Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/11/2023 3:15:38 PM First name: Michael Last name: Akerlow Organization: Title: Comments: Attn. Matthew Reece **Tongass National Forest Greens Creek Mine** NEP SEIS 8510 Mendenhall Loop Road Juneau, AK 99801 Re: Greens Creek Mine North Extension Project Mr. Reece: I am writing in support of Hecla Greens Creek Mining Company's (HGCMC) request to expand their Tailings Disposal Facility (TDF) and related infrastructure as described in their North Extension Project (NEP). I favor Alternative D. Alternative D provides for an expansion of the existing TDF that builds on the existing successful facility, minimizes new monument disturbance outside the existing lease boundary, and avoids direct disturbance to sensitive habitats and environmental resources. Greens Creek daily operations are governed by dozens of stringent permits, and they devote significant resources to prevent impacts to their surrounding environment. HGCMC has demonstrated its commitment to environmental excellence for the past 35 years. It also is a significant contributor to Juneau's economy and a generous community supporter.

For these reasons, I support HGCMC's tailings expansion, Alternative D. Thank you,