

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/20/2023 5:41:12 PM

First name: Neil

Last name: MacKinnon

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing in support of Hecla Greens Creek Mining Company's (HGCMC) request to expand their Tailings Disposal Facility (TDF) as described in their North Extension Project (NEP).

I favor Alternative D as it provides for an expansion of the existing TDF that will serve for many decades in the future, builds on the existing successful facility, and avoids direct disturbance to sensitive habitats and environmental resources.

HGCMC's daily operations are governed by dozens of stringent permits, and they devote significant resources to prevent impacts to their surrounding environment. Their monitoring and reporting show that there is little cause for concern regarding negative effects from the present tailings disposal and one can reasonably expect the Extension Project will not differ.

The economic contribution of the Greens Creek mine to the citizens of Juneau, Alaska and Nation has been significant. A contribution that allows many families to thrive rather than merely subsist. Alternative D will allow this contribution to continue for the foreseeable future.

Neil MacKinnon