

EPA Comments - Pebble Project Preliminary Draft EIS, General

Agency	Comment No.	Section, Paragraph, and Page #	Cooperating Agency Comment (and Purpose of Comment)	Proposed Resolution (Additions or Deletion of Text)	Response
EPA	1	General	Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences related to port sites and marine environment	<p>Additional information is needed to assess potential impacts to the marine environment. Each Port option currently lacks the basic descriptive information about the marine causeways/jetties and adjacent shoreline areas (littoral transport direction, grain size, bathymetry) and the structures themselves. A Kamishak Bay 2017 multibeam survey was apparently conducted, however no bathymetry lines are provided on the figures. We also recommend that causeway fill acreage, fill volume, and basic length and width information be added for Port causeway and jetty descriptions (including cross-sections) (e.g., Figure 2-28).</p> <p>In addition, no clear location and coverage area for a floating dock for ice breaking tugs is provided; we recommend that the DEIS clarify where the floating dock will be located and at what water depth.</p>	Information on ports for the three action alternatives is provided where appropriate to the analysis of the resource, within the scope of analysis described per NEPA CEQ in Section 3.1, Introduction to Affected Environment. Some project design details would continue to be developed during the NEPA process and into the permitting phase.
EPA	2	General	Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences related to port sites and marine environment	<p>Additional information is needed to assess potential impacts to the marine environment. For physical reclamation and closure discussions, it is not clear what portions of the causeway and jetty structures will remain in the marine environment and for how long. We recommend adding this information, which is necessary to understand the long-term effects of the structures on adjacent marine shorelines. Also, the piling variant options might have different short- and long-term effects on sediment movement, and we recommend that these options be considered by the coastal engineering analysis. Please also ensure that all depths in the text include datums (e.g., dredging to -20' MLLW).</p>	See above response.