



# Bristol Bay Native Corporation

*Enriching Our Native Way of Life*

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March 8, 2010

The Honorable Bryce Edgmon  
Chair, House Fisheries Committee  
State Capitol Room 416  
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: House Concurrent Resolution 15

Dear Representative Edgmon:

Thank you for your co-sponsorship of House Concurrent Resolution No. 15 with Representative Alan Austerman, which allows for the assessment of the impacts of mineral extraction in Bristol Bay. Bristol Bay Native Corporation supports this effort and the further advancement of this resolution, as part of the State of Alaska's responsibility in reviewing the risks of development of the Pebble Mine project on state-owned land.

This resolution allows for independent scientific research at a time that is most critical to the future assessment of the Pebble project. A greater understanding of the environmental and socioeconomic impacts of a project this size, will help formulate an informed opinion for residents of Bristol Bay, citizens of Alaska and lawmakers in future discussions as the mine's permitting process begins. BBNC believes that these stakeholders in the project deserve to have access to the facts of the project from an independent, impartial source, such as the National Academy of Sciences noted in the resolution.

The State of Alaska, as land-owner and policy-maker in the case of the Pebble Mine project, has an obligation to its citizens to seek the best possible information as the potential development of this project moves forward. An adequate understanding of the potential impacts of large-scale mining in the Bristol Bay area watershed is critical to the prudent nature necessary for future decisions.

Thank you for taking the time to consider our corporation's opinion regarding the need for more information on Pebble Mine. BBNC represents the interests of more than 8,500 shareholders with ties to the Bristol Bay region, many of whom are asking the same questions of the environmental and socioeconomic impacts the Pebble project will have. Please contact our office with questions regarding this letter.

Thank you again for your support of this important resolution.

Sincerely,

Jason Metrokin  
President & Chief Executive Officer

CC: Representative Alan Austerman