. Although I am not a permanent resident of Alaska, I camp here on the island for 6 months throughout the year. I’m a Montana resident who appreciates the outdoors, I’ve been an avid hunter and fisherman my whole life. I understand the importance of protecting our environment now and for future generations. I take great pride in my contribution to this cause by supporting HGCMC's commitment to environmental excellence through the NEP and their tailings expansion plans, particularly Alternative D. Greens Creeks efforts to minimize waste by recycling, reducing their carbon footprint by utilizing Hydroelectric power from AELP.

As a longtime employee of HGCMC, I have witnessed the company's commitment to environmental stewardship and its significant contribution to not only Juneau's economy but the State of Alaska. HGCMC has been a generous supporter of the community and demonstrated its commitment to environmental excellence over the past 3 decades.

HGCMC's tailings expansion plans, particularly Alternative D, provide the best solution for the expansion of the TDF while minimizing new monument disturbance outside the existing lease boundary and avoiding direct disturbance to sensitive habitats and environmental resources. Therefore, I fully support HGCMC's tailings expansion plans, and I urge you to consider Alternative D.

Thank you for considering my support for the NEP and Alternative D.

Sincerely,

James Bilodeau

E&I Supervisor

Hecla Greens Creek Mining co.