

Reece, Matthew -FS

From: FS-objections-alaska-regional-office
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 8:12 AM
To: Heuer, Patrick -FS; Tighe, Cathy- FS; Nelson, Monique -FS; Reece, Matthew -FS
Subject: FW: [External Email]Draft Record of Decision (ROD) Objection for the Plan of Operations Amendment 1 (POA1) for the Kensington Gold Mine on the Juneau Ranger District, Tongass National Forest.

#3 – the number for this one will be 2021-10-00-0003 A218.

From: Annette Coomber <aries200@optonline.net>
Sent: Sunday, August 22, 2021 8:26 AM
To: FS-objections-alaska-regional-office <objections-alaska-regional-office@usda.gov>
Subject: [External Email]Draft Record of Decision (ROD) Objection for the Plan of Operations Amendment 1 (POA1) for the Kensington Gold Mine on the Juneau Ranger District, Tongass National Forest.

[External Email]

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Regional Forester David E. Schmid
USDA Forest Service, Alaska Region
709 W. 9th Street
P.O. Box 21628
Juneau, AK 99802-1628
Email address: objections-alaska-regional-office@usda.gov
Fax: (907) 586-7840
Phone: (907) 586-8863

RE: Draft Record of Decision (ROD) Objection for the Plan of Operations Amendment 1 (POA1) for the Kensington Gold Mine on the Juneau Ranger District, Tongass National Forest.

Dear Regional Forester Schmid,

Having previously submitted similar comments on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS), I wish to object to the decision by the Forest Service not to analyze a reasonable alternative, the Dry Stack Tailings option on the Lynn Canal side. Dry stack is the industry-recommended best practice and is used elsewhere in the Juneau Ranger District. Use of this available best practice approach would avoid the risks to Berners Bay that an increase in the tailings dam would incur.

Furthermore, as I indicated in my earlier comments, the Forest Service has failed to adequately address potential climate change-related impacts to the tailings dam expansion proposal. I object to the Final SEIS's failure to adequately address this concern.

Please withdraw the Final SEIS and the Draft Record of Decision, fix the errors in analysis and process, including the previously authorized alternative of a Dry Tailings Facility on the Comet Beachside, and publish an updated Draft SEIS for public comment.

Most sincerely,

Annette R. Coomber

33 Sweetwater Lane, Ringwood, NJ 07456