

Alaska State Legislature
REPRESENTATIVE BRYCE EDGMON
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
House District 37



Adak
Akutan
Aleknagik
Anvik
Atka
Attu Station
Chignik
Chignik Lagoon
Chignik Lake
Clark's Point
Cold Bay
Dillingham
Egegik
Ekwok
False Pass
Flat
Grayling
Holy Cross
Igiugig
Iliamna
Ivanof Bay
King Cove
King Salmon
Kokhanok
Koliganek
Lake Minchumina
Levelock
Lime Village
Manokotak
McGrath
Naknek
Nelson Lagoon
New Stuyahok
Newhalen
Nikolai
Nikolski
Nondalton
Pedro Bay
Perryville
Pilot Point
Pope-Vannoy
Port Alsworth
Port Heiden
Portage Creek
Red Devil
Sand Point
Shageluk
Sleetmute
South Naknek
St. George
St. Paul
Stony River
Takatna
Togiak
Twin Hills
Ugashik
Unalaska

Shane McCoy
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Alaska District
Anchorage Field Office, Regulatory Division (1145) CEPOA-RD
1600 A Street, Suite 110
Anchorage, AK 99501-5146

Dear Mr. McCoy,

March 12, 2018

I am writing to echo concerns raised by a wide spectrum of regional organizations in Bristol Bay regarding the initiation of a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process relating to the proposed Pebble Mine.

The Bristol Bay Native Corporation, Bristol Bay Native Association, Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation, United Tribes of Bristol Bay, and Nunamta Aulukestai have requested that the Army Corps of Engineers not begin a NEPA review until the Pebble Limited Partnership has submitted environmental baseline data and economic data to adequately inform the process. They also request that when a NEPA scoping process is started it include a minimum 120-day public comment period and a series of public hearings throughout the Bristol Bay region and the Kenai Peninsula, Anchorage, and the Pacific Northwest. Additionally, these organizations urge the Corps to provide for full participation of tribal government entities as cooperating agencies in the process.

The scale of mining proposed by Pebble is unprecedented anywhere in Alaska and is particularly alarming in light of the severe adverse impacts it would bring to the Bristol Bay watershed. Moreover, the Pebble Limited Partnership's proposal includes a host of major new project components for which no significant baseline studies have been carried out.

On behalf of my Bristol Bay constituency, I encourage the Army Corps of Engineers to agree to the requests of these regional organizations to ensure that its review of the proposed project is suitably careful, transparent, thorough, and comprehensive.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bryce Edgmon".
Representative Bryce Edgmon

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Cc: Honorable Bill Walker, Governor of Alaska
Honorable Lisa Murkowski, U.S. Senate
Honorable Dan Sullivan, U.S. Senate
Honorable Don Young, U.S. House of Representatives
Scott Pruitt, EPA Administrator
Chris Hladick, EPA Region 10 Administrator
Col. Michael Brooks, U.S. Army Corps of Engr's Alaska District Commander
Jason Metrokin, President & CEO, Bristol Bay Native Corporation
Norm Van Vactor, President & CEO, Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation
Robert Heyano, President, United Tribes of Bristol Bay
Ralph Andersen, President & CEO, Bristol Bay Native Association
Myrtice Evalt, Interim Executive Director, Nunamta Aulukestai