

HB 77 Support Documents Index Group #5
Passed Out to Committee Members on 3/14/14

1. Robert Hughes – March 14th
2. Trefon Angasan – March 14th
3. Steve Connelly – March 14th
4. David Spokely – March 14th
5. Gregory Beischer – March 14th
6. Sarah Lefebvre – March 14th
7. Daniel Grove – March 14th
8. Jason Cates – March 14th
9. Sam Mazzeo – March 14th
10. Scott Hartman – March 14th
11. Colleen Kilroy – March 14th
12. Keith Silver – March 14th
13. Adam Crum – March 14th
14. Keriann Shine – March 14th
15. Bob Kuhns – March 14th
16. Brain Peeler – March 14th
17. Joseph Nesbit – March 14th
18. Karen Matthias – March 14th
19. Crystal Nygard – March 14th
20. Brad Angasan – March 14th
21. Stephen Grabacki – March 14th
22. Mike Mortensen – March 14th
23. Mike Satre – March 14th

Dear Senator Giessel:

I wish to go on record as supporting HB 77, “An Act relating to the Alaska Land Act, including certain authorizations, contracts, leases, permits, or other disposals of state land,” This is a very positive step in improving governmental efficiencies and reducing costs.

The State of Alaska and its permitting agencies have undergone review since 2011 to examine their regulatory processes and determine ways to make them more efficient. The review have included outreach to stakeholders across Alaska, and has resulted this legislation that allows agencies to implement changes to make permitting in Alaska more efficient, predictable, and timely while maintaining their mission of protecting the environment.

HB 77 will help reduce the backlog of permit applications in DNR. This is great progress.

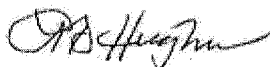
HB77 provides for the issuance of general permits, so that minor projects can be permitted practically. Section 1 of HB77 makes it clear there is a requirement for public notice and provides opportunity for public input on any general permit. General permits would cover activities that are already authorized for permit under existing statute. General permits are not unprecedented; in fact, they are currently used by Federal agencies.

HB77 requires that appeals to sales, leases, and land disposals can be done only by those who are directly and negatively impacted by the decision. This brings accountability to the appeals process, ensuring that appeals must be brought only when a directly involved stakeholder is adversely affected by a decision, rather than a special interest attempting to block permits.

HB77 ensures that Alaska’s water resources are managed by those who are best equipped to do so: the science-based expertise of our state resource agencies.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,



Richard A. Hughes, PE

H2T Mine Engineering Services, LLP

318 Juneau Ave.

Fairbanks, AK 99701-3768

From: TREFON Angasan
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2014 11:29 AM
To: Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: Denatore Bill 77

Please vote yes on SB 77.

Sincerely,

Trefon Angasan

Friday, March 14, 2014

Governor Sean R. Parnell
Office of the Governor
PO Box 110001
Juneau AK 998110001
Fax: (907) 465-3532

RE: I Support HB77

Dear Governor Parnell:

HB77 is a rare opportunity to streamline the permitting of resource development projects, make the process more predictable and reduce the opportunity for third party lawsuits and other project-stopping mischief. In addition, it will help our state permitting agencies manage their permitting activities more efficiently and effectively.

Importantly, HB77 provides for the issuance of general permits, so that smaller projects can be permitted in a practical way. General permits would cover activities that are already authorized for permit under existing statute. There is ample precedent for the use general permits; in fact, they are widely used by federal agencies.

HB77 also requires that appeals to sales, leases, and land disposals can be done only by those who are directly and negatively impacted by the decision. This brings accountability to the appeals process, ensuring that appeals must be brought only when a directly involved stakeholder is adversely affected by a decision, rather than a special interest group attempting to block permits.

The current version of CSHB77 ensures that Alaska's water resources are managed by those who are best equipped to do so - agency staff with science-based expertise. Further, important changes have been made to the bill to address concerns raised over the interim.

Finally, a very important feature of HB77 is that it diminishes the ability of so-called environmental advocacy organizations to abuse the system and stop projects. This is extremely important to Alaska's economic future.

Bottom line: This bill will cut the red tape and put Alaskans to work.

I urge you to support the bill!

Thank you,
Mr. Steve Connelly
11860 Nebesna Dr.
Anchorage AK 99507

HB77 is a rare opportunity to streamline the permitting of resource development projects, make the process more predictable and reduce the opportunity for third party lawsuits and other project-stopping mischief. In addition, it will help our state permitting agencies manage their permitting activities more efficiently and effectively.

Importantly, HB77 provides for the issuance of general permits, so that smaller projects can be permitted in a practical way. General permits would cover activities that are already authorized for permit under existing statute. There is ample precedent for the use general permits; in fact, they are widely used by federal agencies.

HB77 also requires that appeals to sales, leases, and land disposals can be done only by those who are directly and negatively impacted by the decision. This brings accountability to the appeals process, ensuring that appeals must be brought only when a directly involved stakeholder is adversely affected by a decision, rather than a special interest group attempting to block permits.

The current version of CSHB77 ensures that Alaska's water resources are managed by those who are best equipped to do so - agency staff with science-based expertise. Further, important changes have been made to the bill to address concerns raised over the interim.

Finally, a very important feature of HB77 is that it diminishes the ability of so-called environmental advocacy organizations to abuse the system and stop projects. This is extremely important to Alaska's economic future.

Bottom line: This bill will cut the red tape and put Alaskans to work.

I urge you to support the bill!

Thank you,

mr david spokely
owner
power systems & supplies of alaska
po box 1559
ward cove ak 99928

Friday, March 14, 2014

Governor Sean R. Parnell
Office of the Governor
PO Box 110001
Juneau AK 998110001
Fax: (907) 465-3532

RE: I Support HB77

Dear Governor Parnell:

General Permits just make good common sense for most early-stage projects. The environmental risk is low and routine projects should be approved in a streamlined, efficient fashion. Industry is not looking for rubber stamp approvals but we are looking for timely, efficiency permitting. As a state, we need to take away the ability of anti-development groups that oppose all resource projects and use the existing system to cause unnecessary, counter-productive delay and frustration. Permitting delays and uncertainty are one of the biggest deterrents to further resource development in Alaska. Obstructionist organizations know this and abuse the system to their great advantage. I am a concerned Alaskan that wants to see this State flourish economically in a balanced manner that is protective of the environment and all those that use and share the land. CSHB77 is a good step in the right direction. I urge you to support the bill!

Thank you,

Gregory Beischer
President & CEO
Millrock Resources Inc
3720 Gunwale Ct
Anchorage AK 99516

HB77 is a rare opportunity to streamline the permitting of resource development projects, make the process more predictable and reduce the opportunity for third party lawsuits and other project-stopping mischief.

In addition, it will help our state permitting agencies manage their permitting activities more efficiently and effectively.

Importantly, HB77 provides for the issuance of general permits, so that smaller projects can be permitted in a practical way. General permits would cover activities that are already authorized for permit under existing statute. There is ample precedent for the use general permits; in fact, they are widely used by federal agencies.

HB77 also requires that appeals to sales, leases, and land disposals can be done only by those who are directly and negatively impacted by the decision. This brings accountability to the appeals process, ensuring that appeals must be brought only when a directly involved stakeholder is adversely affected by a decision, rather than a special interest group attempting to block permits.

The current version of CSHB77 ensures that Alaska's water resources are managed by those who are best equipped to do so - agency staff with science-based expertise. Further, important changes have been made to the bill to address concerns raised over the interim.

Finally, a very important feature of HB77 is that it diminishes the ability of so-called environmental advocacy organizations to abuse the system and stop projects. This is extremely important to Alaska's economic future.

Bottom line: This bill will cut the red tape and put Alaskans to work.

I urge you to support the bill!

Thank you,

Sarah Lefebvre
2009 McCullam Ave
Fairbanks AK 99701

HB77 is a rare opportunity to streamline the permitting of resource development projects, make the process more predictable and reduce the opportunity for third party lawsuits and other project-stopping mischief. In addition, it will help our state permitting agencies manage their permitting activities more efficiently and effectively.

Importantly, HB77 provides for the issuance of general permits, so that smaller projects can be permitted in a practical way. General permits would cover activities that are already authorized for permit under existing statute. There is ample precedent for the use general permits; in fact, they are widely used by federal agencies.

HB77 also requires that appeals to sales, leases, and land disposals can be done only by those who are directly and negatively impacted by the decision. This brings accountability to the appeals process, ensuring that appeals must be brought only when a directly involved stakeholder is adversely affected by a decision, rather than a special interest group attempting to block permits.

The current version of CSHB77 ensures that Alaska's water resources are managed by those who are best equipped to do so - agency staff with science-based expertise. Further, important changes have been made to the bill to address concerns raised over the interim.

Finally, a very important feature of HB77 is that it diminishes the ability of so-called environmental advocacy organizations to abuse the system and stop projects. This is extremely important to Alaska's economic future.

Bottom line: This bill will cut the red tape and put Alaskans to work.

I urge you to support the bill!

Thank you,

Mr Daniel Grove
2910 Pirate Lane
Kenai AK 99611

HB77 is a rare opportunity to streamline the permitting of resource development projects, make the process more predictable and reduce the opportunity for third party lawsuits and other project-stopping mischief. In addition, it will help our state permitting agencies manage their permitting activities more efficiently and effectively.

Importantly, HB77 provides for the issuance of general permits, so that smaller projects can be permitted in a practical way. General permits would cover activities that are already authorized for permit under existing statute. There is ample precedent for the use general permits; in fact, they are widely used by federal agencies.

HB77 also requires that appeals to sales, leases, and land disposals can be done only by those who are directly and negatively impacted by the decision. This brings accountability to the appeals process, ensuring that appeals must be brought only when a directly involved stakeholder is adversely affected by a decision, rather than a special interest group attempting to block permits.

The current version of CSHB77 ensures that Alaska's water resources are managed by those who are best equipped to do so - agency staff with science-based expertise. Further, important changes have been made to the bill to address concerns raised over the interim.

Finally, a very important feature of HB77 is that it diminishes the ability of so-called environmental advocacy organizations to abuse the system and stop projects. This is extremely important to Alaska's economic future.

Bottom line: This bill will cut the red tape and put Alaskans to work.

I urge you to support the bill!

Thank you,

mr Jason Cates
19505 ostivia cir
eagle river ak 99577

Folks,

I am personally submitting my support of HB77, and as a member of the Resource Development Council of Alaska's board of directors. In general, I believe that Alaska lawmakers need to pro-actively protect Alaska businesses ability to develop its resources. Our hands are pretty tied at the Federal level, so I suggest doing more at the State level to help ourselves.

Sam Mazzeo
4633 Jumar Ave
Anchorage Alaska 99516

Thank you for considering to vote "yes" on HB77 and protecting Alaska's ability to develop its resources in a reasonable fashion.

Thank you,

Sam.

From: Scott Hartman
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2014 12:02 PM
To: Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: Support for HB77

Honorable Senator,

My name is Scott Hartman and I am a home owner and 6 year resident of Juneau, Alaska. I am also the general manager of Hecla Greens Creek Mining Company. I am contacting you to voice my support of HB77 and ask for yours. This bill improves the permitting process by:

- Allowing for general permits to cover low impact activities and allowing agency resources to be used more effectively and efficiently.
- Requiring that those affected, voice their concerns early in the process so that concerns can be addressed, rather than subverting the permitting process as an opportunity for non-affected outside interests to wait till the end in an effort to just delay, add cost, and stop development.
- Providing that water resources are administered by the state for the benefit of all Alaskans and not locked up through “water reservations” subverting the process to prevent development.
- Improving some of the issues with land exchanges.

Please consider the facts and all of the people of Alaska when making your decision rather than rhetoric of anti-development groups. People of good will who are truly affected and have legitimate concerns that need to be addressed in the permitting process are actually better served by these improvements in the permitting process.

Thank you for your consideration in this important matter.

Respectfully,

Scott N. Hartman

General Manager

Hecla Greens Creek Mining Company

13401 Glacier Highway

P.O. Box 32199

Juneau, Alaska 99803

From: Colleen Kilroy

Sent: Friday, March 14, 2014 12:40 PM

To: Sen. Cathy Giessel; Sen. Fred Dyson; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Lesil McGuire; Sen. Anna Fairclough; Sen. Hollis French

Subject: Yes on HB77

Dear Senators,

I am writing to you as an Alaskan resident and small business employee in support of HB77. I ask that you please vote Yes on HB77.

HB77 does NOT cut Alaskans out of public process. In fact, it strengthens the ability for the public to participate

HB77 does not give the DNR Commissioner excessive authority.

HB77 does NOT put salmon or the environment in jeopardy.

HB77 does NOT harm the traditional way of life.

HB77 is simply a permitting efficiency measure. The State of Alaska and its permitting agencies have undergone review since 2011 to examine their regulatory processes and determine ways to make them more efficient. These efforts included outreach to stakeholders across Alaska, and ultimately resulted in Legislation that allowed the agencies to implement changes to make permitting in Alaska more efficient, predictable, and timely while maintaining their mission of protecting the environment.

HB77 implements changes that will provide certainty and timely response to Alaskans that obtain permits, while maintaining efficiently run state agencies. In these times of trimming the state budget, ensuring that state agencies are able to efficiently issue and manage permits, thus keeping down the cost and time expended, is crucial.

Thanks to special appropriations by the Legislature, DNR is making positive progress on a substantial permit application backlog. The funding has helped reduce the extent of the backlog, but efficiency measures in HB77 help address the cause of the backlogs moving forward.

HB77 provides for the issuance of general permits, so that minor projects can be permitted practically. Section 1 of HB77 makes it clear there is a requirement for public notice and provides opportunity for public input on any general permit. General permits would cover activities that are already authorized for permit under existing statute. General permits are not unprecedented; in fact, they are used by Federal agencies currently. HB77 requires that appeals to sales, leases, and land disposals can be done only by those who are directly and negatively impacted by the decision. This brings accountability to the appeals process, ensuring that appeals must be brought only when a directly involved stakeholder is adversely affected by a decision, rather than a special interest attempting to block permits.

HB77 ensures that Alaska's water resources are managed by those who are best equipped to do so: the science-based expertise of our state resource agencies.

Please vote Yes on HB77. Thank you.

Regards,

Colleen

Colleen Kilroy

Program Administrator

Northern Industrial Training

3700 Centerpoint Dr, Suite 102

Anchorage, AK 99503

Friday, March 14, 2014

Governor Sean R. Parnell
Office of the Governor
PO Box 110001
Juneau AK 998110001
Fax: (907) 465-3532

RE: I Support HB77

Dear Governor Parnell:

HB77 is a rare opportunity to streamline the permitting of resource development projects, make the process more predictable and reduce the opportunity for third party lawsuits and other project-stopping mischief. In addition, it will help our state permitting agencies manage their permitting activities more efficiently and effectively.

Importantly, HB77 provides for the issuance of general permits, so that smaller projects can be permitted in a practical way. General permits would cover activities that are already authorized for permit under existing statute. There is ample precedent for the use general permits; in fact, they are widely used by federal agencies.

HB77 also requires that appeals to sales, leases, and land disposals can be done only by those who are directly and negatively impacted by the decision. This brings accountability to the appeals process, ensuring that appeals must be brought only when a directly involved stakeholder is adversely affected by a decision, rather than a special interest group attempting to block permits.

The current version of CSHB77 ensures that Alaska's water resources are managed by those who are best equipped to do so - agency staff with science-based expertise. Further, important changes have been made to the bill to address concerns raised over the interim.

Finally, a very important feature of HB77 is that it diminishes the ability of so-called environmental advocacy organizations to abuse the system and stop projects. This is extremely important to Alaska's economic future.

Bottom line: This bill will cut the red tape and put Alaskans to work.

I urge you to support the bill!

Thank you,

Keith Silver
2511 Ridge Pointe Dr
Anchorage AK 99515

From: Adam Crum
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2014 11:57 AM
To: Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: HB 77 Support

Senator,

I am writing to express my support for HB 77 and my hope that you will vote YES. I apologize for my inability to be part of the public testimony on Wednesday as I work for a living and can find time to step away, so please accept this message as my testimony to you. I assure you that those in opposition to HB 77 do not speak for myself, colleagues or the majority of Alaskans.

HB 77 should be approved as it creates a streamlined permitting process and preserves the Alaskan right for public comment. I particularly appreciate the language that specifies that anyone appealing must have standing a directly affected party – this will deny non-Alaskans and non-stakeholders the opportunity to interfere with our due process.

Please support and vote YES on HB77.

Thank you for your time.

Adam Crum

From: Keriann Shine

Sent: Friday, March 14, 2014 12:04 PM

To: Sen. Cathy Giessel; Sen. Fred Dyson; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Lesil McGuire; Sen. Anna Fairclough; Sen. Hollis French

Subject: HB 77

Importance: High

I support HB 77. Please vote yes on HB 77.

Keriann Shine

Administrative Coordinator

Northern Industrial Training

3700 Centerpoint Dr. Suite 102

Anchorage, AK 99503

From: Ben Kuhns

Sent: Friday, March 14, 2014 12:06 PM

To: Sen. Cathy Giessel; Sen. Fred Dyson; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Lesil McGuire; Sen. Anna Fairclough; Sen. Hollis French

Subject: HB77 Support

Dear Senator,

I was unable to make it to Wednesday's discussion, due to work commitments, but wish to show my support and ask for a YES vote on HB77.

Thanks,

Ben Kuhns

IH Consultant / HSE Instructor

From: Brian Peeler
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2014 12:06 PM
To: Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: HB77

I support HB77.

Respectfully,

Brian Peeler

Training Coordinator

Northern Industrial Training

3700 Centerpoint Dr. Suite 102

Anchorage, AK 99503

From: Joseph Nesbit

Sent: Friday, March 14, 2014 12:11 PM

To: Sen. Cathy Giessel

Cc: Sen. Fred Dyson; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Lesil McGuire; Sen. Anna Fairclough; Sen. Hollis French

Subject: HB77 My view

Senators

First, let me say that I support HB77 and would like you to vote YES on it.

I own property in Alaska and have mined in Alaska since 1982. I also own a home in southwest Washington, which leads to my main point.

The main population centers in Washington and Oregon are King County and Multnomah County respectively. These are very densely occupied areas. Because of the way the laws and statutes are written, these small areas of their respective states have the ability to dictate policy to the remaining, producing (logging, farming, ranching, mining, etc.) 95% of those states. Most folks in the rural areas feel disenfranchised as they don't have the votes to defend their own particular needs.

I see public input as a necessary part of development, but that input should only come from people who would be directly affected by the development, not from those whose only objection is that they disagree.

We should not allow activists whose lives are not directly impacted by a particular development to influence how that development proceeds

Thank you for your time.

Joe Nesbit

From: Karen Matthias

Sent: Friday, March 14, 2014 12:22 PM

To: Sen. Cathy Giessel; Sen. Fred Dyson; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Lesil McGuire; Sen. Anna Fairclough; Sen. Hollis French

Subject: Please vote yes on HB77

Dear Senate Resource Committee member,

I have already submitted a letter of support for HB77 on behalf of the Council of Alaska Producers, but I wanted to also register my support for the bill as an individual Alaskan. The new CS for HB77 is not perfect, but I believe it effectively addresses the public concerns that were raised last year. The testimony against the bill on Wednesday did not focus on the actual language and made wild accusations about its implications.

I am a mother who wants to see a sustainable Alaska - economically AND environmentally. I know that Alaska's economy depends on responsible resource development. Permitting that is rigorous but efficient is essential to our economic prosperity. HB77 streamlines permitting and makes government more efficient while ensuring strict regulation of development. This makes sense to me and I would like to see HB77 passed in its current form.

Thank you for considering my comments and for your hard work and service to Alaska.

Sincerely,

Karen Matthias
Managing Consultant
Council of Alaska Producers
PO Box 220193
Anchorage, AK 99522-0193

Dear Governor Parnell:

HB77 is a rare opportunity to streamline the permitting of resource development projects, make the process more predictable and reduce the opportunity for third party lawsuits and other project-stopping mischief. In addition, it will help our state permitting agencies manage their permitting activities more efficiently and effectively.

Importantly, HB77 provides for the issuance of general permits, so that smaller projects can be permitted in a practical way. General permits would cover activities that are already authorized for permit under existing statute. There is ample precedent for the use general permits; in fact, they are widely used by federal agencies.

HB77 also requires that appeals to sales, leases, and land disposals can be done only by those who are directly and negatively impacted by the decision. This brings accountability to the appeals process, ensuring that appeals must be brought only when a directly involved stakeholder is adversely affected by a decision, rather than a special interest group attempting to block permits.

The current version of CSHB77 ensures that Alaska's water resources are managed by those who are best equipped to do so - agency staff with science-based expertise. Further, important changes have been made to the bill to address concerns raised over the interim.

Finally, a very important feature of HB77 is that it diminishes the ability of so-called environmental advocacy organizations to abuse the system and stop projects. This is extremely important to Alaska's economic future.

Bottom line: This bill will cut the red tape and put Alaskans to work.

I urge you to support the bill!

Thank you,

Crystal Nygard
Co-Founder
Matsu Business Alliance
3161 Palmer Wasilla Highway
Wasilla AK 99687

From: Brad Angasan
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2014 12:28 PM
To: Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: 3-14-14 HB 77

Sen Giessel- My name is Brad Angasan. I reside in Anchorage. Please consider this message testimony of my support for HB77.

Brad T Angasan
President
Wetaviq LTD/ Wetaviq Universal Services LLC, 8a, ANC

From: Stephen Grabacki
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2014 12:34 PM
To: Sen. Cathy Giessel
Cc:
Subject: HB77 YES

Dear Senator Giessel -- I am a fisheries biologist with decades of experience in helping resource developers (oil&gas, mining, hydropower) pursue their projects while protecting Alaska's fisheries.

Ownership of in-stream water reservations is an "essential government function", similar to law enforcement. HB77 ensures that Alaska's water resources are managed by those who are best equipped to do so:
the science-based expertise of our state resource agencies.

From first-hand professional experience, I know that Title 16 of Alaska Statutes has protected, and will continue to protect, those renewable resources. HB77 does not diminish those protections.

I urge you and the Senate to vote Yes on HB77. Best regards, -- Steve

PS: Thank you for your service to Alaska.

Stephen T. (Steve) Grabacki, FP-C
President, and Certified Fisheries Professional

GRAYSTAR Pacific Seafood, Ltd.
P.O.Box 100506
Anchorage, Alaska
99510-0506 USA

From: Mike Mortensen

Sent: Friday, March 14, 2014 12:55 PM

To: Sen. Cathy Giessel; Sen. Fred Dyson; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Lesil McGuire; Sen. Anna Fairclough; Sen. Hollis French

Subject: YES on HB77

Senators, I'm writing to request a yes vote on HB77. This bill supports responsible and timely development of projects in Alaska by Alaskans. HB77 will benefit the economic outlook of the state in general while continuing to encourage responsible use of our natural resources. Please vote to support the people of Alaska and not outside special environmental interest groups.

Mike Mortensen

General Mgr./ C.O.O

Alaska Rubber & Rigging Supply

An **ARG** Employee Owned Company

Honorable Senators,

On Wednesday, March 12, I testified in support of HB77 in Senate Resources on behalf of the Council of Alaska Producers. I want to take this chance to raise my voice in support once again, not only on behalf of the Hecla Greens Creek Mine, but on behalf of my family here in Juneau.

I urge you to please look past the noisy rhetoric and the bumper sticker arguments that have been put forth in opposition to this bill. A close and careful reading of the legislation reveals that the current version of HB77 makes very simple and effective changes to our permitting system that will allow it to effectively serve Alaskans while protecting the environment that we all treasure.

The general permitting authority given DNR in Section 1 mimics the authorities used effectively nationwide by the Corps of Engineers, the EPA and many other states. The general permits are subject to public review and comment and in no way give the Commissioner of DNR broad authorities to grant them for anything but small, common projects with de-minimis impact.

The changes to appeal standing in Section 4 rightfully place the onus on stakeholders to meaningfully participate in the early stages of permit review. Early involvement is the best chance for them to work with state agencies, the developer and other stakeholders to adapt project plans to meet their expectations. Waiting until the appeals or litigation stage to indicate that one is "aggrieved" is of no help to anyone and HB77 rightfully raises the bar on appeals in order to encourage public participation .

Finally, it is common sense that the State of Alaska hold all water reservations in order to meet their constitutional duty to manage our resources. Holding these reservations allows the state to properly balance demands for water while ensuring flows remain for the reserved purpose, including fish and wildlife habitat.

Please take the time to carefully consider this bill and I am confident that you will find that it does none of the outlandish things that its detractors say it will do. Please move this out of committee today so it may be passed on the floor of the Senate as soon as possible.

Thank you,

Mike Satre

Manager of Government and Community Relations

Hecla Greens Creek Mining Co.

PO Box 32199 Juneau, AK 99803

T: 907.523.1410

C: 907.957.2149