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PEBBLE PROJECT

SCOPING MEETING

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

Taken April 19, 2018
Commencing at 4:00 p.m.

Volume I - Pages 1 - 48, inclusive

Taken at
Tubughnenq' / Tyonek Room
Anchorage, Alaska

Reported by: Susan J. Warnick, RPR
Reporter 2

1 A-P-P-E-A-R-A-N-C-E-S

2 For U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:

3 Mike Montone
4 Chief of Regulatory Division

5 Sheila Newman
6 Deputy Chief
7 Regional Regulatory Division

8 Michael Salyer
9 South Branch Chief
10 Regional Regulatory Division

11 For AECOM:

12 Bill Craig
13 Project Manager

14 Jon Isaacs
15 Public Involvement Task Lead

16 Jessica Evans
17 Stakeholder Engagement

18 For E3:

19 Patty Murphy
20 Stakeholder

21 Taken by:

22 Susan J. Warnick, RPR

23
24
25 BE IT KNOWN that the aforementioned proceedings were taken
at the time and place duly noted on the title page, before
Susan J. Warnick, Registered Professional Reporter, and
Notary Public within and for the State of Alaska.

1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 MR. BRIAN CRAFT: Name is Brian Kraft,
3 K-r-a-f-t. I own fishing lodges in Bristol Bay, one is on
4 the Kvichalk, K-v-i-c-h-a-l-k, Kvichalk River. And I have
5 been in the Bristol Bay sport fishing industry for 26
6 years.

7 I think the permit application is incomplete,
8 and I cannot give a comprehensive complete comment on the
9 permit since there is no feasibility assessment
10 accompanying the application. Thus, it is difficult to
11 rely on items in the permit, such as back-hauling
12 potentially acid-generating material into the hole after
13 mining is complete.

14 The company has filed with the Security &
15 Exchange Commission that they will mine 10.8 billion tons
16 of the proven ore body. This permit application is much
17 smaller. Thus, the Corps, nor the public, are able to
18 accurately assess the complete impact that this project
19 will have.

20 The Corps must take into account the potential
21 cumulative efforts of other mining or mines coming into
22 the region. The Corps must take into account the
23 expectation of this mine expanding from this smaller mine
24 plan. Can the permit be granted with contingencies,
25 limiting mining to this specific plan or can the company

1 expand their footprint after getting this smaller mine
2 permitted? The Corps must take into account the overall
3 footprint of this entire project. That it will have not
4 just the mine site itself. The footprint covers massive
5 acreage of wetlands and critical fish habitat.

6 Table 23 of the application: Transportation
7 corridor. The applicant implies that this proposal route
8 was selected to reduce impacts on subsistence and
9 recreational use. The corridor was actually selected
10 because the route along the southern portion of Lake
11 Iliamna would have to go through Igiugig Native
12 Corporation land, and Igiugig has stated that they will
13 not allow this.

14 Table 23. There is no feasibility or cost
15 analysis that explains how the Pebble Limited Partnership
16 will pay for the back-hauling of the potentially
17 acid-generating materials into the pit at the end of
18 production. No guarantee that the company must do this or
19 could afford to do this. We were told by the company it
20 is cost prohibitive to do so. So, why should we believe
21 that they are going to do so at the end of this permit?
22 Can this section be amended post issuing of a permit?
23 Meaning, since they are most likely going to expand the
24 footprint after they get this first phase completed, thus
25 not ever putting the tailings back in.

1 Table 23: No mitigation plans. What value
2 would the U.S. Government put on the loss of habitat; what
3 value will be put on the diminished value of the
4 experience that currently has the public willing to pay?
5 Once roads and infrastructure penetrate this roadless
6 area, customers' willingness to pay will be diminished.

7 My business depends upon an intact ecosystem,
8 fisheries and habitat that support those fisheries. We
9 have a customer base that is willing to pay for this
10 experience. This will be diminished once large,
11 industrial infrastructure takes away that habitat and that
12 quality of experience.

13 The road corridor needs to be studied for a
14 minimum of five years in order to see a life cycle of
15 salmon. There needs to be documentation of presence or
16 absence of fish in these rivers and waterways that they
17 are planning on putting bridges and culverts on. They
18 need to study upstream and downstream of the crossings not
19 just right at the cross. What would happen if there are
20 fish upstream of the culvert?

21 Water discharge. Nothing is stated as to the
22 quality of the water at discharge. They can actually make
23 it too clean. Right now, the water is perfectly balanced
24 to support the fisheries.

25 Quantity of water. What happens in the winter;

1 how will they ensure that there is no increase or decrease
2 in river flow rates? How will these variances affect
3 salmon migration, rearing and incubation?

4 The Corps needs to take into account that salmon
5 and rainbow trout find the most productive habitat and
6 reproduces on those particular streams. Some years it
7 might be the Kuktuli River and other years it might be
8 Upper Kalarik Creek. The point is that once we start
9 taking away habitat, the options for the fish start
10 diminishing.

11 The port location on the north shore of Lake
12 Iliamna is too close to Lower Talarik Creek and will
13 adversely affect the sport fishing industry in a couple of
14 ways. One, visually: Esthetically taking away from the
15 pristine setting. Two, adding dust and crowds and
16 infrastructure into a currently pristine, intact river
17 system. That's it.

18 MR. CHARLIE JOHNSON: My name is Charlie
19 Johnson. First and foremost important, I am a subsistence
20 user and commercial fisherman. Like most Bristol Bay
21 residents, I have fish my whole life. A livelihood that
22 has been passed on our ancestors. We will continue to
23 pass this on for generations to come.

24 Having researched mines around the world, I have
25 learned that it is very destructive and poisonous to every

1 living creature and plants surrounding the mining area.
2 It is happening right here in the United States.

3 I believe in the long run the local government
4 and people will lose out on resources. Fishermen will no
5 longer have a resource for income. The local government
6 will no longer have a supporting fish tax, and the
7 government will have a life time of cleaning up and the
8 remediation process.

9 MS. MARYANN JOHNSON: My name is Maryann
10 Johnson. I'm the tribal administrator for Portage Creek,
11 and I'm so disappointed and surprised that the Army Corps
12 would submit to an unfair process. Because our tribe
13 opted to do government-to-government consultation
14 collectively with our sister tribes in the United Tribes
15 of Bristol Bay, UTBB, we received a letter from the Corps
16 indicating the UTBB did not act upon the Army Corps
17 willingness to consultation.

18 Like any sound and practical business
19 organization, we need more than a moment's notice to come
20 together for effective and worthwhile consultation,
21 especially if you have seen the area, realizing the
22 hurdles we have to overcome because of the geographic
23 logistics.

24 Industry greed for this yellow rock knows no
25 boundaries. They have only one mind set: To extract at

1 any cost without regard for environmental impacts,
2 renewable resource impacts, or social impact to indigenous
3 people.

4 As a little girl, I remember my Upaq, my
5 grandpa, talking about yellow rock. He said to never talk
6 about this yellow rock because once the day comes it is
7 known about this yellow rock, outsiders will come and
8 ravage the land and animals, and it will divide people. I
9 wondered how can a rock have such power. Today the day
10 has come. We hear of family and friends that cannot speak
11 of this without getting into an argument.

12 Our people of Bristol Bay may not have many
13 book-smart people, but there is one important aspect that
14 our people do have, and that is a common sense. This
15 common sense is what allows our people to survive for
16 hundreds of years. Even science has backed up our common
17 sense.

18 Our ecosystem is too sensitive for this
19 extracted industry. Pebble Mine cannot coexist without
20 harming our fish and other renewable resources that our
21 people use daily to survive.

22 I have seen what the Red Dog Mine transportation
23 corridor has done to a sample of the indigenous people's
24 subsistence gathering area. They can no longer gather in
25 that area.

1 Do not heed to political pressure to make your
2 decision. Use common sense and science to make the right
3 decision. No Pebble Mine.

4 MS. KIRSTEN ULERY: My name is Kirsten
5 Ulery. I'm here today to speak in great opposition to the
6 proposed Pebble Mine.

7 History clearly shows that the world's wild
8 salmon runs have been decimated over time due to man's
9 alteration of the natural world. Dams, mines, logging,
10 development, and pollution are the main causes for the
11 number one threat to salmon habitat loss. Salmon need
12 clean, oxygenated, unobstructed water, creeks, streams,
13 rivers, and lakes that can support their populations when
14 they return to lay and fertilize thousands of eggs each in
15 order to carry on their lineage.

16 The Pebble Mine threatens this very necessity of
17 salmon right from the beginning. The road, ice-breaking
18 ferry, power stations, and actual mine all contribute to
19 habitat loss that will negatively affect the Bristol Bay
20 watershed, and it should not be permitted.

21 The Bristol Bay watershed itself is unique. It
22 is one of very few places remaining in the world that is
23 nearly unaltered by man. Not to mention, it hosts the
24 world's largest sockeye salmon fishery. Permitting any
25 sort of development in this area opens the door to a slow,

1 but certain process of degradation. Irreversible damage
2 to Alaska's wild places. The Bristol Bay watershed, in
3 its uniqueness, should be treated as an endangered area
4 and as an endangered species would be: Protected,
5 conserved and clean. Only then will the fishery be able
6 to continue to provide as it has for thousands of years.

7 Salmon are a renewable resource and have been
8 providing for the Bristol Bay ecosystem, the people of
9 Bristol Bay, and the world, and Alaska's economy for
10 countless generations. They will continue to return if
11 their habitat is left alone, sustaining the Bristol Bay
12 watershed for generations to come.

13 As a 2016 scientific study from southwest Alaska
14 states: Maintaining healthy runs of red salmon is
15 critical to the ecological, sociological, and economic
16 value to the Bristol Bay region. The secret to salmon
17 survival is their habitat. Threaten that, and you
18 threaten the salmon populations. The Pebble Mine threatens
19 habitat, which threatens all of the values of the Bristol
20 Bay region.

21 The mine should not be permitted. Not now, not
22 ever. It's the wrong mine in the wrong place. It will
23 never be okay to mine within the Bristol Bay watershed.
24 Please, do not permit this habitat-destroying project.
25 Thank you.

1 MR. ERIC BOOTON: My name is Eric Booton.
2 I live here in Anchorage, Alaska, at 4208 Garfield Street.

3 My wife and I enjoy spending our summer and fall
4 chasing trout and salmon throughout the state. I have had
5 the good fortune to fish in Bristol Bay and intend to
6 continue as many times as possible. I have numerous
7 friends who guide and work in lodges in the Bristol Bay
8 area. All of us share similar concerns about the Pebble
9 Mine.

10 It is my understanding that the Army Corps must
11 issue a completeness determination of the developers'
12 application. Seeing that Pebble's application lacks the
13 economic feasibility report, mitigation plan, data on
14 impacts of the transportation road, ferry, port and more,
15 it is clear that they have submitted an incomplete
16 application, and the Army Corps needs to deny it.

17 The sport fishing industry is a critical
18 economic driver and employer for the Bristol Bay region.
19 Every year thousands of anglers travel from around the
20 world to fish at Bristol Bay, and thousands more sit at
21 work and dream about its unmatched fishing opportunities.
22 It isn't just the fish that lure anglers to Bristol Bay,
23 it is also the wilderness of the area that makes it a
24 world-class fishing destination. It's the fact that you
25 can fish in a true wilderness away from the city, away

1 from roads, away from cars, and away from other anglers.

2 The immediate impacts alone from the mine site
3 and the necessary infrastructure to support it would fully
4 change unspoiled wilderness into an industrial zone,
5 deterring anglers like myself from visiting the area.
6 Hindering visitation to the sport fishing operations in
7 the immediate Iliamna area and especially those who
8 operate on Koktuli River and Talarik Creeks. The Army
9 Corps needs to assess the economic damage and job loss
10 that will come from the development of the mine, and its
11 necessarily infrastructure, turning an appealing
12 wilderness into an industrial area means no hunters,
13 anglers or tourists would ever dream of coming.

14 The nearly one hundred miles of private road
15 included in the permit application raises numerous issues.
16 Pebble neglected to study the road corridor and doesn't
17 have sufficient data to analyze the impact the road would
18 have over the 200 streams the road would cross. We know
19 that roads impede fish passage, and before approving such
20 a road, Pebble needs to provide several season's worth of
21 data for the streams that will be crossed so the Army
22 Corps can accurately assess the impact of the roads to the
23 streams it will cross and the fish that spawn and migrate
24 in the area.

25 Pebble's plans also identify their intentions to

1 discharge water into both Upper Talarik Creek and the
2 Kuktuli River, two infamous trout and salmon streams.
3 Again, Pebble failed to include critical information on
4 temperature, quality, flow and timing of discharge into
5 these important creeks. The Army Corps must evaluate the
6 impact of adding discharge to these highly productive
7 streams.

8 The developers of Pebble Mine submitted a mining
9 plan that was roughly one-tenth the size of the ore
10 deposit and will operate for approximately 20 years.
11 Since applying for their 404 permit and submitting their
12 mining plans, Northern Dynasty, in their search for
13 partners, has stated on numerous occasions that this will
14 be a multi-generational mine. Based on these comments, it
15 is critical that the Army Corps evaluate the impacts of
16 the Pebble Mine being developed to the full 11 billion
17 tons of ore and consider the current mine plan to be just
18 phase one.

19 Historically we have decimated salmon runs
20 thought the world. Along the west coast alone, 400
21 populations of Pacific wild salmon and steelhead have been
22 driven to extinction due to numerous factors, habitat loss
23 and impairment being two of them. Bristol Bay is the
24 world's last remaining stronghold for salmon. As the Army
25 Corps evaluates the impact of the Pebble project, it is

1 necessary that they also consider the damage that has been
2 done to the salmon populations throughout the U.S. and
3 factor in that the watersheds of the Nushagak and Kvichak
4 Rivers are two of the few truly wild salmon rivers left in
5 the world.

6 Even if nothing goes wrong during operation of
7 the mine, and after the mine is closed, it is clear that
8 the Pebble Mine will still have immense economic, social
9 and ecologic impacts to the Bristol Bay region. That's
10 it.

11 MS. KAREN EVANOFF: My name is Karen
12 Evanoff. I was born and raised in Nondalton, which is the
13 closest village to this proposed Pebble site. I live a
14 cultural subsistence life style. I grew up that way, and
15 we come from a cultural subsistence background.

16 My ancestors have lived in the area for
17 thousands of years and there have been predictions about
18 changes in our region. People knew there was minerals in
19 the ground, but they did not openly talk about it, because
20 they knew the impact it would cause.

21 I also work as an anthropologist, and I have
22 done a lot of studies in the area. I have learned a lot
23 about my own culture just with some of the work I do, and
24 our indigenous cultural knowledge have something to offer
25 western culture, which I believe is what western culture

1 is getting further and further from.

2 We don't see the land as something to take from
3 and something that is just there to get materials from.
4 We see the land as alive and driving, and this is
5 indigenous cultures from across the world. It's alive;
6 it's spiritual; it has energy; it gives us life.

7 And today, as human beings, the dominant
8 society, the western culture's values is destroying our
9 world. It's destroying our world. It's destroying places
10 across the world that are sacred, and that are -- we need
11 to live, and by doing this, by the greed and by the taking
12 and thinking of money as a value, as things of a value, it
13 has also destroyed cultures. It's integrated cultures
14 into the western way of life, making a dependency on money
15 as a value, and that's been part of a change in indigenous
16 cultures. As part of this, languages are lost continually
17 each year.

18 Values of Native people and the sacredness of
19 the earth is also changing for indigenous people, too. We
20 need to stop. We need to stop destroying our earth
21 because we don't have much left.

22 This place in Bristol Bay, it's not about for or
23 against. It is about a basic human right of our earth and
24 its beings that has just as much right to live as we do as
25 human beings, and the greed, the fast pace of greed and

1 human technology is continuing to destroy our earth, and
2 we don't have much of a future left for future generations
3 if we go at this pace.

4 The small villages in the area has lack of
5 resources and technical expertise, so there, again,
6 stressed out with this impact and the scientists, the
7 so-called western technical scientists expect them to
8 respond to reports and studies they have done. The tribes
9 don't have the resources. What they have is the knowing
10 of the sacredness of the land and the earth, and the
11 Native people who are aligning themselves with this --
12 with Pebble, what the mining company wants to do, have
13 lost their values. They have lost their way.

14 And I really hope this is a wake-up call to
15 human beings of just -- we don't have much left. We can't
16 keep taking, and there's not been a mining company that
17 has not had impact. You can say all the promises and
18 scientists and do the best studies in the world, but that
19 does not guarantee protection of the water and the salmon.

20 So I hope that the people, the so-called experts
21 who are going to be reviewing the permitting process will
22 also review and make different decisions that do not take
23 from the earth. That's all I have.

24 MR. RON TENNY: My comments are I have
25 worked in water treatment for 30 years prior to moving up

1 here, and I did a lot mine remediation and mine
2 remediation of tailing ponds, and there is an issue with
3 arsenic and selenium in most copper and gold mines,
4 and my public comment is: How are the tailings ponds
5 going to be treated and how will they protect the fish?

6 And the other issue I have is the potential
7 closure of any mine, how will the mine and the money will
8 be put aside, that if the mine is potentially clean, how
9 will it maintain its purity after the mine is closed or
10 the company goes bankrupt? That's pretty much my
11 comments.

12 MS. CLAIRE STEFFENS: My name is Claire
13 Steffans. I'm from Anchorage, Alaska, and I would like
14 the permits not to be issued for further exploration or
15 development of Pebble Mine.

16 The reasons for that are several, but not
17 exhausting. First of all, even though it's a new
18 ownership, that mine has in the past created several
19 violations of the law in their exploration process, and
20 that does not bode well for future adherence to the law.

21 The mine and the exploration area is extremely
22 remote, and it would be difficult to monitor day-to-day
23 activities with any kind of regularity, and to enforce the
24 law and the restrictions that might be put on the permit
25 until after the fact, and of course closing the barn after

1 the fact is known to be not helpful.

2 Secondly, it is in an area that is impossible to
3 remediate or to reclaim from the necessary earth movement
4 and damage that would be done for mining purposes. The
5 soils and waters in that area are especially fragile and
6 the idea of reclamation as being funded or practically
7 implemented is a stupid idea.

8 Once again, the people of this country will be
9 asked to pay for the reclamation and remediation and not
10 the businesses that are taking the minerals from the land.

11 I have to preface my further comments by saying
12 that I have worked on mines in the Nome area, to the
13 northeast of Nome, and try as they might, the people who
14 are mining were not able to keep retention ponds and
15 minerals from flooding into streams or otherwise polluting
16 the area. These were family mines.

17 So given my experience, the fact that I grew up
18 in Colorado and am cognizant of the difficulties of the
19 reclamation in the mines in that state, and the cost of
20 reclamation and cleanup, not just reclamation, just
21 cleanup, I urge you not to allow the Pebble Mine to
22 proceed in the area in which it is located.

23 It will certainly affect the water quality of
24 the area. Water is life, especially in the Arctic, and
25 there is no way that the water quality will not be

1 impaired.

2 The focus of much public outcry has been to
3 protect the salmon in the Bristol bay area and the salmon
4 streams. However, I worked in my career on the question
5 of preserving the Talarik Creek watershed and creek, the
6 Talarik Creek has some of the most world renown trout
7 fishing known, and in addition to the salmon being
8 affected, the trout streams in the area will also be
9 affected. These fishing guides and fishing lodges and
10 noncommercial fishing enterprises will be affected by any
11 mining activity, and to a deleterious result.

12 The location of this mine is not suitable at
13 all, given the ecosystem, and that's been covered
14 adequately by the EPA studies on which you should rely and
15 follow suit and not allow permits to be issued because of
16 the catastrophic consequences.

17 Another public outcry has been pro and con jobs,
18 that the mine will bring jobs to the area, but the people
19 of the area pretty much don't want those kind of jobs.
20 They have a way of life which should be honored and
21 respected, and the jobs that they would have working in
22 and for the mine are not the kind of jobs that support the
23 culture and the development of the people, the Native
24 people, and local people who live in the area. They live
25 there for a reason, and it's not for urban-job type

1 situations.

2 There's been a lot of publicity about Native
3 American culture that is there, and I won't go into that
4 because of that publicity should be honored and respected.

5 In discussing the Pebble Mine possibilities with
6 others, the mine at McCarthy was brought up several times
7 to discuss why the McCarthy type mining could not be done
8 for Pebble and thereby make it viable.

9 There was a suggestion that if they could build
10 a pipeline, so that they would mine the ore, the rock, and
11 then slurry or whatever the conveyor, the raw material to,
12 say, the port of Anchorage or Settler's Bay or some place
13 like that, and then process the ore off site where there
14 could be oversight of the processing and less damage to
15 the ecosystem, that that might be a possibility.

16 If it is a possibility, it would impact only the
17 profit -- bottom-line profit of the Pebble Mine investors
18 and should be considered. Off-site processing would
19 ensure that the chemical extraction of gold and silver and
20 other minerals that are there could be done more safely
21 and without potential pollution of the ecosystem at the
22 Pebble Mine area.

23 In addition, I have concerns -- I have personal
24 concerns about sacrificing American resources and ways of
25 life for the benefit of foreign investors, and I think

1 that our priority should be American's greatness and
2 America's people, not investors from overseas or even
3 Canada.

4 For these reasons, among others, I would request
5 that you not issue any permits for further exploration or
6 for development. I just don't see any way it can be done
7 safely and without blighting the land to the point where
8 there are catastrophic and devastating consequences.

9 Thank you very much for listening.

10 JALEN KONUKPEOK: Good evening, my name is
11 Jalen Konukpeok. I would like to thank the Army Corps of
12 Engineers for giving us this opportunity to give our
13 testimony for the protection of Bristol Bay from the
14 proposed Pebble Mine. I'm very grateful for the extension
15 for the hearing as well. All of you that have been
16 traveling a lot, and I'm sure it is overwhelming at times,
17 but thank you for all that you are doing.

18 My name is Jalen Konukpeok. I'm from New
19 Stuyahok, Alaska. I graduated from Mount Edgecumbe High
20 School last year, and I'm about to finish my first year of
21 college at UAA.

22 I'm a leader in the making for my region. I'm a
23 former regional youth representative for the Alaska
24 Federation of Natives. I'm fluent in five languages and I
25 know an extra five. I also was on a TV show that was held

1 here in Alaska mainly focused on Bristol bay called The
2 Wonderlust. And I hope that you can take the time to
3 watch a 43-minute show on Vimeo.

4 I'm well known in my region and throughout the
5 state as well in politics, I'm sure. I'm a very young
6 Republican, as you can tell. However, one of my best role
7 models in all time was said, and I quote: I'm not opposed
8 to mining, but Pebble is a wrong mine in the wrong place,
9 the late Senator Ted Stevens once said.

10 We're here today to give our testimonies, and
11 I'm fortunate to be here today as this day will be history
12 tomorrow, a day in which we will hear the truth about how
13 much we care for our home, Bristol Bay.

14 As you saw in most villages where almost a
15 hundred percent are against the proposed mine, it all
16 comes down to neighbor against neighbor and Native against
17 Native. An elder once said: Golden dreams and poisonous
18 dreams, they don't mix. Our gold is our salmon.

19 Traditions are passed down one at a time. I
20 think of that saying to this day. We can see the economic
21 growth that Pebble would bring to our region. Our
22 communities lack jobs, our Native corporations have not
23 yet brought jobs into our communities to this day. Yet,
24 Pebble can change that very much needed job opportunity in
25 our region. However, it's the wrong place at the wrong

1 time.

2 We were told that Pebble would give \$500 to each
3 of our people a year. It would cost roughly a little over
4 one billion dollars to maintain a year. We hear that
5 copper is used in almost everything we use today, from
6 cellphones to cars to boats to almost to anything. But
7 how do those numbers all add up to benefit our people?

8 For 130 years a renewable resource has
9 maintained the stability of salmon in our region, and two
10 billion salmon within 130 years. Our identity may have
11 changed through the years of technology, but our way of
12 life has not changed. Our livelihood has been essential
13 to us to survive as Native people of Bristol Bay. We're
14 fish people.

15 Pebble would created a big man-made structure
16 for waste. Pebble is located in a major wetland, and what
17 would happen if the damn bursts? Can we have both?
18 Maybe.

19 I think we should wait for a century or two
20 until we get the mine in Bristol Bay. If I'm not wrong,
21 the ocean is warming up. What does that mean for the
22 fish? As time comes with the new technology we're
23 advancing in, I personally think within one or two hundred
24 years from now, I think my children's children will see
25 this mine happen. I think we just have to wait for the

1 right time.

2 If pollution gets into the water system, it will
3 be impossible to retain. In most wetlands, mining has
4 always been dirty. No doubt about it. The people say
5 that they are fiercely fighting Pebble, so that my
6 generation, and the generations to come, will benefit and
7 see that way of life that they once lived, but I'm here
8 today. I'm 19 years old. Where is my generation's voice?
9 Where are my generation? Are they present here today? I
10 don't think so.

11 Let's hope that Pebble will wait for new
12 technology and that the Army Corps of Engineers represent
13 the voices of the majority of the people who dwell in the
14 region. I yield back.

15 I also have another comment, if you want to
16 watch the video I will provide the link as the following:
17 [HTTPS://vimeo.com/237818227](https://vimeo.com/237818227). Thank you.

18 MR. STEPHAN C. PALIWODA: I could talk for
19 a long time and drive you nuts. I can probably start with
20 a conclusion, and then make a couple of comments in back
21 of it.

22 Namely, that the U. S. Government has always had
23 a protective view of river environments and protection of
24 our coasts in the United States, which extends back to, I
25 found out one time, back in 1982, back to 1888, and I

1 think that because of that attitude that they have that
2 this proposed mine should be looked at very carefully.

3 It happens that I used to work for the Corps of
4 Engineers. I retired in 2005, and during the last -- I
5 was an architect there, and during my last dozen years of
6 work I was the lead architect in the state of Alaska for
7 the United States Army Corps of Engineers, and on many
8 occasions I was asked opinions on a wide variety of
9 subjects, and basically 99.9 percent of the time I was
10 right. Because I had been an architect here in Anchorage
11 since 1977.

12 A little bit about the background of my
13 understanding of the U.S. Government's attitude. It so
14 happened in that in 1982, I did something that I always
15 wanted to do, and that was to serve as an intern in the
16 Washington, D.C., office of a congressional
17 representative. As the result of written correspondence
18 I had with then Senator Ted Stevens' office and then
19 Senator Frank Murkowski's office, I was able to
20 temporarily be accepted as a volunteer intern in Frank
21 Muskowski's office in August and early September of 1982.

22 That year the president, Reagan, had been asking
23 for volunteerism in government, so I saw this as an
24 opportunity for me to act on his suggestion, and maybe to
25 be an intern and maybe to watch the U.S. Senate and House

1 of Representatives in action.

2 I was aided in this a little bit because at the
3 time that I came to Washington to do this and also to
4 visit some good friends of mine who lived in Silver
5 Springs, the Senate was in recess, so the senator's aide,
6 John Devore was his name, said he could bring me in for an
7 interview. I mean, I had only exchanged a couple of
8 letters with them. You can't just walk into a senator's
9 office on a whim and be an intern.

10 So this next vignette is pertinent to the story.
11 He said: Do you know anyone that the senator might know?
12 I said: Well, there is a fellow named Doug Riggs, who I
13 believe is now the governor's representative in
14 Washington, D.C., who used to be the executive director of
15 the Alaska State Housing Authority, and there is another
16 fellow named Curt Cruver, who I believe at the time, I
17 told him, was a lobbyist for Wick Construction out of
18 Seattle, Washington. And as Mr. Devore was writing down
19 their names, the door to the senator's office swung up and
20 both Mr. Riggs and Mr. Cruver walked in together. They
21 looked at me and they said: Hey, Steve, what are you
22 doing here? Where upon Mr. Devore said: Well, look,
23 Steve, you can come on on Monday; how about that?

24 So I came in on Monday. I had a hotel not far
25 from the Lincoln Monument. Back then I think it cost me

1 something like \$15 a night. Although, it was unair-
2 conditioned. And I showed up on Monday morning, and I
3 thought that I would be running Xeroxes and doing errands,
4 but Mr. Devore said: Steve, there is a subject that the
5 senator has been stuck with; we couldn't get out of it and
6 we have to have someone investigate this on behalf of the
7 senator because it does bear upon Alaska in some arcane
8 way; we have never heard of this before.

9 Well, I still have all of my notes and all of my
10 records from that experience including the little piece of
11 paper on which Mr. Devore wrote the name of the subject,
12 and it was so unknown at that time he put it within
13 quotation marks. The single word was "Wetlands". No one
14 in the entire United States Senate knew what wetlands was,
15 but I suspect that the oil companies did because it
16 affected their operations.

17 So I went to the U. S. Senate Library, and that
18 is a long funny story that is best left for another time,
19 and I found a copy of the original law which bore upon
20 this. It was like the Rivers Act or maybe -- I don't
21 think it was the Clean Waters Act, but it had to do with
22 keeping rivers and lakes free and open for purposes of
23 military operations. Well, this was in 1888, 23 years
24 after the Civil War, so it made a lot of sense at the
25 time.

1 Well, after that law was passed, and it's only
2 one long paragraph long, I guess that the regulators got
3 into it, the regulation writers, and over the decades that
4 followed the definition of wetlands, which was originally
5 intended to be rivers and ponds and lakes themselves was
6 extended. One regulation writer in one year thought,
7 well, we ought to protect the banks of the rivers and
8 lakes. Then some years later another regulation writer
9 decide we ought to protect the military crest that
10 overlooks the banks to the rivers and lakes, and so on,
11 and what defined wetlands kept extending and extending
12 until by 1982, the definition covered the entire North
13 Slope, which arguably speaking, it is wet. It has some of
14 the type flora and fauna that characterize moisture-
15 saturated water.

16 So in looking over all of these regulations, one
17 of the things that I found was that the control for
18 approval of construction in these environments had
19 expanded. Originally it was intended to be under the
20 control of the Corps of Engineers. But by 1982, the
21 Environmental Protection Service, the Fish & Wildlife
22 Service, and I think one or two other agencies as well had
23 approval authority over whatever happened in the wetlands.

24 Well, as a result of my studies, which were only
25 three weeks long, I reached several conclusions, and I

1 wrote up what I called several decision papers, which were
2 similar to the decision papers that I would write back in
3 1969 when I was a young lieutenant in Vietnam and was on
4 the staff of the commanding general of U.S. Army engineer
5 troops when questions came to the general's office, and we
6 had to bring one or one-and-a-half page decision paper
7 summarizing all the facets and aspects that bore upon the
8 decision and then made a recommended decision.

9 So I wrote several decision papers, and one of
10 my decisions was that I thought that the jurisdiction for
11 wetlands should be placed squarely on the shoulders of the
12 Corps of Engineers. They were the ones, everything
13 considered, who were best able to comply with the original
14 intent of the law, making rivers and streams available and
15 appropriate for military purposes, and to keep those
16 rivers and streams clean.

17 Another recommendation that I made, by the way,
18 was that there was no segregation or differentiation among
19 wetlands. My general suggestion was that perhaps at least
20 10 percent of all wetlands in the United States should be
21 considered sacrosanct, wetlands that should never be
22 developed, such as spawning grounds for fish or flyways
23 where birds stop over during their migratory routes. And
24 I made one or two other recommendations as well. I can't
25 remember them off the top of my head.

1 Well, several years past, and then I can't
2 remember how I found out that a law had been passed, and
3 that there such a thing as a regulatory section newly
4 established within the Corps of Engineers for purposes of
5 dealing with rivers and environments. I thought to
6 myself, holy smoke, I wonder if that was the result of the
7 work that I did for Senator Murkowski?

8 I know that the senator's office liked what I
9 did because of two things. First, near the end of my
10 three-week period of internship, the senator met with half
11 a dozen lawyers from the Atlantic Richfield Corporation,
12 ARCO. They all wore dark suits. They were all
13 immaculately dressed in Brooks Brother attire, and the
14 senator had me in there with him in his office together
15 with John Devore, and during the meeting, which was maybe
16 about three quarters of an hour long, I was introduced as
17 the senator's expert on wetlands and had several
18 interchanges with the lawyers for ARCO.

19 And the other nice thing with the senator was
20 that before I left, he had me into his office and had a
21 nice photograph taken of him and me, which I still have,
22 and then he sent me a letter afterwards, which was kind of
23 a form letter, but which when he signed it, he added the
24 nice phrase: Steve, thank you very much for the work you
25 did on wetlands, and underlined the word.

1 So when I saw that this meeting was to be held
2 today I thought that I better come to it and make the
3 statement even if it's rather long. I'm sorry that it's
4 so long. I'll finish up real soon. Because I know that
5 the U.S. Government has had a long period of experience in
6 dealing with trying to protect waterways. Very difficult
7 to reclaim them once they are damaged.

8 And then in addition to telling you all of this,
9 I tried to think of what could I do to try to summarize it
10 in a workman-like way to give the Corps of Engineers some
11 purpose in how to proceed, and then I remembered that when
12 I was an architect for the Corps of Engineers and had a
13 salesman come to our office, which they often did, with
14 some new product, construction product of one kind or
15 another, that we had never used and we had never seen, but
16 which the salesman thought was the best thing since high-
17 button shoes, my response to him was pretty standard. I
18 told him: Dear, Mr. Salesman, if you can provide me with
19 three examples where your product has been used here in
20 Alaska and has been used successfully, and if you can
21 provide me with the names of the building owner or the
22 building engineer that we could call and discuss the
23 validity of your project, then we will give serious
24 thought to incorporating into our project.

25 But you must know, I told him, that the U.S.

1 Government is not in the habit of being guinea pigs. I
2 know how much you would like to see your product
3 incorporated into a government project because then you
4 could go and say, see what we have done, the United States
5 government has used our product.

6 So I would say that to the people who want to
7 establish a large mine here. If they can come to us and
8 show us three instances, and as far as I'm concerned it
9 doesn't even have to be in the state of Alaska. Three
10 instances where gigantic mines have been created anywhere
11 in the world and where those gigantic mines, which had the
12 potential to threaten waterways were operated without
13 impacting those waterways, and when those mines were
14 closed up, that the land was returned to the way it was
15 before the mine began, then I would be much more of a
16 believer. However, it is my understanding there have been
17 many large mines constructed in this world and almost
18 every one of them has extremely adverse impacts on the
19 surrounding environment.

20 So that final statement is what I would suggest
21 that the Corps of Engineers consider in dealing with their
22 review of this enormous project which could impact so many
23 people along the west coast of Alaska, not to mention the
24 invaluable salmon grounds. And that's all I have to say.

25 Anybody who wants to contact me about this can

1 call me on my cellphone at 907-360-0377 or at my home
2 phone at 907-228-0941, or contact me on my e-mail at
3 paly@gci.net. That's it.

4 MR. CHRISTOPHER JOHN ERPELDING: I wanted
5 to quote a quote from Chief Red Cloud. He was a Sioux,
6 and he said: They made us many promises, more than I can
7 remember, but they kept but one. They promised to take
8 our land and they took it.

9 And I think that's, you know, one of the
10 concerns here is that it's not just a fish and a gold
11 issue, it's a land issue, and the Native -- you know, the
12 American indians in the Lower 48 have reservations, and
13 there is only one reservation up here in Alaska and it's
14 Metlakatla, and so for these Alaska Natives, for them to,
15 you know, have their land protected, you know, somebody
16 has to speak for them, and I think this history by Chief
17 Red Cloud is a good speech that is even relevant today.
18 That's it.

19 NOAH SUNFLOWER: The Pebble mine is
20 absolutely the wrong mine in the wrong place. The Bristol
21 Bay sockeye run is the most bountiful renewal resource in
22 the entire country, and thereby, the entire world. So the
23 idea that we would risk that, even if there is one percent
24 chance of diminishing that run, makes absolutely no sense.

25 It's fairly clear that we should slow down,

1 reinspect the science of this situation, and weigh the
2 Bristol Bay sockeye run against any metal that we would
3 dig out of the ground. This is renewable versus
4 unrenewable resources. So clearly we should allow the
5 renewable resource to thrive.

6 You don't need to look any further than my home
7 state of Pennsylvania to see what you can do when you
8 build mines instead of giving priority to the environment.
9 Acid-mine drainage has destroyed all the ocean-run fish in
10 the majority of the streams in Pennsylvania, and so,
11 therefore, we should not risk the most bountiful renewal
12 resources in world.

13 I'm Noah Sunflower. I'm from Anchorage, Alaska,
14 and I vote all the time. I'm done.

15 MR. VINCENT WOLF: Hi, him my name is
16 Vincent Wulf. I'm an Athabascan Indian from the Yukon.
17 My future wife is a very beautiful Bristol Bay lady, and I
18 just wanted to make a comment about my area, what happened
19 in my area, and I feel the same thing is going to happen
20 in Bristol Bay.

21 Everybody has heard about Iditarod sled dog
22 races, and they just know about it in the wintertime. But
23 I've been through that area, and I have seen what a
24 mine -- and this was a small scale gold mine operation in
25 my country, and I have seen the country, the aftermath of

1 what a mine can do to the land. No wildlife, no birds, no
2 berries, and the water around there is -- it's all
3 metallic and you can't drink or nothing. So I don't want
4 that to happen in Bristol Bay what happened in Iditarod,
5 and you know, Iditarod didn't get all the attention that
6 Pebble Mine is getting because back then when they mined,
7 there was no regulations or anything, so, I mean, they
8 wasn't anything done about it.

9 And, now, Pebble Mine, I just seen a coincidence
10 there, and I just wanted to make that comment. And I
11 don't see why that comment hasn't come up in the past.
12 You know, it's part of history, and there was a mine in
13 Iditarod, but everybody just thinks about the dog race,
14 and don't ever think about what happened there.

15 So, anyway, that is my comment.

16 MS. RACHELLE GRIFFITTS: My name is
17 Rachelle Griffitts. I an originally from Ewok, Alaska,
18 and Bristol Bay. I'm a student at UAA, University of
19 Alaska Anchorage. I'm studying environmental engineering
20 and I know how important the environment and people are in
21 order to thrive.

22 I strongly oppose the mine. I think it would --
23 I think it would ruin the way of life there, and people
24 wouldn't be able to provide for their family, or have any
25 any food, or have any happiness.

1 I have researched quite a bit around the topic,
2 and the Northern Dynasty and these companies outside, they
3 have gone into Canada and completely ruined the land
4 there. It cost more to fix the damage that they had done
5 than what they made off the minerals that they extracted
6 from the ground.

7 Somebody needs to stand up for the fish.
8 Someone needs to stand up for the people. It just makes
9 me sick to my stomach that they are still trying to go
10 through with the mine. I just hope that once and for all,
11 they will hear the no and get out of there.

12 They have no business being there. It's just
13 not going to work. It's just not going to work. You
14 can't have mining and keep the salmon up the line, and we
15 know that. I think we need to think about the people, and
16 the fish, and not think about short-term gain. It's just
17 going to ruin everything, and I'm just really hopeful for
18 the future of Alaska, and I oppose Pebble Mine with my
19 whole heart.

20 Thank you for listening.

21 MR. KENNETH NANALOOK: For the record, my
22 name is Nangnetsulek Naunirtluk. My western adopted name,
23 I'm Kenneth Nanalook, from Tyuryaq, Togiak, the north most
24 Yupik Eskimo community of Bristol Bay.

25 Mr. Chairman, I have with me an article

1 attesting to the fact that my forefathers walked, roamed,
2 and hunted these lands of Anchorage and vicinity long
3 before Russian exploitation of arnat, sea otters, from
4 what is known as Whittier today. Of which artifacts were
5 found to be 1000 years old by radio carbon dating by Dr.
6 Frederica deLaguna, graduate student of Columbia
7 University, later recognized by the National Academy of
8 Sciences for Archaeology. That concludes and establishes
9 my prior use and occupation by law, theory and record.

10 Let the caveat beware: There was absolutely
11 no -- no with a capital N -- purchase of Nunvut, our
12 Lands, aka, Alaska. The said 1867 treaty and purchase
13 never took place between Eskimo, Indian and Aleuts. The
14 7.2 million dollars that media allegedly conveyed and
15 misinterpret as a fact was in fact a purchase of Russian
16 corporation papers and assets at New Archangel, Sitka,
17 Wrangell, Petersburg and Kodiak.

18 I conclude that six months after the treaty of
19 1867 the Tzar's court of Russia issued a memoranda known
20 as the "Kostizlov Memorandum", quote/unquote, sent to the
21 U.S. Secretary of State, Mr. Edward Stoehkel, that
22 sovereignty of Alaska was in fact neither transferred or
23 conveyed to the United. That historic diplomatic
24 transaction is dialogued and catalogued in the
25 Congressional Archives.

1 I thank you for your time and effort for this
2 short time, and on behalf of the coastal and interior
3 communities that depend on land, air, and seas, and
4 androgynous species.

5 I simply ask for the United States government to
6 exercise not only its fiduciary trust responsibility and
7 the United States Congress trust under vested interest to
8 grant protection to amicable people under its care.
9 Anything sort of that violates the laws of the seas
10 conference which the United States government is a
11 signatory nation to. Thank you.

12 MR. PAUL FROST: Hi, my name is Paul Frost,
13 Togiak, Alaska. I do not support any development of any
14 kind of mine, Pebble Mine, or otherwise in areas where
15 there is fish and game. The ecosystems are all closely
16 related, and even though there are boundaries where
17 Bristol Bay area corporation's lands are, Cook Inlet
18 Corporation lands are, or other areas that are so
19 separated by artificial boundaries, fish and game do not
20 live that way. You can't just draw a line and say: We're
21 going to develop this area, but you can pick berries right
22 next to it because we won't touch that.

23 The fact is underwater rivers and lakes and
24 streams, just as they are rivers and lakes and streams
25 above and on top of the land, they are all connected, and

1 all of the game go where there is food, and if one area
2 becomes polluted, it will, underground and above ground,
3 spread the pollution. It's like a domino effect. It
4 affects all the area around it.

5 And a lot of times what I have seen and in
6 reading what Pebble Mine is doing in its planning and
7 submission of plans, when I read it, it's az if they
8 believe they are not going to make a very big imprint, and
9 they will write in a paper document that they will do
10 everything within their power to save fish and game, but
11 their actual implementation of how they develop the mine
12 is almost 180 degrees from what they put on paper. It's
13 not very honest.

14 I would like to close by asking that the people
15 involved in this hearing would place more emphasis on
16 human citizens instead of corporate citizens. I
17 understand a corporation is a legal body, but I don't
18 support third-party trespass by multi-national
19 corporations that are given to them by our corporate body
20 within the federal government. Thank you.

21 MR. REGIS PAPPERT: I'm strictly opposed to
22 Pebble Mine, any kind of development at all like this. I
23 grew up in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, steel capital of the
24 world city at that time, which it isn't anymore.

25 Resources run out, iron ore, coal, from open-pit

1 mining, and of course it was that steel was made cheaper
2 some place else, but a big mess was left behind on this
3 thing. The mining companies did not live up to their
4 expectations. I don't mean expectations, but what they
5 said they were going to do: To clean it all up and it
6 would be the same. It never is. Reforest, they didn't
7 plant one tree. They flew over -- hired a contractor to
8 fly overhead and dropped grass seed, nothing by green
9 stripes for a few years before it all grew in. And holes
10 were left in the ground, open pits were left in the ground
11 that you could bury the city of Pittsburgh in, if you
12 wanted to, they were so deep and so big.

13 And I was there seven or eight years ago
14 visiting back there. I read a report on it. The acidity
15 that leaches out of these tailings and out of iron ore or
16 coal, the crust is broken open and causes leaking and it's
17 acidic throughout the trout streams and all the watersheds
18 in the north, north of Pittsburgh and to the east of
19 Pittsburgh. They are acidic, and I heard this seven or
20 eight years ago, but this is going to last 200 to 250
21 years before it's done leaching. They tried PH fixing it.
22 It does work, and within a year or two it's washed out.
23 That's artificial. Why should we have to do that, anyway.

24 There is no cleanup, and who's to blame on this?
25 The culprits are gone. This took place in the '50s or

1 '60s, by early '70s it was pretty well defunct as far as
2 being the steel capital of the world.

3 And so I'm totally opposed to Pebble Mine. I
4 don't care what they say. There is nothing they will ever
5 fix. Nothing will be the same again. It can't be. It's
6 just way too risky for the people who fish there and their
7 families. This is a heritage that goes back a long ways,
8 for commercial fishing or personal-use fishing, and that
9 could be totally lost, and it will probably will. It will
10 be very impacted if not lost.

11 Just look at the Fraser River in British
12 Columbia, about four years ago this summer, very similar
13 setup operation where the tailing pond damn that broke and
14 poisoned the river, and I didn't want to read anymore
15 about it. I don't know what the impacts are today, but it
16 killed everything at the time in August -- er -- I think
17 it actually happened in in June. It was before the
18 sockeye salmon were returning. Pink salmon were coming
19 back, and that was a total loss as far as the escapement
20 for salmon to perpetuate their species.

21 I don't know. I think I have said enough
22 negative about Pebble Mine. I'm pretty much where I'm set
23 on that. I don't have anything else to say, really. I
24 would be very disappointed if it goes through, and I know
25 they are out there now. They don't need a permit to

1 prospect; they don't need a permit to put up a man camp.
2 They think it's going through, and this might happen.
3 Maybe it will take years and years. Maybe I'll be gone by
4 then.

5 I would like to see the future not have to live
6 in this mess that's happened all across the west and Lower
7 48 and even in Canada, and here we are. There is nothing
8 left down there, so Alaska is an expensive place to
9 extract minerals, resources, but now we have to do it, and
10 here we come. I say, no, go some place else.

11 I especially don't like the idea of a foreign
12 contractor coming in doing that, especially -- I'm not
13 criticizing the Canadians, but western Canada is very big
14 on mining. They know the ropes, how to get away with
15 polluting, and they have their lawyers all lined up. They
16 know exactly what to do. Nobody is going to be harmed
17 there, but the rest of us will. Okay. Thank you.

18 MS. ERICA MADISON: My name is Erica
19 Madison, and I'm a commercial fisherman in Bristol Bay,
20 and I guess my comments sort of come with a couple of
21 questions that I haven't seen answered yet.

22 The first question is: How is there going to be
23 management of the tailing ponds forever, and how can you
24 you guarantee that these things will be managed forever?
25 Infinity is a really abstract concept, and I don't

1 understand how there is a guarantee for that.

2 My second question would be: There is all this
3 talk about pulling 500 billion dollars out of this mine,
4 but as a commercial fisherman, who fishes the bay and
5 feeds my family off this fishery, I would like to know
6 where does my money come from in that 500 billion dollars.
7 I don't see any money going back into the community.

8 That's all.

9 MS. REBECCA KING: Rebecca King, from Eagle
10 River, Alaska. And I think Alaskans already spoke and
11 said they don't want Pebble Mine, and I'm one of those who
12 does not want the Pebble Mine. I do not want to trade our
13 fish for pollution. Pebble Mine will create a tailings
14 pond that has to be maintained for infinity, and I don't
15 know anything that can be maintained for infinity. I
16 haven't seen any studies saying that it can be.

17 It's in an earthquake zone. The natural gas
18 pipeline crosses Cook Inlet, which is in an earthquake
19 zone. State of Alaska has done many studies on what would
20 happen to communications lines that traverse underneath
21 the ocean, and we believe that most of those would be
22 severed in an earthquake. So why is this any different?

23 Additionally, the permit application is
24 incomplete. There is no economic feasibility study. The
25 ice breaker will reduce the ability for local residents to

1 seek and travel across the ice in the winter because it
2 will leave a gaping hole in the lake which residents now
3 travel across.

4 Additionally, using that much natural gas for
5 the mine which compete with residents' need for natural
6 gas and will likely drive up the cost as the supply of
7 natural gas decreases.

8 The roads across the tundra cross many salmon
9 streams which will inhibit salmon's ability to reproduce
10 and pollution could also disturb them and impact their
11 ability to survive.

12 The mine endangers a 1.5 billion dollar salmon
13 industry. I have a lot of friends who work over there
14 whose jobs would be endangered, and I eat the fish from
15 that location, and I want to keep eating healthy fish that
16 are free of pollution That's it.

17 MR. RYAN WITTEN: Hello, my name is Ryan
18 Witten. My main concern is that the short-term economic
19 impacts of the project will not outway the long-term
20 ecological impacts that will impact the area.

21 I'm also concerned that preventative measures
22 that they are taking right now, while they may currently
23 be enough, but with climate change and the increased
24 weather patterns and storm risk in the area, that it will
25 not be sufficient in the future.

1 That's it.

2 MR. GEORGE PLETNIKOFF, JR.: I'm Unangux, a
3 person from St. Paul Island where our being on the island
4 is solely surrounded around sea life. We see major
5 declines of populations of many marine mammals and fish
6 due you to overfishing and human waste. Some of which is
7 stored from gold refining. More mining means more death
8 to our ecosystem and our communities and a more sickening
9 addition to an already ill society. Sacrificing a quick
10 gain for a sustainable resource is the strategy we need,
11 as these quick profits are destroying our way of life,
12 where sustainability from a renewable resource expands
13 through our coming generations. Our lands and future are
14 not for sale. We will protect life. Water is life. No
15 more opening mines, drilling holes, and dragging nets.
16 That's it.

17 MS. DAYLE SANBORN: Well, I'm here because
18 I feel like I want my voice heard. In 1964 my dad brought
19 me to Alaska as a little girl, and we went to Bristol Bay,
20 and we began fishing. It really quickly became a way of
21 life for us. We invested in the community, and the
22 community invested in us. It's where I got my start as a
23 human being, learned how to work, learned the value of
24 wilderness, good people and probably lots of things I
25 can't enumerate.

1 Subsequently I grew up, raised my three children
2 in that same environment. My daughter was born at
3 Kanakanak Hospital. My sons both went there when they
4 were about a month old, and I raised them in the
5 commercial fishing culture. They are now grown adults
6 with families of their own. I have one granddaughter --
7 this is emotional for me.

8 So just last night I was having a conversation
9 with my children, and we were discussing the financial
10 future, health, and plans of our fishing -- our joint
11 fishing operation. It's a set-net operation on the
12 Nushagak River. A ways into the conversation, the topic
13 arose how do we want to invest in the future generations
14 of our family, do we want to buy them fishing gear, do we
15 want to buy their, you know, way there, do we want to
16 provide child care so that they to can grow up in that
17 culture, and to a person, every one of my children said,
18 yes, let's invest, let's make sure that those babies can
19 grow up in this culture.

20 And I just feel like Pebble and everything it
21 stands for not only threatens that life style, but nothing
22 it promises can come close to the promise that that life
23 style holds for my family and a lot of families in the
24 area.

25 That's all I want. I want my voice heard. I'm

1 against Pebble Mine. Please reject Pebble mine. That's
2 it.

3 MS. DARLA MUNGUIA: I'm Darla Munguia. You
4 know the destruction gold mining has and is causing.
5 Water, air, plant and mineral was never thought to the
6 indigenous people to remove, process, or sell. Aware that
7 they were there to keep balance. Sovereignty is a sham.
8 These natural elements in their raw state are sacred gifts
9 from our father creator, and our original womb, our
10 mother, before oil and gas turned her into the
11 heartwrenching gastitute she has became. Yet, still she
12 spins; still she gives. Although the water she pushes
13 through the streams of her veins are being polluted from
14 various angles of toxicity we call waste. The air she
15 provides through the wings of her lungs have become smog.
16 The nutrients of her fruit has lost its quality due to the
17 prevention of her provide and the disconnection of her
18 first born, the indigenous, due to colonization, from
19 pollinating her flowers and harvesting her medicine honey.
20 Her soil condensed of mercury. Broken and battered down,
21 she still spins. She still lives. You could learn much
22 from her love if to you nature wasn't a financial and
23 legal matter. Thank you.

24 (Adjourned at 8:00 p.m.)
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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I, SUSAN J. WARNICK, RPR, and Notary Public in
and for the State of Alaska do hereby certify:

That the witness in the foregoing proceedings was
duly sworn; that the proceedings were then taken before me
at the time and place herein set forth; that the testimony
and proceedings were reported stenographically by me and
later transcribed under my direction by computer
transcription; that the foregoing is a true record of the
testimony and proceedings taken at that time; and that I
am not a party to nor have I any interest in the outcome
of the action herein contained.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my
hand and affixed my seal this _____ day of _____,
2018.

SUSAN J. WARNICK,
Registered Professional Reporter
Notary Public for Alaska

My Commission Expires: April 8, 2022

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