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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Kensington Mine's DSEIS.

As a local business owner, my comments are directed to Kennsington's positive social and economic impacts on Juneau and Southeast Alaska.

Southeast Alaska consists of primarily smaller communities, of which Juneau is the largest, sitting at approximately 30,000 people. Therefore, when any larger company comes into our area, the impact is significant. From the very beginning, Kensington blended seamlessly into our communities from the top person on down. Everyone got personally involved, from various non-profits to our sports teams. Such engagement and caring shown by Kensington personnel is much appreciated.

And as a business, Kensington is a significant positive contributor to our economic health, especially considering our state's difficult times with low oil prices and reduced state revenues. Kensington paid over \$55 million in direct and annual payroll benefits to our town and our local businesses that service the mining industry. Kennsington currently is Juneau's second-largest private employer, a fact that is helping to keep Juneau's economy somewhat stable with state revenues dropping. In fact, in 2019, Kensinnngton paid indirectly to our city, through registered businesses, about \$900,000.

Aso essential to us throughout Southeast Alaska, Kennsington continues to promote local and Alaska native hire.

I encourage you to support the continuation of the Kensington mine and their amended plan of operations.

PeggyAnn

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