

CHILKAT INDIAN VILLAGE



"Yee gu.aa yax x'wan."

An Indian Reorganization Act Village

Under Act of Congress June 18th 1934

32 Chilkat Avenue Klukwan, Alaska

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Dear Mayor Olerud and Assembly Members of Haines Alaska,

Chilkat Indian Village (Klukwan) invites the Haines Borough to join us in our **request for an immediate 90-day extension** on the public comment period for the APMA J20195690#1 permit amendment within the Juneau Mining District- Glacier Creek. We are asking to include public hearings in both Haines and Klukwan on the proposed amendment by the proponent and the State of Alaska permitting agencies. This permit amendment includes significant changes and expansion of current mining exploration in Glacier Creek that will have a significant impact on our cultural sites, food sources, and the habitat of the local wildlife.

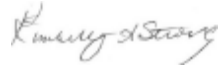
As you may know, the permit amendment proposes extending the current mining footprint in Glacier Creek three miles downstream from the current project site to the banks of the Klehini River, and this will cause large-scale disturbance and irreversible development including permanent road building, and disruption of Coho salmon spawning habitat. The permit amendment includes 5.6 miles of new road, which is incorrectly labeled as a "trail" in the permit amendment, but it will be 25 feet wide. This permit amendment also includes drilling, seismic line installation, and blasting, which will harm the local wildlife, particularly during the summer months when wildlife are rearing young and eating food to prepare for fall and winter months. It will also create new roads in areas where subsistence hunting and fishing currently take place. As you know, we have lived in these areas since time immemorial, and many of our sacred and cultural sites include these areas close to rivers and streams.

The impact of this permit amendment on our people, our traditional way of life, and our food sources is of significant concern to us. As such, we are formally requesting an extension of the public comment period so that everyone who will be impacted by this decision has adequate time to consider the impacts fully. **We are requesting that the local Haines borough government joins us with our requests for a 90-day extension to the Alaska Department of Natural Resources and other agencies, along with a formal government request for public hearings in our communities.** This will allow us as local governments to get outside expertise to evaluate these plans so that we understand their broader implications to our communities we serve. It is important that our governments are in constant dialogue with the agencies and outside corporations making broad decisions about the long-term risks and revenues in this valley.

We believe that it is essential to work together on getting technical expertise as this will impact all of us who live and work in the valley who enjoy our natural resources and subsistence lifestyles. We invite you to collaborate with us on this issue and ensure that we all understand the implications of this permit amendment fully.

Thank you for considering our request, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Kimberley A. Strong
President

Cc:

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