

UTBB Headquarters
P.O. Box 1252
Dillingham, AK 99576
Telephone: 907- 842-1687
Fax: 907- 842-1853

UTBB Member Tribes:
Nondalton Tribal Council
P.O. Box 49
Nondalton, Alaska 99640
Telephone: 907-294-2257
Fax: 907-294-2271

New Stuyahok Traditional Council
P.O. Box 49
New Stuyahok, Alaska 99636
Telephone: 907-693-3173
Fax: 907-693-3179

Levelock Village Council
P.O. Box 70
Levelock, Alaska 99625
Telephone: 907-596-3434
Fax: 907-596-3462

Curyung Tribal Council
P.O. Box 216
Dillingham, Alaska 99576
Telephone: 907-842-2384
Fax: 907-842-4510

Ekuk Village Council
P.O. Box 530
Dillingham, Alaska 99576
Phone: 907-842-3842
Fax: 907-842-3843

Manokotak Village Council
P.O. Box 169
Manokotak, Alaska 99628
Telephone: 907-289-2067
Fax: 907-289-1235

New Koliganek Village Council
P.O. Box 5057
Koliganek, Alaska 99576
Telephone: 907-596-3434
Fax: 907-596-3462

Traditional Council of Togiak
P.O. Box 310
Togiak, Alaska 99678
Telephone: 907-493-5003
Fax: 907-493-5005

Clarks Point Village Council
P.O. Box 90
Clark's Point, Alaska 99569
Telephone: 907-236-1427
Fax: 907-236-1428

Twin Hills Village Council
P.O. Box TWA
Twin Hills, Alaska 99576
Telephone: 907-525-4821
Fax: 907-525-4822

Aleknagik Traditional Council
P.O. Box 115
Aleknagik, AK 99555
Telephone: 907-842-2080
Fax: 907-842-2081

Portage Creek Village Council
1327 E. 72nd Unit B
Anchorage, AK 99518
Telephone: 907-277-1105
Fax: 907-277-1104

Chignik Lake Traditional Council
P.O. Box 33
Chignik Lake, AK 99548
Telephone: 907-845-2212
Fax: 907-8452217

Pilot Point Tribal Council
PO BOX 449
Pilot Point, AK 99649
Telephone: 907-797-2208
Fax: 907-797-2258



united
TRIBES OF BRISTOL BAY

November 30, 2016

Via email to:

Commissioner Andy Mack
Alaska Department of Natural Resources
550 W. 7th. Avenue, Ste 1400
Anchorage, AK 99501
andy.mack@alaska.gov

Re: Official Comment on Pebble Limited Partnership's Miscellaneous Land Use Permit Renewal Application (APMA A20176118)

Dear Commissioner Mack:

On behalf of the United Tribes of Bristol Bay (UTBB), thank you for providing public notice and taking public comment on the Pebble Limited Partnership's renewal application for its Miscellaneous Land Use Permit (MLUP) (APMA A20176118). As you know, UTBB has discussed with DNR our continued concerns about the state of remediation efforts at the Pebble Mine site over the past year. While we are appreciative of DNR's willingness to meet with UTBB regarding our concerns, and for DNR's inspection efforts this summer, it was clear to UTBB that many of the issues we identified in our meetings were not going to be addressed through DNR's limited field work plans. As such, our tribes commissioned an independent inspection of the Pebble site following DNR's field inspection to directly examine the state of the company's reclamation efforts.

The full technical report and summary resulting from that inspection is attached as our official comments on Pebble Limited Partnership's MLUP renewal application. The report outlines results of the field work and highlights violations of Pebble's existing permit. In short, our scientists found acidic soils with high metal concentrations, leaking wells, dead vegetation, and improper drill casing closures at inspected drill sites; all causes of concern for safety and water quality in Bristol Bay.

Due to these existing violations and the uncertainty surrounding the Pebble Limited Partnership's future in Bristol Bay, UTBB recommends DNR take necessary steps in the new permit to address the environmental and safety

concerns outlined in the report. UTBB also recommends DNR require financial assurances from the Pebble Limited Partnership so the violations and issues discussed in the report will not be a financial burden to the State and Alaskans. Should DNR choose to renew the Pebble Limited Partnership's MLUP beyond 2016, UTBB requests DNR impose the following requirements on any MLUP issued to the company:

1. DNR should limit the duration of any MLUP to 1 year;
2. DNR should require the Pebble Limited Partnership to provide a reclamation bond to cover the expenses of material removal, site reclamation, and well-site maintenance;
3. DNR should require the Pebble Limited Partnership to complete a more robust monitoring program for all of its well sites;
4. DNR should require the Pebble Limited Partnership to remove all materials unnecessary for ongoing reclamation work; and
5. DNR should make explicit that it will not renew the MLUP after 2017 if the above are not completed.

Please show the leadership Alaskans need and stand up for our people, our land, and our fisheries and hold the Pebble Limited Partnership accountable and stop the blanket renewal of the MLUP at the end of 2016. Alaskans cannot afford to get stuck cleaning up the mess left behind in Bristol Bay.

We look forward to working directly with you and your staff in the future to ensure that the national treasure of Bristol Bay is protected forever.

Quyana,



President, United Tribes of Bristol Bay

cc:

Governor Bill Walker

Lt. Governor Byron Mallot

Deputy Commissioner Ed Fogels

Jack Kerin, DNR Mining Geologist IV

Hollie Chalup, Natural Resource Specialist II, Alaska DNR