



May 21, 2020

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500
Submitted via email

Dear Mr. President,

Collectively, we represent the resource, business, and trade organizations that advocate for the responsible advancement of Alaska's economy. Our members and member companies, and their tens of thousands of employees, reflect the economic lifeblood of Alaska's resource-based economy. We have consistently advocated for responsible resource development in Alaska, for responsible and fair permitting for all projects, and for responsible rules to govern and guide our member company businesses.

For years, most of our organizations have closely tracked developments for the proposed Pebble Project in Southwest Alaska out of concern for precedents that may be set from actions taken by groups opposed to the project that could adversely impact future resource development projects or investment in Alaska. While many of our groups have not taken public positions for or against the project, we have all gone on record multiple times in support of fair and due process for all resource projects in Alaska.

We opposed the Obama-era Environmental Protection Agency's repeated attempts to preemptively block access to the permitting process for Pebble and we remain concerned about future administrations improperly using preemptive or retroactive vetoes to thwart development and investment in Alaska. We greatly appreciate the efforts of your administration to remove preemptive veto of the Pebble Project and return to a fair process for reviewing it.

It is through this lens that we write to you today to express our concern about a request you have received to intervene and deny the issuance of a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers led Clean Water Act 404 permit for the Pebble Project. This request represents yet another attempt to circumvent the established process for fairly reviewing resource development projects.

As the nation and Alaska look for ways to get our economy back on solid ground, this type of selective interference in the permitting process is exactly what we don't need. We know from experience that the investment community looks for stability as they weigh options for where to invest their money. Alaska's economy is dependent upon responsible resource development and in order to facilitate it, we need investment from across the world. We want these decision makers to know Alaska is a safe, reliable, and established place to invest.

As Alaskans, we recognize that passions run high across many different stakeholder groups when it comes to the Pebble Project. However, we stand strong in support of a fair and objective permitting process for all resource projects in Alaska, including Pebble.

Thank you for understanding the enormous hurdles resource projects face in Alaska and we appreciate all you have done to strengthen and support Alaska's economy.

Sincerely,



Kati Capozzi, President
Alaska Chamber



Deantha Crockett, Executive Director
Alaska Miners Association



Rebecca Logan, President and CEO
Alaska Support Industry Alliance



Alicia Siira, Executive Director
Associated General Contractors of Alaska



Karen Matthias, Executive Director
Council of Alaska Producers



Marleanna Hall, Executive Director
Resource Development Council for Alaska, Inc.