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PEBBLE PROJECT
SCOPING MEETING
KOKHANOK, ALASKA
Taken April 10, 2018
Commencing at 3:30 p.m.
Volume I - Pages 1 - 48, inclusive

Taken at
Old School/Tribal Hall
Kokhanok, Alaska

Reported by:
Mary A. Vavrik, RMR

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

2 For U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:

3 Shane McCoy
4 Program Manager

5 Katie McCafferty
6 Project Manager

7 For State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources,
8 Office of Project Management and Permitting:

9 Kyle W. Moselle
10 Associate Director

11 For AECOM:

12 Bill Craig
13 Project Manager

14 Jon Isaacs
15 Public Involvement Task Lead

16 Jessica Evans
17 Stakeholder Engagement

18 Patty Murphy
19 Stakeholder Engagement

20 Taken by:

21 Mary A. Vavrik, RMR

22

23 BE IT KNOWN that the aforementioned proceedings were taken

24 at the time and place duly noted on the title page, before

25 Mary A. Vavrik, Registered Merit Reporter and Notary

Public within and for the State of Alaska.

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

2 MR. SHANE MCCOY: First of all, I'd like
3 to thank you for your participation in our scoping
4 process. My name is Shane McCoy. I work with the Army
5 Corps of Engineers. Ms. Katie McCafferty is here with me,
6 also with the Corps of Engineers. Please note -- this is
7 very important, folks -- that the Corps of Engineers is
8 neither for the project nor against the project, and we
9 must be impartial.

10 As there are many individuals who would like to
11 provide input into the scope of our document, we ask that
12 you please be respectful of others as they participate.
13 Please also note, the comment period for the scoping
14 period has been extended until 29 June.

15 Your input will be used to inform a range of
16 alternatives, the resource issues to be analyzed, methods
17 used for analysis, and potential mitigative measures
18 throughout the evaluation of the Department of the Army
19 permit application. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
20 Alaska District is required to review the permit
21 application and will serve as the lead agency for the
22 environmental impact statement level of analysis.

23 In addition to the Corps, there are two other federal
24 agencies that will need to evaluate the proposed impacts
25 and make subsequent decisions. These agencies are the

1 United States Coast Guard for a bridge and the Department
2 of Interior's Bureau of Safety and Environmental
3 Enforcement for the pipeline in the Outer Continental
4 Shelf. The three federal agencies will use the
5 environmental impact statement to inform our federal
6 decisions.

7 We are here this afternoon because the first step in
8 development of an environmental impact statement is to
9 determine what we should analyze in the document. This is
10 the process called scoping. The potential impacts
11 associated with the applicant's proposed discharge of fill
12 materials and dredge materials to construct a mine and
13 attendant features as described in the Department of the
14 Army permit application is what we will be evaluating.

15 The framework of our document must have a nexus to
16 the proposed impacts under the jurisdiction of the three
17 aforementioned federal agencies. We have posters on the
18 side here and a video that we are showing to help inform
19 you of the current proposed project.

20 I would like to note that there is a new proposed
21 alignment, including an icebreaker and ferry terminals on
22 Lake Iliamna, which is very close to Kokhanok. I do
23 understand that we have been trying to get this
24 information out as readily available, but please, these
25 are comments specific to these areas that would very much

1 help inform our scope of analysis.

2 You can provide your input into what we should
3 analyze in several ways. There are computer -- there is a
4 computer -- unless you would like more -- which allow you
5 to enter your comments directly into the computer. You
6 may hand-deliver your input to anybody here with a name
7 tag on, and you may speak directly into this microphone
8 and which a court reporter will take down what you say, or
9 you may go to the project website, which is
10 pebbleprojecteis.com, and enter them as well.

11 Please, when you enter -- when you come and make your
12 testimony, please, one, state your name. I would like to
13 apologize in advance if I do not pronounce your name
14 correctly. It's definitely unintentional. And please
15 also note that the comments will be limited to three
16 minutes. If you choose to listen to others who are
17 speaking to the comments to our court reporter, please
18 limit background noise for the ease of the reporter to
19 precisely record the individuals' input. Please also
20 speak slowly so she can capture accurately what you are
21 saying. And if you have written comments that you are
22 reading from, please also provide those for her so she can
23 transcribe those, as well.

24 At this time I would like to invite people to come up
25 and provide testimony.

1 So very graciously, the folks here have provided
2 refreshments, food, sandwiches. At this time I'd like to
3 maybe offer a moment, if you haven't already, please come
4 up and grab a plate of food if you so desire, and then we
5 will start testimony.

6 (Off the record.)

7 MR. SHANE MCCOY: It seems the majority of
8 folks here are ready to begin. So the order in which we
9 will provide comments is the order in which we entered in
10 the door. It will be first come, first speaking. The
11 first person on the list is Joe Chythlook. Good evening,
12 Joe. Joe, if you wouldn't mind coming a little bit closer
13 to the front, it's easier for our court reporter to take
14 down your testimony if she can see you.

15 MR. JOE CHYTHLOOK: I must have put my
16 name in the hat first. Good afternoon. Glad to be here
17 with you folks. And I want to thank Corps of Engineers
18 for providing us the time to say a few words to share our
19 concerns with the rest of our people. I testified in
20 Naknek yesterday. So what I plan to do today is just to
21 highlight a couple of things.

22 For the record, my name is Joe Chythlook. I'm a BBNC
23 board chairman and a chairman of the board for about
24 eight, nine years and on the BBNC board for 27 years. And
25 in 2009 the BBNC board decided to take a position to

1 oppose the proposed Pebble Mine, and it was after we had
2 the survey from our shareholders that we represent. And a
3 high percentage of our shareholders asked the board to
4 oppose the Pebble Mine. And it's because of that that the
5 BBNC continues to be opposed to the Pebble Mine to this
6 day.

7 And it's primarily based on two important issues that
8 our shareholders revealed to us. One is our lifestyle.
9 Most of us are born and raised in this Bristol Bay area in
10 our various communities. And most of us live off the land
11 and the water that surrounds our villages. And so our
12 subsistence way of life is very important to us. That
13 includes land mammals and marine mammals and fish.

14 And of course, the question that I guess we need to
15 have a better answer for is how this Pebble Mine may
16 affect our lifestyle, primarily the salmon that we all
17 share in Bristol Bay. And one of the main reasons is
18 because most of all the communities that are within both
19 river drainages, Nushagak and Kvichak, are downriver from
20 the proposed Pebble Mine.

21 We have Igiugig, Levelock, Naknek, King Salmon on the
22 Kvichak side that could be affected. Nushagak side we
23 have Koliganek, New Stuyahok, Ekwok, Portage Creek,
24 Dillingham, Aleknagik, Clark's Point and Ekuk that could
25 be negatively affected if anything happens to contaminate

1 the waters that we all feel are a good place for our
2 salmon to spawn and to rear and so forth for many years.
3 So we feel that we don't want anything to threaten our
4 salmon and our waters and our lifestyle. And that's
5 primarily why BBNC, after listening to many shareholders,
6 took a stance in 2009 and formed a resolution.

7 And then, you know, secondly, one of the major
8 important things is commercial fishing in Bristol Bay.
9 Many of us have been born and raised as commercial
10 fishermen in Bristol Bay, and we still maintain that
11 privilege of getting a benefit from our salmon fishery.
12 And my family, for one, have been -- from the time my dad
13 started probably in the 1920s, my older brothers and I got
14 into it in the '40s and '50s, and as of today personally I
15 have been commercial fishing for about 60-plus years.
16 So -- and I am hoping that my children and my
17 grandchildren will be able to continue to do that, as
18 well.

19 And then one of the things, I guess, that we are
20 concerned about, that we think that there needs to be more
21 studies done on how the Pebble Mine, if it becomes a mine,
22 and if there is anything happen that would affect our
23 lifestyle. Of course, you know, if our fish are
24 contaminated and whatnot in any form, that would be a
25 detriment to our lifestyle, for one.

1 But, then, one thing also I wanted the Corps to
2 consider is when they look at the EIS, they need to
3 consider carefully seriously the unique environment in
4 which the Pebble Mine is -- proposed Pebble Mine is
5 setting. In the opinion of the majority of both Bristol
6 Bay and Alaska residents, the location of the Pebble Mine
7 is in the wrong place. The mine site and the large
8 drainages downriver of the mine sits largely in the
9 waters -- the mine sits largely in wetlands and entirely
10 hydrologically connected. And there is no barrier between
11 surface and groundwaters and different water bodies.

12 The EIS must also consider that the water quality in
13 the region is pristine and perfectly suited for spawning,
14 rearing and life cycles of salmon, a uniquely very
15 sensitive species. Therefore, any disruption to this
16 balance would pose destruction to a near perfect habitat.

17 And one of the new informations we got since
18 discussion of a Pebble Mine has been placed is that now
19 one of the -- part of the plan is to transport the ore
20 from the north side of Lake Iliamna to the south side.
21 And as we think about that, one of the concerns we have, I
22 guess, for the Corps to think about is that in our opinion
23 there has never been any studies done of how such a new
24 way of dealing with moving the ore from this side to this
25 side would have an effect on the south shore in Lake

1 Iliamna. And I think before anything happens to where
2 they determine that the Pebble Mine should be given a
3 permit to proceed, such studies should be done.

4 And finally, I guess, the federal permitting process
5 should be considered with the Alaska State agencies that
6 also have permitting authority over project components.
7 However, from what we know, the PLP has failed to apply
8 for any State permits. That's the best information I
9 have. Therefore, I strongly suggest that the Corps should
10 delay its review of the project until PLP has engaged the
11 necessary State agencies by applying for those required
12 State permits.

13 I have the rest of my comments written here, so if
14 you have any questions related to it, I left my name with
15 the recorder, and I did give you some of my cards. So if
16 you need any more information -- and on top of that, BBNC
17 and our staff are prepared -- will be preparing a
18 statement on behalf of the corporation and the views of
19 many of our shareholders that I just mentioned.

20 So thank you for the opportunity, and we will see you
21 next time.

22 MR. SHANE MCCOY: I'm going to move a
23 little bit this way simply for the ease of our court
24 reporter to be able to grab the transcription as
25 accurately as possible. Can everybody hear me? Okay.

1 Thank you.

2 John Nelson, Jr., please. Is John Nelson, Jr.
3 available?

4 MR. JOHN NELSON, JR.: Hello. John Nelson
5 here. I'm not going to start off my name at the first,
6 but I'm going to be naming off creeks and tributaries of
7 Kokhanok area: Belinda Creek, Dennis Creek, Nuyaka's
8 Creek, Gibraltar River, Nick G. Creek, Sid Larson Bay
9 Creek, Roll, Nielsen Bay Creek, Kokhanok River, Reindeer
10 Bay Creek, Copper River, Char Creek, Tommy River. Other
11 major producers of Lake Iliamna: Iliamna River, Pile Bay
12 River, Knudsen Bay, Pedro Bay, Chekok River, Newhalen
13 River, Pete Andrews Creek, Lower Talarik, Upper Talarik.
14 Drainages into Iliamna Lake: Six Mile Lake, Lake Clark.
15 Cook Inlet location: Amakdedori Creek, McNeil River.

16 Of Lake Iliamna, our closest river is the Gibraltar
17 River located three miles down westerly from here. My
18 village where I live and as we are sitting here today
19 providing public testimony -- and my name is John D.
20 Nelson, Jr. My village where I reside is located on the
21 south/southeast shores of Lake Iliamna.

22 The names of rivers and creeks I just mentioned are
23 the tributaries that produce salmon that is famous
24 worldwide and locally. In addition, Lake Iliamna is one
25 of the five major fish industries, combined with Naknek.

1 Other districts are Igiugig, Ugashik, Nushagak, Togiak.
2 All major river systems produce sockeye, and Bristol Bay
3 is very unique, as it is called salmon capital of the
4 world.

5 I am a commercial fisher participant on an annual
6 basis to where Bristol Bay annual sockeye return ranges
7 from 20- to nearly 60-million sockeye returning to Bristol
8 Bay. Major river systems include Lake Iliamna.

9 The proposed Pebble Mine poses a tremendous risk to
10 our region. Iliamna Lake is very pristine as we -- as
11 well as what I perceive as world class fishing located at
12 our area. On an annual basis, sport anglers from all
13 parts of the world come here to fish, as well as us. Then
14 thereafter the sports fishing season closes, then the
15 major world class event takes over, which is world class
16 hunting. Of this season, moose, bear, caribou are the
17 commercial and subsistence catches, as well as statewide
18 and provides world class hunting.

19 With our communities' infrastructure of our water
20 system, our water intake is from Lake Iliamna that
21 provides drinking and cooking water, as well as our school
22 that provides healthy children.

23 Lastly, to my conclusion, I would like to say, which
24 is one of my very huge favorites, world class of
25 subsistence to where we harvest all edibles from Lake

1 Iliamna, either from the land, sea or air.

2 And before I close, I just wanted to show you a
3 comparison of bottled water versus water from Iliamna
4 Lake. This is bottled water. Iliamna Lake water. See
5 the difference? Almost the same. This is what produces
6 the sockeye for Bristol Bay because Iliamna Lake is so
7 pristine to where we drink it. Thank you.

8 MR. SHANE MCCOY: I'm going to make
9 sure -- I'm going to move back a little bit, Jon, if you
10 don't mind, opening this up a little bit. Is Jim Tilly
11 available? Can I ask you to come down here? I just want
12 to make sure we capture what is said accurately. So if
13 you can come down here so our court reporter has best
14 available -- thanks, Jim.

15 MR. JIM TILLY: Okay. My questions on the
16 mine, us outdoorsmen that live here, every year we see --
17 usually it will start snowing at about Thanksgiving, and
18 it snows and snows and snows to about the middle of
19 January. And then the east wind starts up from Kodiak,
20 and it gets to be 50 degrees and the place turns into one
21 giant flood plain. How are they going to contain
22 anything, sewage, the tailings or anything, with these --
23 when the rivers are -- 20-foot wide river ends up being a
24 mile wide? Trees -- we all see these rivers with trees
25 ripped out by the roots.

1 And then -- then when we have the gold, here they are
2 going to be pumping all this groundwater out and it's 50
3 below zero or 40 below, and it's all going to freeze. How
4 are they going to move it? How are they going to clean
5 it? And it's just all going to melt off, and there is
6 going to be 40-, 50-foot of tailings and polluted water.
7 And how much water is the dewatering process going to
8 produce? How many holes are they going to drill? How
9 deep are they going to be? How much water is the deep
10 watering process going to pull out of the ground every
11 single day forever or until the mine dies?

12 That's about it for me.

13 MR. SHANE MCCOY: Dierdre Hill.

14 MS. DIERDRE HILL: I'm Dierdre Hill. I am
15 a BBNC director and a local Native land allotment owner.
16 First, I'd like to thank the Army Corps of Engineers for
17 hosting the scoping meeting here and for extending the
18 comment period. I'd also like to ask that you consider a
19 scoping meeting in the Seattle area where many
20 stakeholders reside.

21 Most importantly, I would like the Army Corps of
22 Engineers to consider the direct, indirect and cumulative
23 effects of all of the mine's operations, as these effects
24 will be here for 10,000 years. I, along with my brother
25 and sister, have an adjacent Native allotment to the

1 proposed south access road just eight and a half miles
2 northeast of here on Kokhanok Bay. This property would be
3 downwind from the road operations, so please consider the
4 detrimental effects of noise, dust, and the constant
5 seismic activity from the blasting and the possibility of
6 spills on the lake. The 35 trucks per day traversing this
7 road will be disruptive to the entire ecosystem. Also,
8 please consider the possibility of many more than 35
9 trucks per day if the mine expands.

10 So I'd also request that you consider a northern
11 overland access road rather than a lake crossing.

12 MR. SHANE MCCOY: Can you guys hear? Can
13 you hear this? Greg Andrews, Jr.

14 MR. GREG ANDREW, JR.: Thank you, Shane.
15 Hello. And thank you for allowing me to testify. My name
16 is Greg Andrews, Jr. I live in Levelock on the Kvichak
17 River. Originally from here in Kokhanok, but my family
18 and I do a lot of traveling back and forth by boat,
19 snowmachine or ATV for subsistence, family visiting or
20 just the joy of being on the lake and the river.

21 Facts show that the Nushagak and Kvichak watersheds
22 will be directly impacted by the Pebble Mine if allowed to
23 go into development. By a several-year study put out by
24 the EPA, even the smallest Pebble Mine plan will have
25 devastating impacts on the Nushagak and Kvichak watershed.

1 In fact, just from doing exploration drilling alone,
2 Pebble has already left unclean and untapped drill sites
3 leaving toxic waste behind. If Pebble is allowed to mine,
4 the impacts will be much greater.

5 Including just a few of the many impacts are: The
6 icebreaking ferry will directly impact all the communities
7 in the watershed. As it is used as an ice highway in the
8 winter, it will no longer be safe to travel between
9 communities, especially during the carnival months, and I
10 fear lives will be lost traveling through the winter.

11 Tailings dust will impact the salmon and other
12 species of freshwater fish from all the crossings of the
13 lake and crossings of the Gibraltar River, as well as
14 other rivers and creeks crossing that salmon inhabit.

15 If you do the math, once toxic waste reaches the
16 mouth of the Kvichak River and Igiugig, saying the Kvichak
17 River's velocity is about three miles an hour, it takes
18 just 20 hours for toxins to reach Levelock and less than a
19 day or more out into Bristol Bay, impacting the salmon
20 that depend on the pristine waters of Lake Iliamna and the
21 Kvichak River.

22 With Pebble saying that it will mostly impact the
23 north fork of the Kuktuli which drains into the Mulchatna
24 River, then into the Nushagak River, which hosts one of
25 the richest king salmon fisheries in the world, as well as

1 sockeye and other species, and this past season with a
2 record salmon catch.

3 During the spring and summer, the locals depend on
4 seasonal egg gathering on many of Lake Iliamna's islands,
5 which will also be impacted, as well as the only habitat
6 for its freshwater seals that is also subsisted on, one of
7 only five freshwater habitats in the northern hemisphere
8 that has freshwater seals.

9 Then they already proposed private roads to be built.
10 The Alaska Peninsula Corporation did not poll their
11 shareholders on granting Pebble access to corporation
12 lands and giving them right of ways. These will go
13 through subsistence use areas of our wild blueberries,
14 blackberries, salmonberries and cranberries. We will
15 probably never be able to harvest from these areas ever
16 again because Pebble's mine plan says impacts to these
17 areas are permanent and areas used for berry picking that
18 are nearby proposed roads and tailings storage areas
19 because of the toxic dust that will get blown around; also
20 moose, caribou and bear hunting areas, as all the traffic
21 and noise will drive them away.

22 And the traditional subsistence use area of
23 Amakdedori on Cook Inlet side, this will be torn up and no
24 longer be able to support the fish habitat that depend on
25 Amakdedori Creek with the tailings storage not just 500

1 feet from the creek. Chenik, not five miles away that is
2 used for clam gathering, will probably not survive,
3 either. The caribou feeding and calving area at and near
4 Pebble site is already impacted, as the caribou no longer
5 use this area.

6 The Pebble site itself will have impact on both the
7 Nushagak and the Kvichak watersheds. So with mentioning
8 just a few of the many impacts that the proposed Pebble
9 Mine will have, it clearly shows that no thought was put
10 into Pebble's permit application. It reads as if it was
11 rushed to keep in a timeline. No proper EIS studies were
12 done on Pebble's part. Since they can't take the time to
13 study this and think it through, imagine the impacts to
14 come if Pebble is allowed to continue with their history
15 of already leaving a toxic mess behind just from
16 exploration drilling alone.

17 Thank you.

18 (Off the record.)

19 MR. SHANE MCCOY: Thank you, everybody.
20 Thank you for a little bit of patience while we
21 reorganized and situated ourselves a little bit different.
22 If you guys don't mind, I'd like to continue the testimony
23 to ensure everyone who wants to speak has an opportunity
24 to speak.

25 Is Kimberly Williams available, please?

1 MS. KIMBERLY WILLIAMS: Thank you. My
2 name is Kimberly Williams. I am a BBNC board of director
3 and a member chief of the Curyung Tribe, and I live in
4 Dillingham. I want to thank you for allowing my tribe to
5 be a cooperating agency on this project. I live downriver
6 from this project as the water flows from the Kuktuli to
7 the Mulchatna into the Nushagak.

8 I would ask you to accept public comments in
9 Dillingham and not only written ones. It is disingenuous
10 to the indigenous people I represent in Curyung for you to
11 only accept written comments. If you know anything about
12 indigenous people, we are an oral people. You are
13 limiting my people and their voice by taking only written
14 comments.

15 I am here as a subsistence user and have been
16 involved in aspects of this project since my work with the
17 University of Alaska Bristol Bay campus putting on several
18 conferences starting in 2004.

19 The people of the Bristol Bay region have been
20 involved in this project since 1988 when Teck-Cominco
21 first staked this claim. Pebble has finally focused on a
22 southern or a southern transportation corridor route. As
23 the Army Corps, you should have PLP submit information on
24 all three corridor routes. It concerns me that in 2004
25 when this project was undergoing intensive studies, very

1 little was done on this cross-the-lake route and the road
2 corridor that goes by Kokhanok. Imagine the data that
3 they would have if this was in front of them in 2004.

4 Additionally, this application should take into
5 account the entire Pebble deposit, not a small piece of
6 the deposit that will be mined in 20 years. I don't have
7 any confidence in the words of the CEO of PLP that further
8 development would be taken up at the time -- at that time
9 and the company would have to undergo another application.

10 I am very concerned about the direct, indirect and
11 cumulative impacts from the development of this project
12 through construction and operation to the people of this
13 region, our subsistence resources, salmon and freshwater
14 fishes, caribou, moose, migratory birds, marine mammals,
15 and our water. This mine site has been delineated for
16 this project in the last 14 years only to encompass Pebble
17 West Corporation and something about the Pebble East.

18 This project does not encompass all of the other
19 staking that has taken place over this area and the
20 ownership of those claims as Pebble has basically
21 encompassed them into their operation. The EIS needs to
22 take these additional claims into consideration since they
23 have the potential to be mined well past my lifetime on
24 this earth and those of my children, my grandchildren and
25 their children.

1 I also don't believe that some of the old data
2 related to this project, such as the Wardrop report, on
3 the economic feasibility of the project is valid today. I
4 would ask the Corps to insist that an updated economic
5 feasibility of the project be completed on this
6 application.

7 I am very concerned regarding the impacts on the
8 Kuktuli River and the natural resources in the river. It
9 concerns me that the current proposed tailings impoundment
10 facilities are now placed on the north fork side of the
11 Kuktuli.

12 I recall a conversation with Jim Buell, a Pebble
13 scientist, on the plethora of salmon present in the north
14 fork as it flows -- as compared to the south fork. I only
15 wish he was here at this meeting today so that I could
16 remind him about his work and his words that he would keep
17 the development out of the -- away from that side of the
18 north fork because of the salmon. Water flow and the lack
19 of water into the forks of the Kuktuli and the Upper
20 Talarik on this project and the development and the mine
21 continues -- I would remind Jim Buell if he was here today
22 about his words about staying away from the north fork of
23 the Kuktuli. Water flow and the lack of water into the
24 forks of the Kuktuli and the Upper Talarik as this project
25 is developed and mined continues to be of concern to me.

1 I have sat through Pebble's presentations of
2 hydrology and flow, and I don't believe that the company
3 has demonstrated through their studies that they can
4 mitigate the impacts to water flow, both surface and
5 groundwater, into these rivers and the downstream effects.
6 The current placement of the acid generating tailings
7 being placed above the bulk tailings storage cell
8 eliminates five miles of productive salmon stream in the
9 north fork. That concerns me.

10 I am concerned that the potential of seismic
11 earthquake impacts to this proposed tailings impoundment
12 facility would be much like the San Marcos old failed
13 tailings impoundment facility in Brazil. It killed lots
14 of fish.

15 I have yet to see a health impact assessment related
16 to this project. I would ask the Corps to fulfill your
17 responsibility to get the ten years of science data from
18 the Pebble Partnership related to this application, and if
19 they don't have ten years, make them do the ten years.

20 Pebble has been in operation since 2001, and they
21 should have all the information that makes it possible for
22 you to fulfill your responsibility as an agency entrusted
23 to make sure that the impacts from a mine are not
24 something that impacts us, only us, but all of us, even
25 citizens of this state.

1 Thank you.

2 MR. SHANE MCCOY: Is Sergie Chukwak
3 available, please? Sergie.

4 MR. SERGIE CHUKWAK: Hello my name is
5 Sergie Chukwak from the Native village of Levelock. My
6 son is a fifth generation commercial fisherman. My whole
7 family is involved in the fishing industry. My wife of 25
8 years is a taxi driver in Naknek. She is getting ready to
9 move to Naknek to cater or drive for the herring crew and
10 fleet. Then, of course, the salmon fleet. My daughter is
11 a bartender year-round. During the fishing season she
12 gets most of her earnings.

13 My main concern is the seismic activity. I recall a
14 year or so ago there was an earthquake near the mine site
15 that was about a six or a seven point magnitude. What
16 will be the extent of the damage to a tailings pond three
17 times as high as the Empire State Building?

18 Another concern equal or even greater is the salmon
19 that will be contaminated. I don't recall the location of
20 a mine down south in the 48 states that people are only
21 allowed to eat eight ounces of salmon a week. Any excess
22 would be cancer causing. One of the Pebble supporters
23 said that the salmon -- if the salmon are contaminated,
24 only 20 percent of the salmon in Bristol Bay would be
25 affected. Well, I beg to differ because that is 100

1 percent of our salmon.

2 Another concern is the migrating caribou. When they
3 swim across the tailings pond and get contaminated and we
4 shoot one, are we going to die from our subsistence
5 activity?

6 To the Pebble Mine with this issue -- to issue the
7 Pebble Mine with a permit to mine at the mine site would
8 have an adverse effect on the residents and people along
9 the Kvichak and the Nushagak River in perpetuity because
10 how long the tailings pond would be there from 50 short
11 years of employment. It is a nonrenewable resource, and
12 the commercial fishing industry is coming up to close to
13 125 years.

14 And I'm a commercial fisherman. I vote fish.

15 Thank you very much.

16 MR. SHANE MCCOY: Gustie Tallekpalek.

17 MR. GUSTIE TALLEKPALEK: Hi. My name is
18 Gustie Tallekpalek from Levelock. I'll just make it short
19 and sweet. First of all, I'd like to ask all of you to
20 stand, if you may. And I'd like to say this, is we stand
21 together, we fight together to win this. And sorry I
22 didn't write up testimony, but that's all I have. Thank
23 you.

24 MR. SHANE MCCOY: Is Isaiah Mike
25 available?

1 MR. ISAIAH MIKE: Hello. My name is
2 Isaiah Mike. I'm from Kokhanok. I've lived here my whole
3 life. I grew up on a subsistence lifestyle. I have two
4 young boys, one six, one four. My oldest I started taking
5 out hunting at four years old. He started watching me
6 skin all the big game. My youngest is four years old, so
7 it's his turn this summer to start coming with me.

8 You know, they love the lifestyle. They watch my
9 wife put up fish. They watch me hunt big game. And they
10 love it, and I love it.

11 You know, what's going to happen when this all goes
12 through? What's going to happen to our younger
13 generation? You know, there may be some hunting
14 available, but you look at development, there is going to
15 be a lot of things going on, you know. And a lot of
16 people, also, for those who are for the Pebble Mine
17 project thinking that there is going to be open
18 opportunities made easy for you, you need to think again.
19 There is going to be more people coming out here. It's
20 going to be a big gold rush for entrepreneurs who have
21 more capital and more experience than us coming out here
22 and making all the money while we get laborer jobs, you
23 know, the small -- the small pay.

24 And I guess that's all I have for right now. Thank
25 you.

1 MR. SHANE MCCOY: Aline Cobb. Is there a
2 Cobb here?

3 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: Alina Cobb?

4 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Which Cobb?

5 MR. SHANE MCCOY: It looks like Aline.

6 Maybe she will come back. Samuel Madrid.

7 MR. SAMUEL MADRID: Hello. My name is Sam
8 Madrid. I was born down in the Lower 48, and I've come
9 from the mining company. But I tell you one thing. I've
10 seen the Red Dog road when I hunted up north, and the
11 old-timers are all mad at the Red Dog Mine for one reason:
12 When they put that road in, that changed the migration of
13 caribou. Now the caribou won't even come within 100 yards
14 of that road system.

15 Now, what's going to happen when they put in these
16 roads? They have already ran off our winter caribou at
17 least near where the Pebble Mine is. How are they going
18 to replace that? Now, you think about the fishing, one
19 mark of mercury, and there goes the whole thing.

20 Now, you show me on the first pass 1,700 feet high,
21 five miles wide that can take a 4.0 earthquake. There's
22 not one in the world. Now, you show me a mine that says
23 they will clean up after they leave. I've never seen one
24 in the world that's done it yet.

25 Now, Pebble is a Canadian company. What happens once

1 they say that's enough? They leave, and there is nothing
2 we can do about it. They say bye-bye and we are all gone,
3 and your whole life the way you knew it is going to be
4 gone.

5 Thank you.

6 MR. SHANE MCCOY: Alexander Tallekpalek.

7 MR. ALEXANDER TALLEKPALEK: Hey, thank
8 you. Good afternoon. I'd like to thank the U.S. Corps of
9 Army for coming out here today, thanking Kokhanok for
10 inviting us, holding this for the residents of Bristol
11 Bay.

12 So my name is Alexander Tallekpalek, and I live in
13 the village of Levelock, a resident of Levelock for a
14 long, long time. I grew up there and graduated high
15 school from there. You know, for years and years I have
16 been a subsistence user, commercial fisherman for a long
17 time. I utilize the land a lot and everything, and I
18 travel a lot. So you know, it's one of my natures of
19 habitats is to be out there in the wilderness and travel
20 and enjoy life and trying to be out there and just
21 recollect myself, my own being, if you will. And you
22 know, it takes my heart right to the soul to the earth
23 right where I need to be.

24 And it's -- it's -- part of the things in my life is
25 having the ability to know that our tradition and our way

1 of life has salmon in this part of the region and it's --
2 you know, it's better known throughout the world that our
3 salmon is enriching our way of life and we get to live
4 here. That's great, and I feel so much for it.

5 And I really hope that you take all our comments and
6 all the natures of the plans and this PLP planning and
7 permitting situation, every task, you know, needle by
8 needle and just, you know -- in our lifestyle we have to
9 live one step at a time, and I hope you pinpoint every
10 trace of this mining procedures and then get all the
11 procedures right because we do want to protect all the
12 berries that's -- that's adjacent to the plan.

13 We are concerned about the dust control that may
14 infect the water and the clean water in the lakes and the
15 acidic waste that could condense into the air and fall
16 back into the ground causing that acidic waste to fall
17 back into our natures.

18 So I urge you guys to take our thorough voices and be
19 considerate to what we live by. We live by our way of
20 life through the -- through the salmon and through the
21 traditional lifestyle of hunting. You know, just last
22 year and a half ago Greg Andrew's grandson found an arrow
23 behind Levelock on a hill. That shows a lot of trace of
24 lifestyles, and there are traces of lifestyles on those
25 hills. And there is the habitats out there that -- it's

1 all already been discovered, and it's already theirs.

2 And it's meant to be in a historic process because,
3 you know, the salmon is our way of life and we have to
4 nurture something, and we might as well nurture this
5 process.

6 I certainly hope you guys think about us and think
7 about the process that each and every plan that the
8 permitting process has in front of them, you know, for the
9 light of the world, if you will. But this is -- this is
10 our life and our way of life, and I just wanted to pass
11 that along.

12 And thank you guys for taking the time for coming out
13 and hearing us. That really means something to me. Thank
14 you.

15 MR. SHANE MCCOY: Is Raymond Apokotak
16 available?

17 MR. RAYMOND APOKOTAK: Hi. My name is
18 Raymond Apokotak. I'm from Levelock. And all the salmon
19 and everything goes by. And what they can do is -- like
20 the ferry is going to be year-round, and what it's going
21 to do to all the salmon. And the roads they said they are
22 going to put in, PLP is going to own it. How are people
23 going to travel, like, from here to Igiugig? How are they
24 going to travel in the winter? They can't because it's
25 private property. And you guys got to think about that.

1 And all the animals, they are all -- they are all
2 going to be gone. There is no more caribou on that side
3 of the lake. They go all the way down towards Igiugig and
4 below.

5 And I got grandkids out, and they live here. And I
6 want them to experience the way I grew up, subsistence
7 lifestyle and egg gathering, moose hunting and berry
8 picking and all that.

9 And I hope you guys take it and -- I know you guys
10 are here listening, but just listen to the people.
11 Everybody is here for -- just to our way of life.

12 Thank you guys again for letting us meet.

13 MR. SHANE MCCOY: Charlene Rainy
14 [pronunciation]?

15 MS. CHARLENE ROEHL: Roehl
16 [pronunciation].

17 MR. SHANE MCCOY: Roehl. My apologies.

18 MS. CHARLENE ROEHL: My name is Charlene
19 Roehl, and I'm a BBNC shareholder and an APC shareholder
20 at the same time. And APC is supposed to protect our land
21 from people like Pebble, and I'm one of the shareholders.
22 Supporters are listed on the Pebble website. And Pebble
23 hired Trefon Angasan, chairman of the Alaska Peninsula
24 Corporation, to attempt to convince the local residents to
25 support the mine. He stated, "We believe in due process."

1 Bristol Bay is one of the most productive sockeye
2 salmon and king salmon regions of the world. Each year up
3 to 40 million sockeye salmon return and spawn in the
4 rivers and streams, and it also supports pinks, chums,
5 coho salmon. The Bristol Bay area still has not been
6 altered. The rivers are not dammed. There is not much
7 development in the area, so salmon are able to be salmon.

8 People are concerned about the risks that presents
9 for the future. There are concerns that groundwater
10 resources could be contaminated and impact the fish that
11 way. I mean, we use copper to kill off algae and
12 everything else in landscape ponds and in the cities.
13 That's how the water stays so clean. The copper could
14 impair salmon's ability to smell. Salmon smells to locate
15 prey, to find a mate, and to find their way home to the
16 streams they are adapted to.

17 Our concern about the type of mine, is it an
18 acid-generating mine? Exposing rocks there to oxygen and
19 water basically creates an acid that dissolves metal. One
20 of the surveys EPA did over 100 streams, three out of
21 every four they found salmon. EPA examined potential
22 impact of some of the mine scenarios, indicating that if
23 Pebble deposits were developed, say 0.25 billion to 6.5
24 billion ton mined, not even full deposit, that up to 145
25 kilometers of streams would be eliminated.

1 We do know that Pebble deposits are directly under
2 productive salmon rivers, the Nushagak and Kvichak.
3 Pebble Limited Partner put in for water permits, so they
4 put in for most of the water that's in a number of streams
5 in the upper headwaters and also groundwater in the
6 region. There are 14 villages of Native Alaskans in the
7 Nushagak and Kvichak drainages. We rely on salmon for
8 subsistence. We live in a rural area. We don't have
9 grocery stores like big cities. We rely on salmon for
10 food security. Out here in Kokhanok, we rely on fish and
11 clean water for our subsistence and survival.

12 The science is clear. We would be trading renewable
13 wild salmon resources for nonrenewable mineral resources.
14 We know the only way here is by plane or boat, and some of
15 the highest cost of living in the U.S.A. But Pebble
16 developers have repeatedly stated that development must
17 not harm the salmon in the region that are important
18 culturally and commercially.

19 And I really -- and it really shouldn't be mining
20 versus fishing. Most people in Alaska support mining, as
21 I do, but not this one in this place. There is no other
22 place like Bristol Bay. Once it's gone, it's gone. To
23 see our jobs and way of life taken away by a foreign-owned
24 mine, the risk is real and undeniable. Jobs and
25 industries could be wiped away if there was ever a mine

1 disaster because of Pebble Mine.

2 And you would be taking the Natives' way of living.
3 We don't care if everyone thinks we are poor. We have no
4 jobs, and living off the seasons. Almost all Natives are
5 happy in their tiny villages. We know who is bad, good,
6 go to work, who is lazy. You know your neighbors,
7 council, clinics, schools and important news that affects
8 everyone in our area.

9 My grandparents were born and raised out here in the
10 1800s. We have a lot of history of fishing, trapping,
11 hunting out here. And today their family still does the
12 same thing. It's the life we choose to live.

13 Myself, I was a permit holder. I retired in '95 and
14 turned my permit over to my son. He's been fishing since
15 he was three years old, and now his oldest daughter,
16 Honey, is fishing alongside her dad, doing as I had done
17 with my mother. My daughter is buying a permit. And to
18 this day I still fish, putting up over 1,000 red salmon
19 for my family from Lake Iliamna where I call home.

20 If Pebble really wants the copper and gold, take the
21 raw ore and process it somewhere else besides the
22 headwaters of Bristol Bay, and don't barge it through the
23 lake. And this would be a place my children and
24 grandchildren could live for another 100 years, just as I
25 have been doing since I moved here in '93.

1 P.S. I just want to thank you for taking the time
2 and the money to listen to the people.

3 MR. SHANE MCCOY: Is Marlene Nielsen
4 available?

5 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: She just
6 walked out.

7 MR. SHANE MCCOY: Maybe she will come
8 back. Tootsie Roehl.

9 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: She left.

10 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: She wrote it
11 and handed it in.

12 MR. SHANE MCCOY: Okay. Thank you. Roy
13 Andrew.

14 MR. ROY ANDREW: Hi. Roy Andrew from
15 Kokhanok. You can't be fooled when Pebble or a mining
16 company or pro development company advertises coming out
17 here and tells us that -- or tells the public that they
18 have considered all of the venues, all of the paths and
19 they have created the perfect good tailings system and
20 they met all the requirements. Really being is -- it's
21 not that long, that mining conference at -- I don't know
22 -- New Mexico. And I asked this one -- this guy had done
23 the -- had done a presentation on a mining program, and
24 one of the things that he talked about was underground
25 aquifer system.

1 And so there I was, I asked him so X many feet down
2 into the ground, how did you guys go about on your
3 mathematical theory system in dictating and telling us how
4 underground -- what aquifer system works? And he said
5 they don't know; they guess. Because, say, 30, 40, 50, 60
6 feet, 100 feet down there, you can't dictate where water
7 is going to go. You can't.

8 And I asked a couple guys around Kotzebue area with
9 the Red Dog Mine, and what they did was -- for those of
10 you who aren't familiar with the region up there, there is
11 a mine up there. Now, what they did was they took
12 pictures 20 years later after all that was all done, after
13 all that mining company told everybody where everybody was
14 all happy and everything else, they were taking pictures
15 up there.

16 Now, that was after all the talking -- after they did
17 all that talking, you know, and they all sold themselves.
18 Well, the pictures didn't lie. What they saw was they saw
19 wide scale -- well, the dust settled every -- the fine
20 dust settled everywhere. What they saw was they saw a
21 decrease in the animal kingdom and animal life, everything
22 up there. And that was a fact.

23 You cannot believe a mining company. I drew up some
24 contracts for a living. And believe me, part of my job is
25 I love to out-talk other villages in my plan for

1 applications. Okay? And it's my job to write it all
2 down. I'll talk to everybody that is applying for the
3 application. Believe me, the trick is, once you got them
4 to believe you, you have already won. Okay?

5 If I was a mining CEO, that's what I would do. I
6 would come up with all these good theories and say, I'm
7 going to come up with the best tailings system in the
8 world, and you are going to believe me. That's my job for
9 you to believe me. And once I know that you believe me,
10 I've got you. Okay? That's what they are paid to do.
11 These guys are getting paid over \$100 an hour as a
12 consultant to write this stuff here. That's what they are
13 paid to do. And they are going to put it on their resume
14 that they created this project here, this project here,
15 this project here.

16 Look at the mines in Brazil. Look at the Columbia
17 River all messed up. Look at the mines at Nevada. I went
18 to -- well, a whole bunch of us went to Nevada once, and
19 we went through several small towns that were there,
20 Native American communities.

21 Guess what they had to do? They fell for the old
22 trick of believing that man who made a living convincing
23 everybody that he really, really did a good job. 20 years
24 later they had to import all of their drinking water,
25 bottled water. They had no choice because they found out

1 after the fact too late that they fell for the mining
2 companies, the CEOs, their writers' promises, you know, I
3 promise you; I promise you that these are the best plans
4 ever. No. That was a mistake. And they only found out
5 about the fact too late.

6 And when I think of aquifer system, I like that
7 man -- that mining man's answer. And he made a living out
8 of it. He told us directly that an underground aquifer
9 system that's 100 feet way down, he can't control it. He
10 can't predict it. Therefore, it's anybody's guess. And
11 that's where -- how it is with this mining here.

12 Now, what I'm afraid of is 30, 40, 50 years from now,
13 we might have one fishing disaster, one after another.
14 That's what I'm afraid of. And we may have a pro
15 development Congress. We may have a pro development
16 Alaska Legislature. Our oil money might be down, and then
17 we may go through three or four or five years of bad
18 fishing seasons. Alaska may turn to pro development. We
19 want that mine, but with these conditions.

20 My only -- I think my only solution to that is the
21 mining has to be all gone. What I'm afraid of is 30, 40,
22 50, 60 years down the line, the public may change. That's
23 what I don't like. That's what I wouldn't like to see.
24 It's a hard group. It's something hard to swallow, but I
25 hope we don't get to that.

1 And so as far as all of the data that's coming out,
2 keep in mind that these guys are paid over \$100 to write
3 that stuff for us guys to believe. And when they have --
4 when they see you swallowing that, that means that they
5 got you. And it's terrible, you know. And they love
6 writing it, too. That's what they are paid to do. They
7 get a high off of that.

8 And now I'll come to the point. Don't fall for all
9 of that data because all it is, it's all data. It's pure
10 speculation, all data, and they are paid to do it.

11 Thanks.

12 MR. SHANE MCCOY: Did Marlene Nielsen join
13 us? Rejoin us?

14 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: No.

15 MR. SHANE MCCOY: Okay. Bjorn Olson. If
16 you don't mind, again, make your mouth visible as possible
17 for our recorder so we get as accurate a transcription as
18 possible.

19 MR. BJORN OLSON: Thank you. I have
20 several people I need to thank and, of course, the Corps.
21 And then I really have to thank the United Tribes of
22 Bristol Bay for inviting me to come here and film these
23 important meetings.

24 But my comment is -- actually, it's a little more
25 pointed towards the State rather than the Feds. The raw

1 deal -- so I have been a documentary filmmaker. I grew up
2 in a small village in Alaska. I live in Homer now. And I
3 have been trying to wrap my mind around these big
4 developments for a long time and just try to understand
5 how they work. And something that really, really doesn't
6 make any sense to me is that the way these mines insure
7 against disaster is they have bonds that are held by the
8 State.

9 And so when we look at all -- when we cut through the
10 BS and we look at the track record, whenever there has
11 been large mine failures, tailings dams failures, which
12 there have been a ton -- there's a website. There's just
13 this -- there is a long, scrolling list. Everyone knows
14 about Mount Polley. There is just one after the next of
15 these mines, large mines' tailings dam facilities that are
16 supposed to last forever. That's what they say. What the
17 hell does forever mean? Like, you are lying. You know
18 nobody believes you because here is the track record.
19 They don't last even ten years, in some cases.

20 So here is the deal. Here is something that is so
21 appalling to me is that the State is the insurance policy,
22 basically. We say give us -- we take -- the State holds
23 the bonds. What I suggest we do, because every time the
24 mine developer comes, they say trust us. We are going to
25 do a better job than Mount Polley. We are going to do a

1 better job.

2 What I'm suggesting is say stop asking us to trust
3 you. Convince an insurance company to trust you just like
4 any other mine -- just like any other business, and make
5 sure that the policy -- that we are in control of what the
6 policy covers, so in 100 years if the dam fails, then they
7 still have to pay. And whoever signed their name on the
8 contract -- when they say trust us, we say, okay, sign
9 your name, so that in 100 years we find your heir and
10 whoever your money is into, that we can get you to come
11 clean it up. Because the way it is right now, it's a
12 socialized risk for private profit. And that's not fair
13 to Alaska.

14 We pick up the price tag when the failure happens,
15 but they leave with the profit. And this is the part of
16 the system that we allow them to get away with. And as
17 the State of Alaska, we have to have a better policy where
18 it says you have to have actual insurance by a large
19 insurance company. We are not the insurance holder
20 because we are bad at risk assessment. You want to prove
21 that you can do a good job? Convince an insurance
22 company.

23 That's my testimony.

24 MR. SHANE MCCOY: Well, folks, that's the
25 list of folks that wanted to testify in front of a large

1 group. At this time, until someone else would like to
2 provide testimony to a large group, I'm going to turn the
3 mic off. Anyone who wants to come speak to the court
4 reporter and have your comments recorded directly, not in
5 front of a large group, not in front of the microphone, I
6 invite you to do so. Otherwise, I would also encourage
7 you to visit the project website. There is a voluminous
8 amount of information.

9 All public comments are available to be seen,
10 including we will get all of these as realtime as we can.
11 I understand there is some lag, but the project website is
12 pebbleprojecteis.com. The permit application is
13 available. The video that we are showing will be
14 available, and a lot of baseline data that we are taking a
15 hard look at is also available to folks to help inform
16 their comments.

17 But again, I would like to thank you all for showing
18 up. The public involvement is an important part of the
19 process. And the fact that there is so many people here
20 today shows a concerted effort and desire to be part of
21 that process to help inform the analysis. So again, I'd
22 like to thank you on behalf of the United States Army and
23 myself. Thank you for having us.

24 And again, there will be another public comment
25 period after the close of this comment period for the

1 draft EIS. Thank you.

2 And I'd also like to thank you for the fantastic
3 spread of food here. Thank you, you guys.

4 (Off the record.)

5 MR. DAVE MCALISTER: For the record, my
6 name is Dave McAlister. I'm the Chief Executive Officer
7 for Alaska Peninsula Corp. Alaska Peninsula Corporation
8 is the Alaska Native village corporation for the
9 communities of South Naknek, Port Heiden, Ugashik,
10 Kokhanok and Newhalen, along with Kokhanok Village
11 Council, the federally recognized tribe of Kokhanok, share
12 these joint comments to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
13 regarding the proposed Pebble Mine application, which is
14 presently under review.

15 This joint statement does not demonstrate a
16 for-or-against position on the proposed Pebble Mine;
17 however, it speaks to the immediate and positive impacts
18 generated by the project's present and future scientific
19 effort. The Alaska Peninsula Corporation, formed under
20 the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 and the
21 largest private landowner at Kokhanok and Newhalen,
22 expresses a strong support for a total and fair review of
23 PLP's permit application for development of Pebble Mine.

24 Additionally, Alaska Peninsula Corporation and the
25 Kokhanok Village Council express serious concerns for

1 potential termination of opportunity that benefits both
2 shareholders and residents of Kokhanok and Newhalen.

3 Kokhanok has exhibited significantly high rates of
4 unemployment for many years. The regional economy of
5 Bristol Bay as a whole suffers and is known to have
6 unemployment rates that far exceed the national average.
7 The Lake and Pen Borough has an unemployment rate of 16
8 percent. Presently commercial fishing has a very limited
9 effect on Kokhanok's local economy. The myth that
10 commercial fishing will sustain an economy is false.
11 There are only four commercial fishing drift permits left
12 in the community of Kokhanok. Less commercial fishing
13 permits equate to fewer jobs and only satisfy a small
14 portion of the communities for year-round employment.

15 At this time Alaska Peninsula Corporation and the
16 Kokhanok Village Council respectfully ask the Corps of
17 Engineers to consider the state of the local and regional
18 economies and the impact of the denial of Pebble's
19 application on Kokhanok and the surrounding villages'
20 future sustainability.

21 MR. LANEY MOSES: Good afternoon, members
22 of United States Army Corps of Engineers. My name is
23 Laney Moses from Levelock. I'm a Bristol Bay set net
24 permit holder of 18 years. I acquired my permit from my
25 grandmother when she got too old to run the operation. I

1 strongly oppose the proposed Pebble Mine because of the
2 unreversible impact it will bring to our homeland and the
3 unreversible effect it will have on the pristine land and
4 waters, the unreversible effect it will have on the
5 animals that we so dearly depend on. The proposed road
6 will bring in so much unneeded traffic to an area that is
7 only accessible by small vehicles or air. The impact it
8 will have on the land and the animals that we utilize in
9 the area will be detrimental not only to them, but to us,
10 also.

11 I thank you very much.

12 MS. SHEILA HOBSON: Hi. Sheila Hobson,
13 maiden name Nelson. And I was born in Anchorage, but I
14 was raised here in Kokhanok. And I put up fish with my
15 grandpa since I was a little girl. And my dad's been --
16 he taught me how to hunt and taught me the way of the land
17 and what you gather. I picked up a lot of everything from
18 both sides of my family, from the fish gathering, berry
19 picking gathering and, like, all the fresh food. I
20 learned that from my grandma, Mary Nelson. And all my
21 hunting skills I've learned from my dad, Joseph Zackar.

22 And I have three kids. My oldest is nine, my middle
23 one is six, and my youngest one is two. And they help me
24 every summer with fish.

25 And just for the proposed road mine to come -- to go

1 from here to Amakdedori, it drives all the way across
2 everything where the caribou roam to eat, where they
3 calve; the moose, where they roam, calve and feed. Also
4 along with our berry picking, it runs right straight
5 through the middle of it. So if there is dust -- and
6 everything needs to drink and have water. If that ain't
7 good, well, I think that's -- I think that would be the
8 end of our way of life, as well.

9 And I just wanted to say thank you for letting me
10 give you my testimony.

11 MR. PAUL CHUKWAK: Paul Chuckwak,
12 C-H-U-K-W-A-K. I'm from the village of Levelock. And I
13 am a shareholder of Bristol Bay Native Corporation. And
14 I'm from -- I live downstream on the Kvichak from the
15 proposed Pebble project, and have been living here all of
16 my life. The idea of an open pit mine here is ludicrous
17 and should be shot down indefinitely. The resources and
18 subsistence life we have here are vital to our way of life
19 for which we have to live and is something in which my
20 children and grandchildren can experience without the idea
21 of our next generation getting ill from the toxic
22 chemicals from the open pit mine.

23 I do hope you take into consideration our objection
24 to the proposed open pit mine.

25 Thank you for your time to listen to our pleas.

1 Thank you.

2 MS. ANESIA NEWYAK: I like to say about
3 Amakdedori where graves are, because when we were camping
4 over there, I sleep on top of a grave. We didn't know. I
5 used to sleep, I have a funny dream every night. And I
6 told the teacher, every time we do it, I have some funny
7 dreams. And he told me maybe I sleep on top of a grave.
8 So the second time he moved me to a tent with the other
9 people. Then I'm okay.

10 I'm not from Amakdedori, but the first time I trip
11 over there, and my dad used to tell me there is graves
12 over there. And we don't know. It's flat, other side
13 of -- there is the ocean right there. There is a flat
14 one, and right there just nice and flat. They had a grave
15 there. Maybe other side, too.

16 They said a long time ago they used to stay. People
17 are there. You know, they -- they come from, like,
18 Kwethluk and from up north, you know. Our people used to
19 come from up there, and when starvation come, they go,
20 scattered all over, our people. And some of them go to
21 Kodiak, and some of them go over to Amakdedori with the
22 canoe.

23 Then they start catching fish to eat. They had
24 nothing, nothing to eat that year before -- before -- you
25 know -- you know, a long time ago my dad, he born at Old

1 Iliamna. My mom is from Newhalen. And I born at Newhalen
2 in '41. 1941. I born over there. After I born, my
3 parents moved to here.

4 Rest of them, I don't know. Only the one I know, I
5 talk about it. Yeah.

6 (Proceedings adjourned at 5:56 p.m.)

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I, MARY A. VAVRIK, RMR, Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska do hereby certify:

That the foregoing proceedings were taken before me at the time and place herein set forth; that the proceedings were reported stenographically by me and later transcribed under my direction by computer transcription; that the foregoing is a true record of the 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 April 2018.

MARY A. VAVRIK,
Registered Merit Reporter
Notary Public for Alaska

My Commission Expires: November 5, 2020

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