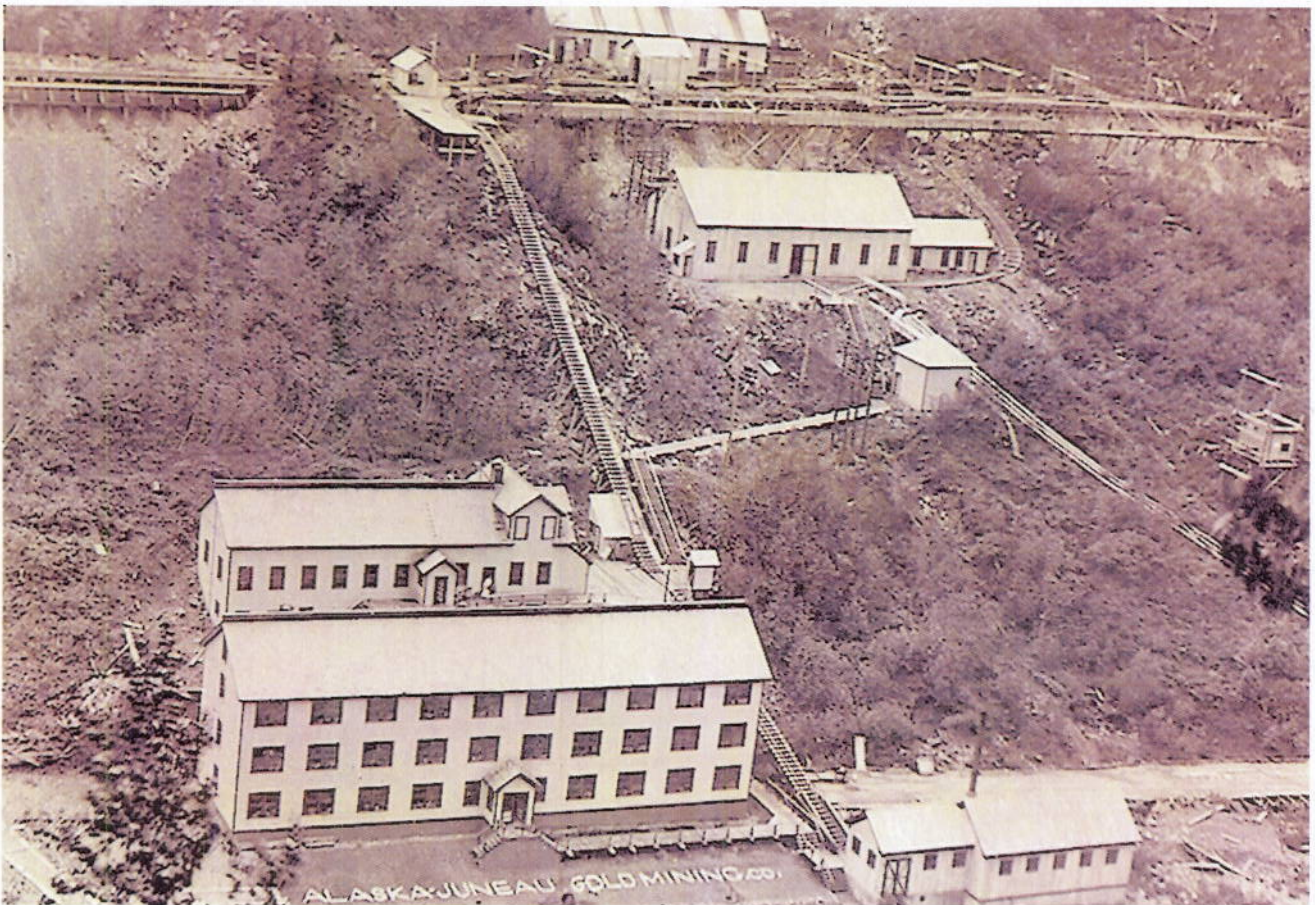


AJ Mine Advisory Committee

Public Testimony Summary

February – April, 2011



Juneau Commission on Sustainability

Donna Pierce, Chair
CBJ AJ Mine Advisory Committee

April 7, 2011

Dear Ms. Pierce,

Your deliberations concerning "under what circumstances, if any, should the city consider developing the AJ Mine" touch on many aspects of sustainability. Of most direct interest to the Commission on Sustainability is the impact a new mine would have on energy use, air quality and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

We recommend that development of the AJ Mine be considered only if it is primarily powered by hydroelectricity or other renewable energy sources, to minimize GHG emissions and air pollution.

We further recommend that:

- any mine be developed in a manner that minimizes use of diesel driven equipment;
- transportation related to mining activities and personnel access be structured to minimize GHG emissions;
- any mining proposal address a full range of opportunities for energy savings and reduction of GHG emissions, including feasibility of using mine shafts for district heating using ground source heat pumps;
- any mine operator provide an annual report on GHG impacts and its efforts to reduce them.

The CBJ Assembly has committed "...to a sustainable future that meets today's needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs..." and to

- Support a stable, diverse, and equitable economy;
- Protect the quality of air, water, land, and other natural resources;
- Conserve native vegetation, fish and wildlife habitats, and ecosystems;
- Minimize human impacts on ecosystems; and
- Minimize energy usage and the release of greenhouse gases (2008 CBJ Comprehensive Plan)

The CBJ Assembly specifically addressed the last of these goals by joining an international effort and committing itself to completing the five milestones of the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign to reduce greenhouse gases and air pollution emissions (CBJ Resolution 2397 (b)).

The Assembly has charged the CBJ Commission on Sustainability, among other duties, "to make recommendations to the Juneau Assembly and CBJ Boards and Commissions on policies and programs that promote sustainability", and "to serve as an advisory group to the CBJ in reducing green house gas emissions to target levels as adopted by the CBJ Assembly" (CBJ Resolution 2528).

To address these commitments, the CBJ is developing a Climate Action Plan that focuses on reducing GHG emissions from local government operations and the community as a whole. It will update the 2007 GHG inventory, establish GHG reductions targets, and identify

implementation strategies and funding opportunities.

If a new AJ mine relied primarily upon diesel for electrical generation and equipment at levels comparable to Green's Creek mine, it would add substantially to Juneau's total GHG emissions. Before its conversion to hydropower Greens Creek used about 5.9 million gallons of diesel annually (Juneau 2007 GHG Emissions Inventory). This contributed about 60,000 tons of CO₂, or about 14% of the total GHG emissions in the CBJ.

Existing hydropower is insufficient to power a new mine, but it appears that development of Phase 2 of Lake Dorothy could make enough power available.

Given the additional emissions that would result from new fossil fuel electrical generation and transportation, and the difficulties this would pose for meeting CBJ goals for reducing greenhouse gases, we recommend that you condition any AJ mine development on use of renewable resources, such as hydropower, for its normal energy demands.

Please feel free to contact us for further information or assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alida Bus". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and a long, sweeping tail.

Alida Bus
Chair, Juneau Commission on Sustainability

Public Testimony from A-J Mine Advisory Committee Meetings

February 23rd – 2nd Meeting

Skip Gray of 4464 Mountain Side Drive - I am the past President of Alaskans for Juneau which was the main organization scrutinizing the last attempt to open the AJ Mine. He has frustrations about the current process. He is concerned about water quality. The EPA/FBI report showed turbidity not being sampled during the night when most of it was discharged, this was done so turbidity would not be visible in Gold Creek. During the summer of 1994 at the time the State already knew from a confidential source that Echo Bay had made systematic use of a flocculent. The company was issuing categorical denials that it ever used flocculent. Echo Bay paid \$250,000 in fine because of various oil releases and spills within the mine. He was upset that the person who contacted the Mayor about this kinder gentler project was Greg Sparks who was the operations manager at the time this was all going on and Frank Bergstrom who sits on this Committee was the environmental compliance officer, while all of this was going on. He feels it is highly inappropriate that Frank sits on this Committee. He would request the he be removed, because of conflicts of interest. Echo Bay paid \$250,000 to the State's investigation. The Justice Department decided to end its investigation because Echo Bay had already been fined by the State, so they dropped the charges.

Fredriksson – I have worked with the Department of Justice representing the State's behalf. It is my experience that when the Department of Justice does not take criminal charges, it is because there isn't sufficient information to pursue the charges. If the accusations are founded, they pursue them.

Larri Spengler of 2525 Thane Road – Feels that the history of Echo Bay Mine ties into this discussion by supplying past performance information. The past performance of Echo Bay Mine has shown that the City should not rely on trust alone with environmental issues dealing with opening AJ mine. She feels the City should make it a condition in a new mining company's agreement that the City would be provided with monitoring verification from the appropriate environmental authorities and require security deposits, these would be essential components of any kind of proposal.

Deborah Craig of Nowell Avenue - Suggests formation of a subcommittee that would look at environmental considerations such as water, air quality, and noise issues. She would like to see experts brought before the Committee to talk about the environmental impacts of opening the AJ Mine.

March 30th – 4th Meeting

Larri Spengler – 4545 Thane Rd. President of Thane Neighborhood Association (TNA). The TNA would like to withdraw its March 26, 2011 letter. The committee process is very compressed which is hard on you and on the public. TNA has spent a lot of time coming up with specific recommendations to assist you in addressing neighborhood concerns, and we put that in the March 26 letter. We have since realized that they are premature, and we haven't fully addressed conflicting concerns within our neighborhood and need to take more time to work that out within our membership. The March 8 letter is just historic information and is OK to keep in the record.

Margo Waring – 11380 N. Douglas Hwy. It had gone under her personal radar that this committee was actually looking at a proposal being put forward by members of the committee. She had thought it was a less specific endeavor. She has tried to catch up and has two concerns to share with the Committee. The first is about water quality and quantity. She appreciated Mr. Chambers' statement

that any proposal should be looking at no cyanide and that should be a bottom line thing. 25% of the City's water supply comes through the existing mine works, and the well field that Juneau uses for water supply is quite shallow and easy to pollute. The last mine project, during its exploratory phases did put toxic products into our water supply, and the FBI report details those things pretty well. We need to realize that Juneau does not have an alternative water supply. Given the extent to which accidents can and do happen, i.e. the awful situation in Japan, if any mining project is allowed to go forward, there should be a bond put forth that would be big enough to use to develop an alternative water supply. A decline in the productive capacity of the water supply or the quality could stop this community in its tracks. The economic downfall could be really harmful. The funds should come from the developers, not the citizens. Why would the City want to be party to a lease? What is the lasting community value? Suggests that you explore much higher royalty payments, in the 10-15% range.

Douglas Mertz – He's spent most of his professional life dealing with cleaning up disasters, and knowing what that can do to communities. It's critical that two things happen to avoid two disasters striking. First is showing a financial responsibility, i.e. bonding, insurance, similar mechanism so that when a problem happens, the money is eventually available. That could be years, but with the water supply we can't wait for that money to become available. With our water supply, we need to have a contingency plan that would make money available immediately to address the situation. That means a lot of up front money and financial responsibility. It's something that will hurt the project proponent, will hurt the community when they have to figure out how to do this, to develop other water sources. It's something we have to do if we don't want to face the ultimate crisis. There are lots of examples across the country where communities have been left with problems after the mine left. Second, develop good long term relations with the public. He's been the legislative monitor for the Prince William Sound Regional Advisory Council for about 12 years. He has a great admiration for what they do. They've become a model among their smaller counterparts in Alaska. They're a very good model for involving members of the public in day-to-day operations of the mine. It can be used as a citizen's council to perform the function of being an independent, enforceable voice. He's available to discuss the details of how we might form such an organization.

Paula Terrell – 5025 Thane Rd. Her major concern is that no matter what the conditions are in a potential lease, if things change, such as the tailings can't fit underground, if changes could go through a citizen's group. The formation of a citizen's group would provide some level of comfort about possible changes. Some changes could be very detrimental, in the viewpoint of the community. The community is one of the three components that is absolutely critical to be included and to have a say in the project. She urges the Committee to come up with specific recommendations and conditions.

Skip Gray – 4464 Mountainside Dr. To correct/add information from earlier in this meeting and in previous meetings about the amount of flow from the drainage tunnel into Gold Creek. 10% might be the average, but in the winter, during low flow, it contributes 25% to the flow of Gold Creek. Sam has talked about taking some of the water from Gold Creek and using it for processing, but in the winter time there is very little water to divert. According to City Engineers, there is only about 2 weeks of water in the city's aquifer. That's a problem. We can't afford to take any water from there during the winter months. There maybe water available during certain times, but not during winter months. There should be a zero loss of water. If anyone has any doubts about the connection between Gold Creek and our aquifer, Bob Madsen with Dept. of Environmental Conservation went up there in 1994 after the famous fish kill. At about 7am when much of Juneau was taking their showers, he watched the creek get dry to the point that there were fish flopping on the gravel. There's a very direct connection. The level can go down in a hurry. The FBI reports show that water levels were not

well controlled by Echo Bay; there was major flooding in the areas they were working in, and they were washing pollutants into Gold Creek.

Gladyszewski – What bad water could get where?

Skip Gray – Echo Bay was allowing sewage, hydraulic fluids, sediments, drilling grease – all these different things to flow into Gold Creek. Perhaps if this had happened during the low flow times, it could have been sucked down into the aquifer.

Ferguson Craig – Where could we look for another water supply?

Skip Gray- Don't know, as we are now, this source is critical.

April 21st – 6th Meeting

Peter Haoroz – Fred Morino read letter from Peter Naoroz, 466 Thane Road, submitted letter to Committee as public comment. As a Thane owner, he has no concern about his well or drinking water. CBJ, as substantial owner of the mine, should maximize the value of the mine. His concern is exacerbated by the fact that CBJ is also a regulator. Inevitably, there is a conflict of interest between those two roles. Urges CBJ to consider selling its interest in the mine in lieu of being owner and regulator. Putting the pre-conditions on any potential lease limits possibilities. Let the details be worked out later by the experts later.

Fred Morino, 3201 Douglas Hwy. – Reading from email submitted as public comment. The community's priorities should be to consider our opportunity. Lists several incentives/benefits to opening the mine. Your duty is to attract a competent partner so that this will benefit the community.

Cathie Roemmich – 4442 Mendenhall Blvd. With Juneau Chamber of Commerce and is speaking on their behalf. City is doing a great job with this Committee. Chamber appreciates the diversity of members of the Committee, but wants to caution it on the extent of its pre-conditions. Alaska is ranked 50th, as in the worst place to do business. They were appalled by last night's paper and thought it was inappropriate of a Committee member to express an opinion against the project before the report was finalized. The mine is a great asset to this community, and this is an incredible opportunity to do it right.

Erickson – Would the Chamber of Commerce object to making it a condition that an alternative water supply be developed either at the expense of the City or the developer?

Roemmich – Nobody wants any damage to the water supply. There's got to be a way to do it with today's technology. If we have to share the expenses, then we should.

John Kato – 4005 Spruce Ln. He supports the development of a small mine within the confines of the AJ. In today's economic environment and rising oil prices, it would be in Juneau's best interest. A small mine would bring well paying jobs to town and help the economy. He concurs with the comments of Sam Smith; he has outlined a strategy of developing the mine in a responsible way to the benefit of Juneau.

Neil MacKinnon, 5900 N Douglas Hwy. – Staked the Kensington claims 39 years ago. At the time they joked that they were doing it for their grandchildren, now its not so funny. Over time, it has been difficult to sell a mine. The proposed conditions should say simply to get the best deal for the

city. You need to look at a deal that will work for a long period of time under several different conditions. 20 years from now, you don't want the conditions to restrict what can be done with the availability of new technology. Your thinking is too narrow for trying to attract mining companies. Water system comments? The main concern should be crafting a fair deal. The rest of the conditions will be taken care of by the Planning Commission and other permitting agencies. He's not concerned with being CBJ the owner and the regulator.

Erickson – Would securing the water system make this a better deal for the city?

MacKinnon – Maybe it would. He's not sure the idea should be broached at this point. It shouldn't be locked into a business deal. It should be left open – there are other options for improving the water system. The details shouldn't be prescribed here. Details should be separate.

Scott Spickler – 10754 Horizon Dr. Sent an email and will let it stand. To echo Neil, the conditions are like selling a house, but the buyer needs to go with the color of carpet. The water is important, but the job can be done in an environmentally sound way. Be realistic with the conditions.

Mindy Rowland – Exec. Director of First Things First. Read letter from the Board of Directors. Reopening the mine would provide many valuable benefits. All residents will benefit from the additional revenue. Pursuing this is the fiscally responsible thing to do. You as a group should not consider yourselves responsible for prescribing specific restrictions. Issues would be better addressed through the long permit process. CBJ should undertake the issue of improving or seeking out other water sources.

Eric Twelker – 10430 Dock St. Juneau is a mining town, with two existing operating mines, and it's been good for Juneau. Mines have a life time. Juneau needs to start looking at other mines if they want to continue this. Conditions should be general and policy-oriented. Don't make them too specific. The proposed conditions seem to border on designing the mine, and they shouldn't do that. To talk about an alternative water supply seems premature until there is a plan. Piling on conditions will cost a lot of money, before we even know of a problem.

Aja Razumny, 11909 Glacier Hwy. She has many concerns, and the conditions are important. The BP incident is an example of a warranty of doing no harm as not working. She's concerned about water quality and noise and other things. We shouldn't leave it to a business to say it's going to be okay. She would like to see how that has been demonstrated.

John Kremers, 800 F St. – The requirements are good for a mine in a populated area. It's important for citizens to know about these conditions in advance of pursuing a mining company. He would want to know how the mine would work and what their responsibility is before approving. Jobs are important, but only if you can continue to live here.

Rosemary Hagevig, Douglas, AK – we know that Juneau's foundation was built on mining, and it should be pursued, but in modern permitting requirements. The amount of gold in the AJ could provide significant revenue, and CBJ has a fiduciary responsibility to pursue the mine. There are lots of issues that have been identified. The previous permits contained well over 100 conditions, and this process would be conducted again, but with more scientific information gathered. We now have observed two successful mines in Juneau. We should build on our knowledge and try to attract a developer for this project. The community will pay a price if this project isn't able to move forward.

Erickson – Would it enhance our chances of getting a mine going if we included an alternative water source?

Hagevig – There are probably many studies on the shelf, is not convinced there is a problem. Is open to looking at other options, but feels it's the responsibility of the local government to research and figure out a solution.

Marjorie Menzi, 6000 Thane Rd. – submitted comments in writing. Concur with recommendations of the Committee, but they haven't addressed the water supply of Thane residents, and this should be included in the concerns to ensure that Thane's water supply is kept safe.

Bill Heumann – 6000 Thane Rd. The water system is his biggest concern. What does the mining activity do that places it in more jeopardy than it already is? Placing tailings inside the mine is probably one of the best solutions to protect the water supply. Not concerned about the pollution issue. Issues about living on Thane Rd... How much is a new water source going to cost? The number that's been thrown out there is not a real number; we need a real number. There needs to be more good information on the water issue. It's premature to suggest that there's a true problem with the water problem. Thinks that maybe we have the issue backwards, that the water supply could actually be more secure with an operator in the mine.

Bob Sylvester, 128 Dixon St – will email comments. Under no conditions should we open the AJ. We're gambling with downtown Juneau. There are other prospects out there. Water is as important of a natural resource as the gold in the mountain, and keeping it safe should be the priority.

Erickson – Would you still oppose, if there was an alternative water source?

Sylvester – Yes.

Bill Leighty – Submitted a letter. AJ is low grade ore, so mining it will expend a lot of energy. Suggests more conditions regarding the mine using renewable energy. Suggested language for conditions regarding renewable energy for both establishing the mine and running it once it starts up. Nitrous Oxide emissions are an extremely strong greenhouse gas that is emitted with explosives, so that should be limited. There are no conditions under which we should open the mine for the reasons stated at the bottom of his letter – there is not a need for more gold in this world. Feels we have a greater responsibility as world citizens.

Douglas Mertz – 11380 N. Douglas Hwy. – This is not a small mine; it can do a lot of harm. Asked that the Committee drop the "small" reference, require bonding that provides for immediate payment should be made available as it pertains to the water supply and any harm that might come from it. Feels that treated water going into Gastineau Channel should meet discharge requirements at the point of discharge, without needing a mixing zone. Asked for strict noise standards, feels the noise impact attracted attention. There should be a citizen's oversight council of some sort, funded by mine proponents and that the oversight council should have a transparent process and access to the mine. There should be an adequate reclamation bond that is sufficient to cover costs through the indefinite future. Last, requested that adjudication be agreed to take place in Juneau.

Ferguson Craig - How often does the Prince William Sound Citizen's Advisory Council meet and what's their function?

Mertz – The council meets a few times a year, but they have staff who are frequently meeting with shippers and residents.

Ferguson Craig – So it's not just a committee but also staff that are constantly working on the issues.

Mertz – It works well, and all involved, including the industry, like how it works.

Margo Waring, 11380 N Douglas Hwy – CBJ's primary responsibility is to the health of the community - the water supply. We have to plan for problems that might occur. She was concerned that issues brought by Dave Chambers regarding what would happen post lease – those issues can only be mitigated by having some kind of contract with a non-CBJ entity. She stresses the importance of using this approach. Once CBJ becomes a partner with a business, they won't be able to act in an objective way. An outside group would assist in that. Referenced Dave Chamber's post lease concerns and feels it will be very hard for the CBJ to jeopardize jobs in the future – this is the key problem.

Don Burford, 1275 Glacier Hwy – Water concerns are over-rated. Through the history of the community, mines have been here. I am a person who works on land, building roads, a “raiper and plunderer.” Whenever I work on something, I leave it in better condition than before we were there. The AJ won't be negative. It will have problems, but if you want a company to come in to work on this mine, you have to make it attractive. Gold Creek might dry up in dry winter times, but the aquifer still has water. Be more open with conditions. See's too much “gimme, gimme, gimme” and believes that we can't make the project too restrictive because if we do – Who's going to bet on a loser?

Erik Borgus, 139 Gastineau Ave, Exec Director of Trail Mix – Their sole concern is potential impacts to Perseverance Trail and Sheep Creek Trail. Perseverance is worth protecting. Perseverance is the 3rd most active trail in Juneau. They're not against the mine, but they would like to see the trails unaffected. A good example of development and trails working OK together is the Airport dike trail.

Daniel Kirkwood, 308 Distin Ave. – Supports citizen's oversight council, protection of water system and protection against the degradation of downtown. He is in favor of the conditions protecting the various issues. Feels that tourists like the stereotypical grizzled prospector, but won't like an industrial mine.

Nancy Waterman, 227 Gastineau Ave. – She is thinking of it from the angle of management of the Gold Creek watershed. It is important to set out conditions that are made available to prospective mining companies. The topics covered are good. Stream flow, usage and water rights – are three important aspects of the water supply issue. There were flow gauges for a while, but they were removed. There should be a gauge so that there is historical data. Discussion of water rights. If something happens to Gold Creek, Salmon Creek doesn't meet our needs. Suggests a new last sentence: The contingency plan must include an alternate, equivalent water supply, the potential for temporary diversion of the drainage from the drainage tunnel, and with pause, the prohibition of mining operation in certain areas.

Ferguson Craig – Didn't know we've lost our stream gauges.

Erickson – What are the City's water rights in Gold Creek?

Waterman - 1.3 billion gallons per year.

Sue Schrader - 2623 John St. – Adopting specific conditions is to the benefit of the community. They reflect our values. That's the only way a company will be aware up front of the values of the community. Prohibiting surface caving and subsidence seems to need work. Alternative water supply

should be identified up front and should be well evaluated. Regulations are important, but City needs to hire well trained and qualified staff to monitor and enforce them, or the regulations are meaningless. Emissions from all of the equipment used on the mine shouldn't add to the current air pollution. She concurs with Bill Leighty's comments. Noise – it's an issue.

Paula Terrel, 5025 Thane Rd. - Written comments submitted. Suggests that deferring to the Planning Commission and Assembly isn't taking care of what the Committee is responsible for. There won't be an EIS because it's not required, so she suggests that there be some strong statement requiring the NEPA process to be followed by an independent contractor, along the lines of an EIS. She is in favor of having an alternate water supply identified and developed before any mine exploration or development. This can be done by the City, not necessarily requiring a mining company to do it. Feels like this is a déjà vu to twenty years ago, and to hedge against problems, there should be a citizen group contracting with the mining company as has been done in other places, and it'd give the community comfort that when things change, there is something in place for the community.

Maria – Requested examples of citizen agreements. Stillwater, Montana was given as an example.

Joyce Levine, PO Box 21705 Juneau – discussed Deep Water Horizon, Exxon Valdez; earthquakes in Japan. We have earthquakes here. Why do we want to threaten our water supply, because of the price of gold? Bottled water is making more money than gold, it seems. Referenced consumer and public protections including smoking bans, bike helmets, speed limits, asks why we would willingly put the water system at risk. She's extremely concerned about the water supply, so she opposes the mine.

Alan Munro, 120 W Ninth St. – Email submitted, read comments. At first meeting, the Mayor indicated that the reason for getting this committee in place was because the oil revenues were declining. A majority of residents can't believe the City is reconsidering opening the AJ mine. The mayor suggests that other revenue sources are slowing, and we need to find a new revenue source soon. CBJ should consider the needs, not non-essential wants of the community – we're a small, finite community and small tax base, yet people and the CBJ always expect amenities of cities far greater in population.

Steve Behnke, 4545 Thane Rd. - He's submitted comments in writing. Came to the first meeting with a feeling of dread, now has a better taste in his mouth. A small mine might work, but as long as you keep trying to find a balance between public interest and private interest. He likes some of the concepts, but has big concerns. Developing a lease and sideboards is one thing, but having confidence that they are going to stick is another. It makes sense to get creative in the conditions, including ideas like putting Sheep Creek into a land trust, and solving the water issue. Suggests to be successful the committee should keep on doing the things that it is doing to find the balance.

Maria – Talk about a super majority concept, rather than having 5-4 votes going one way or another. What would be the mechanism for providing some assurance?

Behnke – How do you get buy-in by the community? Super majority is an idea. Community vote maybe? But that is divisive and costly. Maybe the Assembly commits itself to an information gathering process, similar to an EIS.

Break

Larri Spengler, 4545 Thane Rd. – She submitted written comment. Appreciated the Committee's efforts, there is a chance to avoid the acrimony from the last mine attempt. If the City decides to go

through with trying to have a new mine, people will care a lot. This room reminds her of 20 years ago. Through your conditions, you have the ability to take some of the biggest issues off of the table. Even though this smaller mine concept is very different, there are still the same concerns from 20 years ago. An alternative water supply seems like a no brainer. A financial guarantee seems isn't going to do anything if the water is polluted. Sheep Creek valley issues can be taken off the table. There's been no discussion of it, but a recommendation can be made to create a conservation easement not allowing any mining activity in Sheep Creek Valley. It would reassure people if that were off the table.

Tom Bryce – President of Juneau Building Trades Council. Supports the efforts so far. The mine should be developed. CBJ has shown great concern for community needs, and he's glad to see that local hire has been addressed. This mine will boost the economy, create job opportunities, and help anchor young people to this community. Feels it doesn't help to draw comparison to deepwater horizon, and earthquakes. Feels it is not a zero sum game. Southeast is losing population, reapportionment will weaken the region. This could help with that issue.

Tina Brown, 19400 Beardsley Way – Under no conditions should the AJ be opened. It's irresponsible and reckless to risk the water supply. Air and noise pollution are inevitable. Accidents are inevitable, and many are deadly. Contaminating the creek has many effects. No amount of regulations can help this. When the mining company leaves, Juneau is left cleaning up. Be forward thinking – about clean manufacturing, and year round tourism attractions. AJ is in the wrong place. No amount of money is worth risking the clean air, water, wildlife.

Greg Brown, 19400 Beardsley Way – Government is responsible for providing clean air and clean water. Lots of recent incidents indicate that you can't prepare for any accident that can happen (Chile, Japan, Deep Water Horizon, etc.). Water quality, traffic, noise, dust, carbon footprint – all issues you can't get rid of. He was told that when Lake Dorothy came online electric prices would go down. That hasn't happened. There's the threat of the Chieftain mine. They could affect the Taku River basin. Money isn't everything, Juneau is the emerald of Alaska. Don't have a mine in downtown Juneau.

John Barry, 12175 Glacier Hwy – He is currently employed at Kensington Mine, but worked for Echo Bay in the '90s. Regarding tailings disposal – when he worked with Sam Smith on the small mine concept, ore sorting was the cornerstone of the plan. Historically 50% of the mined material was dumped in the channel as fine tailings. There is enough room in the old stopes of the AJ to store 3500 tons per day of tailings for 3 years. Kensington paste backfill plant – using that method, along with the existing stopes for tailings storage, there is plenty of area underground to dispose of tailings. Paste backfill and coarse sorting is the solution. Greens Creek is able to put 60% of its tailings back underground. Combining coarse sorting with paste backfill means that a mine could operate indefinitely.

The waste rock is a separate issue. Sheep Creek adit will need to be used as a secondary escape. Sea level access is essential to keep mining operations away from the Gold Creek. Mill should be underground. Using waste fill material – consider adding to south end of rock dump area. Water source should have the highest priority. There's more gold than the small mine concept shows, per the resource model, and paste backfill is probably the key to that.

Ferguson Craig – Coarse sorting question – where has that been done on a similar scale.

Barry – The AJ itself. The old mill sheet in the archived document that shows that a lot less material that will be handled – about 20%. About 2/3 of mill feed is screened out, then half of the mill feed would be sorted or about 1/6 of the total amount.

Bob Marshall, 3251 Nowell Ave. – Submitted written comments. Reason last AJ mine effort didn't succeed is that the size/volume of the mine was so large. The proposed conditions don't include any statement about the vision of this mine being a smaller concept than Echo Bay's proposal. There should be a strong vision expressed to potential mining companies. A business coming in should have that information. He recommends finding an alternative water supply. Dealing with excess rock – there's a lot of volume, so there should be limits set and it shouldn't be trucked or barged. Wastewater discharge – EPA produced a Technical Assistance Report during the Echo Bay effort, and he read from that. Said that the TAR found that wastewater treatment was not feasible. Discussed use of a mixing zone - cautioned against its use, requested end of pipe standards be used.

Chris Martin, Second St. – Loves the quality of life in downtown Juneau. Downtown Juneau residents will feel the effects much more than other residents in other areas of Juneau. To follow the technology blindly is foolish. He's concerned about tailings disposal, wastewater disposal, water supply and many other things. Mines have a long term effect, far beyond many of its residents. We should be concerned about the environmental and social issues. He opposes this mine. And says it is not our job to roll out a red carpet.

Jonas Lamb – 312A Sixth St. Represents Downtown Juneau Neighborhood Association, AJ Mine Subcommittee. Highest priorities: pedestrian safety, traffic volume/speed, character and operation of the mine, noise, and quality of life issues pertaining to clean water, air, etc. Small mine summary made it sound that it'd have a minimal impact to downtown, but that doesn't seem feasible. Concerned about the water supply. What's the backup plan for water? If 3rd party oversight is formed, they'd like to be considered for participation on the committee. Wants evidence that Downtown will not be affected.

Carl Schrader, 2623 John St. – Worked for DEC, Fish & Game, and DNR, on environmental quality issues. He's been on the regulatory side and also on the applicant side. Supports a majority of the recommendations. Wants to see financial assurances to fully fund restoration costs. Drinking water issue – even if chances of hurting the water supply are really small, the consequences are huge. Mines do pollute. Once it occurs it's hard to control. We have two operating mines which have both had water quality problems. Greens Creek has had problems with acid mine/rock drainage issues. Kensington had significant water quality problems. His work at DNR involved trying to help get water issues resolved with Kensington. A large industrial facility will have issues.

Ferguson Craig – Did discussion ever come up about an alternative water source?

Schrader – No specific options.

Michelle Forne – 9443 La Perouse Ave. She is a young person who moved here because it is beautiful, clean and safe. For every person sitting in this room who opposes the mine, there are 10 people at home worrying about it. She opposes the mine, and the impacts of the mine are about the future generations, such as hers.

Sarah Schoer. She's a wildlife biologist. She's not opposed to mining, but not in her back yard. This mine illegally dumped contaminants into the creek. It's not worth risking the water supply, but if it does move forward, it should have strict restrictions.

Deb Craig, 3251 Nowell Ave. – Participated 20 years ago, sorry to be here today. There's been a lot of talk about mine safety. Included statistics about mining safety violations. Company is spending a lot of money on monitoring, but only after violations. Are fines and penalties part of the cost of doing business? More statistics about safety violations. Several mining companies continue to commit violations. They don't have a stellar record for safety. Why would Juneau support a risky venture with an industry that has a bad record of safety, environmental clean-up, etc. The risk of the project is too high for what we can gain. She doesn't oppose mining, but does oppose this mine in the heart of her community.

James Marcus, 317 Sixth St. – Water quality – Juneau's tap water is better than most you can buy in stores. He's concerned about the diversification of the economy, but it should be done in a sustainable way. The proactive approach with all the conditions is appreciated. How much will be spent by City in pondering this decision? Will it equal the amount of revenue generated? Will the Juneau citizens receive royalty checks? He's not against mining, but not in downtown Juneau. If project moves forward, protect Sheep Creek. Consider an alternative water supply. There should be significant bonds in place. A citizen action panel would be very important. It's ironic that we're developing a climate action plan at the same time as looking at opening the mine. Conflict of interest troubles him.

Guy Archibald, 1016 Bonnie Doon – He's an ex-miner, chemist and biologist and works for SEACC. Since project is connected to the drinking water system, it needs to be held to a higher standard. Greens Creek and Kensington have lots of regulations they follow, and they're thriving. Mines go through an extensive permitting process, but the system hasn't shown to be protective. They still end up polluting surface and ground water. Last Chance Basin (LCB) watershed is particularly vulnerable. How to gauge the vulnerability? Redundancy. There is no backup to LCB water source. No mine should be promoted until there is another alternative drinking watershed up and running.

Ferguson Craig – What's going on in Craig? There's a side reaction with chlorine?

Archibald – when you use chlorine in water, there's sometimes a side reaction. Craig had to put a notice out and notify customers.

Maria – Asked the source of a statistic regarding 70% of mines that do pollute.

Archibald – The source is on the information submitted to the Committee.

Pierce – What were the mines doing right that didn't pollute the water?

Arch – They weren't mining rock that had acid mine potential. They were doing lots of things different. The ones that were polluting, it wasn't one thing that made them pollute, but rather lots of things in combination.

Pierce – It's the community that owns the mine, and the Assembly is the body elected to represent the community. Why would a citizen body that wasn't elected be more beneficial?

Archibald – Assembly members have a fiduciary obligation, and they're under a lot of political pressure. During Kensington, the District Ranger was getting pressure to approve the permit from the Under Secretary of the Department of the Interior. A citizen's committee doesn't have that same pressure. This adds another layer of protection. There's no silver bullet.

Pierce – There is definitely some pressure; this Committee has been feeling it.

Fredriksson – Wanted to know the names of the mines doing it right.

Lauren Smoker – 5855 Thane Rd. written testimony submitted. Developing the AJ mine under any circumstances will negatively affect many qualities and features of downtown Juneau. The City should not pursue this mine.

Garreth Hummel, 3488 Meander Way – It shouldn't matter about all mining, it should only be about this mine. He is opposed to this mine. Under no circumstances should it move forward. If it is determined to go forward, this document (conditions) is a good start. Water is his main concern, but all concerns are good. They should all be strengthened. A mine in our watershed should never be established. It's very dangerous and not safe. If it does go forward, that aspect of this conditions document should be greatly strengthened. There should be another water source developed and functional before this mine goes forward. This could contribute to a population decrease. Would consider moving if the mine opened.

Olivia Snaiko, N Douglas Hwy – Attorney with SEACC. Leaving it up to business and technology to protect the environment is not the answer. Concerns – enforceability. DEC has many regulations, but there is a lot of discretion. CBJ will be left as the primary regulator monitoring compliance, and that presents conflict issues. There is no way to ensure that regulations are fully enforced. For this reason it's essential for CBJ to set up a 3rd party, citizen oversight group. It won't be perfect, but it would be the best way to ensure that these conditions will be upheld. An appointed body is not as much subjected to political pressure as an elected body.

Maria – The citizen's committee – if they're appointed by people who are elected, how is that any better than an elected body. They're still subject to pressure.

Snaiko – She doesn't think they're subjected to the same level of pressure. It needs to be explored. If they're in place for a long term, instead of through election cycles, maybe that would be the solution.

Watt – How does CBJ protect itself from itself? He read the Stillwater agreement, but it wasn't similar to this situation. It's between the mining company and three conservation groups, none of which is an owner of the mineral rights, such as CBJ is. It'd be great if someone could find a similar situation to Juneau in that the government entity owns the mine.

Snaiko – It would take some strong, intelligent conversation with very knowledgeable people to figure out the details regarding the various legal issues.

Robert Lindekuger, 839 Dixon St. – There are no conditions that would be appropriate to open the AJ. A contingency plan to address drinking water is nonsensical. It should be solved before any potential harm. He opposes the mine. His vote as a taxpayer is no mine.

Clay Frick, Thane Rd. – He shares a dim view of opening the mine, for the same reasons many others have stated. Water quality is a big issue. Polluting the primary water source does damage to so many things. It's too much of a risk, and it's not worth it. He's concerned about the many hats the City would wear. There's too much political pressure involved. Things change and mines expand over time. He's concerned about the monitoring of water quality in perpetuity. No one can look into the future to see how it will be 15 years from now. Having to monitor forever isn't realistic. Hopes that the City shelves the idea.

Ben Creasy - He's not opposed to mining in general, but gold mining doesn't make sense. It's a misallocation of resources, because gold isn't worth it. There was a gold bubble a few decades ago, and then it collapsed. It can happen again. If space aliens watched a gold mine from outer space, they would think we were crazy. All that effort to remove rock from the earth move it around, remove a small percentage and then put most of it right back underground. All to create jewelry? How much is it worth to risk the watershed. If the mine brought in significant revenue, that might be worth it, but the numbers don't warrant risking the water. Other costs aren't factored in, health issues affected by the mine. He is especially opposed to the need for gold.

Ferguson Craig – We had asked for a 3D model, did we ever get that?

Watt – We have one, but it is very hard to display. The 3D model at the City Museum gives a good idea.

Kiel Renick, Aurora Harbor – lists conditions: guarantee that local water source would not be affected. Elicit or accidental activities still happen; demonstrated need for jobs – Juneau has a very low unemployment rate. The long term financial benefits to the community should be assured. Guarantee that there is not a negative impact to the quality of life. Life is good in Juneau. Please don't let this project change it forever.

Dixie Hood – 9350 View Dr. – Appreciates the public process. Loves Juneau and the quality of life here, thinks there are other ways to develop the economy. She opposes the AJ mine under any circumstances. Discusses article from newspaper about water source. She endorses statements by Tina Brown and Chris Martin. There should be some sort of financial bond addressing other potential water sources. She hopes it doesn't even go that far.

Aaron Brakel, Douglas, AK – So interesting to be here. The AJ was a formative battle of my youth, and now staring at middle age....WOW!! Discussed toxic divisiveness from 20 years ago. Reasons for having an oversight committee, appointed probably, is that there could be reserved seats for environmentalists and scientists – people who have a good background for dealing with the mining process. Having this group would help the community to be represented. John Barry spoke earlier – said using paste backfill technology would allow a lot of the material to stay in the mine. Mine plans change and there could be pressure to increase the size of the mine. Both of the active mines here have included large expansions or plans for expansion. Specifically Slate Creek at Kensington. Worried about noise from waste rock.

Laura Stats, 418 Seventh St. – This is round 2 for her, sad to be thinking about this again. She doesn't enjoy having to come and defend our great community attributes: our water, peace and quiet. To put our water at risk... it's common sense – there aren't any conditions that you could come up with to create a mine in the middle of a tourist town. There aren't any conditions that would let downtown residents maintain their current quality of life. I hope the investigation is short.

Ben Creasy – Proven reserves and resources. Asked about what we know about this ore body.

Smith – There are good numbers on the reserves, based on Echo Bay's exploration. There would need to be more drilling by a junior mining company. It's not like they'd be starting from scratch.

Echo Bay's historical records are the property of AEL&P and CBJ, and they'd be made available to a potential mining company. That's not this committee's job. The City won't spend a bunch of money to go out and do a lot of drilling. That will be a junior mining company's responsibility.

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2011 2:18 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Green

Name: Tony B Mauk	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: Horray" for you guy's for doing it' Open IT UP" Do it" Make it Happen its Just what this Town needs.You should have let ECHO BAY do it.Sub Lease it,collect Revenue for Are city budget" It's a no Brainer" In this timeofJob shortage,Their are a lot of Unemployed Trained Miner's Looking for work.Why have the program at SoutheastAk University and Not use the grad's"	

THANE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

4545 Thane Road
Juneau, Alaska 99801
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Board

Larri Irene Spengler, President

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Mariya Lovishchuk

Lise Paradis

Chris Prussing

Gordon Taylor

Paula Terrel

AJ Mine Advisory Committee
% Rory Watt
155 S. Seward Street
Juneau, AK 99801

February 16, 2011

Re: AJ-related issues

Dear AJ Advisory Committee Members:

For the last 21 years, the Thane Neighborhood Association has been representing the 60-some households on Thane Road. The last time the AJ was being considered, our neighborhood was the closest to the proposed mine surface facility near Sheep Creek and the tailings disposal in Sheep Creek valley.

I anticipate that our association will follow this process closely, just as it did last time, and will be willing to be involved at each step along the way.

Framing the Inquiry

It is significant that this advisory committee is investigating on behalf of the city if and whether to develop the mine. This is a very different situation than if a private company were looking at the same question. For example, last time Echo Bay was quite properly interested in making money for its stockholders as fast as possible. In contrast, the city has an interest in helping Juneau's economy, but also has a responsibility for such things as guarding air and water quality, making sure that Juneau residents don't get stuck with a huge cleanup bill if a private company walks away leaving a mess, and ensuring that some neighborhoods don't bear a bigger burden from the mine than others.

Thus, the answer to the official question this committee is examining should incorporate those strands, rather than simply addressing the economic pros and cons of developing the AJ.

Some Issues

Here is a preliminary list of issues this committee should consider. Until more is known about what form any mine might assume, it is not possible to know whether all of these issues might impact Thane as a neighborhood; however, some clearly would no matter the form of the mine.

- city role as regulator versus its role as a developer
- intense, short production life, or lower level, longer-term production life
- adequate financial security in case of closing, disaster
- disproportionate neighborhood impacts
- surface facility location and size
- processing method risks
- Thane Road safety issues
- downtown congestion and traffic to mine
- Sheep Creek water quality
- Sheep Creek valley protection
- Sheep Creek beach protection
- waste rock disposal
- drinking water quality
- marine water quality
- air quality
- noise
- light pollution
- greenhouse gas consideration
- secondary socio-economic issues, like schools, affordable housing, any impacts on tourism, electric rates

Thank you!

The Thane Neighborhood Association appreciates your willingness to spend time on what may be a somewhat daunting and time-consuming inquiry. This probably won't be easy or quick. We look forward to working with you, and we thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Larri Irene Spengler, President
Thane Neighborhood Association

cc by e-mail: Thane Neighborhood Association e-mail list

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Saturday, February 12, 2011 11:01 AM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Green

Name: Albert Bixby	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: I believe that first question that needs to be answered regarding the A J Mine is whether or not the public even wants to explore the issue of the A J mine again. I would suggest that we vote as a community yes or no to table the whole question or carry on.	

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Tuesday, February 22, 2011 9:41 AM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Larri Irene Spengler	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: I appreciate the work Rorie Watt has put into outlining a preliminary format for a potential eventual committee report. One thing I didn't find covered in the outline is water quality for Thane wells. Thane is not on the city water system, and last time around one serious concern for Thane residents was potential pollution of our drinking water, from seepage into our wells from the proposed Sheep Creek tailings pond. If the committee ultimately decides that one of the conditions for going forward with any AJ development is no harm to the city's drinking water, that kind of a condition should also extend to the drinking water Thane residents get from their wells. Another item of concern last time around was marine water quality, relating to the health of marine life, and also to human health (via the food chain). It may be that this is implicit in the "Mine Water/Discharge/Processing" heading listed under "Water Issues," but to make sure it is not missed in your considerations, it would be preferable if it were more explicit. Both of these water quality issues could be added to the bullets under the water quality heading. Thank you. Larri Irene Spengler, President Thane Neighborhood Association	

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Thursday, February 24, 2011 4:53 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Nathan Soboleff	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: 1) As a tax paying citizen I would want to know what the city plans on doing with the revenue it would be generating from the operation of the mine. 2)I believe that citizens of the community are burdened with excessive taxes, permits, and fees. Realestate property taxes, building permit fees, sewer & water, parking, boat parking, launch ramp fees, etc. If the city agreed to reduce or eliminate some of these taxes/fees (necessary now but perhaps not when we have a mine generating millions in annual revenue), I would support reopening the mine. I would not support the mine if revenues did not alleviate some of these fees and taxes. 3)The Feb 24, 2011 Juneau Empire article cited water quality as a potential issue. I am for responsible development of the AJ Mine. And expect this issue to be addressed. 4)Mines are usually off limits to visitors. It is incredibly important to the future of the mining industry to expose children and people to the industry. I'd like to see a once a year program to show school children and residents the mine. The AJ is a partial city asset and interested residents ought to be give the opportunity to see the place.	



SEACC

Rorie Watt P.E.
A-J Mine Advisory Committee
City and Borough of Juneau
Engineering Department
155 S. Seward St.
Juneau, Alaska 99801

February 24, 2011

Dear City and Borough of Juneau A-J Mine Advisory Committee;

Southeast Alaska Conservation Council is grateful for the opportunity to participate in the discussion being held by the A-J Mine Advisory Committee. Based on the February 10 meeting, we have included some information below we think could inform the discussion.

Water Quality

One of the most challenging issues associated with the A-J mine is it is located in an urban area within the watershed that serves as Juneau's drinking water source. The water quality of Gold Creek could be at risk from mining activities. For example, prior to 1994 activities by Echo Bay in the A-J Mine resulted in the contamination of Gold Creek. (*Juneau Miner*; Wednesday May 6, 1998).

Water from the mining and milling processes will have to be treated. Recent studies have shown that the ability of mine water treatment technology to protect nearby water quality is very poor. A 2006 study by Kuipers and Maest reviewed mines that were permitted with a modern Environmental Impact Statement and found that 76% of the mining projects that predicted no impact to water quality ended up polluting surface and ground water. Studies that predicted water quality problems and required treatment facilities to be built failed 84% of the time and polluted nearby water anyway. ([Comparison of Predicted and Actual Water Quality at Hardrock Mines, Kuipers and Maest, 2006](#)). Available at: www.mine-aid.org/predictions/ComparisonsReportFinal.pdf.

This study was the most exhaustive review of mining impacts on water quality ever done, and the implications it has for the A-J project are important. It showed the need for mining activities to take a precautionary approach to water quality plans. This is challenging for the A-J project, because the site is within the City's primary source for drinking water. Any development will have to be held to the highest possible standard to protect public health. We suggest that this study be reviewed by the Advisory Committee. We also suggest the co-author Jim Kuipers P.E. of Kuipers and Associates be brought in to offer professional testimony. He has worked extensively with mines near cities in Montana. He can be reached at: jkuipers@kuipersassoc.com. Mr. Kuipers can provide valuable information on water treatment technology and the ability of mining operations to protect water quality.

Backfilling of Tailings

At the February 10th meeting, it was proposed that a smaller version of the proposed Echo Bay mine could operate by disposing all of its tailings underground as a paste backfill. Disposal of tailings underground by paste backfilling prevents the surface disturbance from tailing storage facilities and reduces the risk of eventual tailing dam failure, but it is important to remember that the engineering requirements and costs of such an effort are high. Furthermore, it is our

understanding that 100% backfill has never been accomplished at any mine. A very efficient backfill operation is one that achieves 40% backfill leaving 60% of waste rock and tailings to be impounded elsewhere. This is the projected amount of backfilling that will be accomplished at Kensington. There are historic mine shafts and tunnels that could potentially be filled at the AJ, but detailed engineering would need to be done to determine the feasibility of their use. No method of tailings disposal is perfect. There are potential impacts, specifically possible contamination of Juneau's drinking water that must be considered.

The costs of tailings management can be a significant contribution to the operating costs of a mine. Where cemented backfills are used, these costs tend to be between 10 and 20% of the total operating cost of the mine, and cement represents up to 75% of that cost.¹ The A-J mine is historically a low grade ore body, meaning the volume of ore milled was high for the amount of gold recovered, and this will have impact on what type of tailings disposal is economically feasible.

We do not claim to know if paste backfilling of all of the tailings at new A-J mine is or is not feasible. Detailed research and studies would need to be done to prove or disprove this. We are simply cautioning the committee. We strongly suggest that neutral mining experts not selling a technology or mining project be invited to provide clear, unbiased information. Claims of a mine with no surface storage or disposal of tailings may sound appealing, but they should be looked with a questioning eye.

SEACC strongly suggests that Dr. Dave Chambers from the Center for Science and Public Participation be invited to provide information and answer questions the Advisory Committee may have. Dr Chambers can be contacted at dchambers@csp2.org or at 406 585-9854.

The question the Advisory Committee has been tasked with answering is very large and complex. The only certainty is that the committee will never have all the information necessary to make an unequivocal decision. With the limited amount of time and resources at the Committee's disposal, SEACC suggests that independent professionals in the areas of water quality, mine engineering and economics be utilized. Our drinking water source and health of the community demands the highest standard of protection.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,



Guy Archibald

¹ (Underground Mining with Backfill) at:
http://web2.uqat.ca/gnm1002/Cours%231_Introduction/Article_Vue%20d%27ensemble%20des%20remlais.pdf

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Monday, March 07, 2011 11:44 AM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Chad D. Gerondale	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: Many of the past issues with developping a mine like this have been a result of the proximity to a neighborhood, city water, etc. I would like to point the committee to the recent developments Anglo Gold has made in South Afirca in regards to blast free continous mining methods. I think some research will show these methods a good match with AJ. Additionally, as miners have a very high average wage, see the McDowell Report. This porject will create a large taxable revenue stream in many areas. It will help to reduce unemployment, increase government tax base, and depending on how structured, could reduce the cities risk management ratio.	

THANE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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Lise Paradis

Chris Prussing

Gordon Taylor

Paula Terrel

AJ Mine Advisory Committee

% Rory Watt

155 S. Seward Street

Juneau, AK 99801

March 8, 2011

Re: AJ issue sets

Dear AJ Advisory Committee Members:

As we described earlier, for the last 21 years the Thane Neighborhood Association has represented the 60-some households on Thane Road. The last time the AJ was being considered, our neighborhood was the closest to the proposed mine surface facility near Sheep Creek and the proposed tailings disposal in Sheep Creek valley.

As your committee has discussed how to approach your charge, committee members have spoken of perhaps developing a list of conditions that the city should require be met before any mine proposal would be considered.

Our association followed the Echo Bay large mine proposal very closely. We conducted a comprehensive survey of Thane residents, and we based our participation in the extensive public process that occurred back then on those survey responses. Should another proposal be put forth, we would survey our residents about it.

Meanwhile, however, some of our experience with the issues presented by Echo Bay's large mine proposal may help you in identifying possible areas for which you may wish to develop conditions.

Here, then, are sets of issues that concerned the Thane Neighborhood Association about the old proposal.

1. Water supply: The proposal to turn Sheep Creek valley into a tailings pond was viewed by Thane residents as presenting a serious threat to the safety of their well water. Some residents have also viewed Sheep Creek as a potential water supply for Thane. This is related to the attention you have been giving the need to protect the city's Gold Creek water supply, but is very specific to Thane, as Thane homes are not on city water, but rely on private water sources such as wells and cisterns.
2. Dam breach danger: The proposal to dam Sheep Creek valley to establish a tailings pond raised grave concerns of the consequences downstream of a dam rupture. The risk of a breach to people, structures, and vehicles in the path of the resulting catastrophic flood was a very serious matter to those who live in Thane, and to those who drive Thane Road and use Sheep Creek delta.
3. Recreational values of Sheep Creek valley and Sheep Creek delta: These are heavily used recreational areas, not only for Thane residents, but for Juneau as a whole. To say that Echo Bay's proposal to drown the valley and cut off replenishment of sand and gravel to the delta was not viewed favorably by Thane residents is an understatement.
4. Sheep Creek water quality: Sheep Creek supports a small natural run of salmon, dolly varden, and a wide variety of bird and marine life as well as hatchery propagated runs of salmon. The proposed dam and tailings impoundment in Sheep Creek valley threatened these important Thane and Juneau resources.

Thus, you might develop a condition that would address Thane wells, dam-rupture prevention, Sheep Creek valley, and Sheep Creek flow and water quality.

5. Thane Road: Even twenty years ago, Thane Road was a deteriorating, narrow, winding road with no shoulders, yet one that was (and still is) heavily used by bikers, joggers, walkers, and berry pickers. In the intervening two decades, the road has only gotten worse. When the surface facility was proposed by Echo Bay to be near Sheep Creek, Thane residents were very concerned about the safety of those traveling the road (both those in vehicles, and those on bikes or on foot) in light of the massively increased traffic to and from town the mine would bring.

Thus, you might develop a condition that would address Thane Road traffic and safely before any mine is considered which would be located in Thane. Our association has consistently asked the city to forego any development in Thane that would add commercial traffic to Thane Road until the road is made safe, with a separated bike and pedestrian path.

6. Downtown congestion: Again, even twenty years ago Thane folks were concerned about how regular people, fire trucks, ambulances, school busses, the Care-A-Van, and so forth would be able to negotiate the bottleneck of tourism congestion downtown, if mine traffic to the proposed Sheep Creek site were added in. Similarly, we wonder how that could possibly work now, given the dramatically higher tourism levels, if a mine entrance were located either at the Rock Dump or near Sheep Creek.

Thus, you might develop a condition that would address access and downtown congestion.

7. Noise and light issues: The prospect of having the proposed Echo Bay mine operating 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, gave rise to quality of life concerns for Thane residents, considering the noise and light that the surface facility near Sheep Creek would have produced around the clock.

Thus, you might develop a condition that would address quality of life issues like noise and light.

8. Power generation concerns: The Echo Bay proposal included unloading liquefied natural gas at Sheep Creek, a potentially dangerous enterprise that gave Thane residents much pause, as did the possibility of air pollution associated with power generation facilities.

Thus, you might develop a condition that would address power generation and air pollution.

The Thane Neighborhood Association hopes this historical overview of issues presented by the Echo Bay proposal may assist you as you look ahead to what kinds of issues may arise with any new proposal, and how you might consider addressing those via conditions.

Sincerely,

Larri Irene Spengler, President
Thane Neighborhood Association

cc by e-mail: Thane Neighborhood Association e-mail list

Lori Savage

From: Lori Savage
Sent: Friday, March 11, 2011 1:44 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: FW: Public comment for AJMAC
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple
Attachments: JuneauTotalEnergy-27Feb07-REV22Jan09.xls
From: Bill Leighty
Sent: Thursday, March 10, 2011 2:32 PM
To: Rorie Watt
Subject: Public comment for AJMAC

AJMAC Friends,

Please consider the attached, my best estimate from a few years ago of Juneau's "internal" and "external" energy economies. Since low-grade-ore gold mining is necessarily energy-intensive, the People of Juneau and their advisory and governing bodies must ask:

1. How much energy, of what types, in both internal and external energy economies, will be consumed by the range of mining scale and scope contemplated?
2. What are the options for supplying this energy?
3. What will be the aggregate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the range of mining scale and scope contemplated?
4. Has Juneau enough renewable-source energy (RE) available, with present generation assets, to supply the total internal energy economy demand for the range of mining scale and scope contemplated?
5. What options have we for increasing our RE supply to meet the total internal energy economy demand for the range of mining scale and scope contemplated?
6. Shall CBJ require that all, or a substantial fraction of, the total internal energy economy demand for the range of mining scale and scope contemplated, be supplied by RE?
7. What is the opportunity cost of allocating or dedicating a large fraction of the Community of Juneau's available RE to the range of mining scale and scope contemplated?

What other urgent, or higher-priority, uses have we, or might we have, for our available and potentially-available RE resources? Consider the attached "JuneauTotalEnergy" analysis: should we be dedicating all of our available, and potentially available, RE to displacing a large fraction of the 30 million gallons of liquid fossil fuels our community consumes annually, with RE?

The AJMAC should also ask:

1. What is the aggregate GHG footprint (aggregate emissions of all GHG's, including CO₂, N₂O, CH₄, among others). Nitrous oxide, N₂O, is a GHG, and a product of the explosion of ANFO (ammonium nitrate - fuel oil), the most popular mining explosive.
2. What is the value to humanity of producing more gold bullion for world markets, where over 80% of it will be used for hoarding and for jewelry? If that value is low, has the Community of Juneau a responsibility to eschew this mining activity, with its resource consumption and degradation consequences, for the good of humanity and the fellow-creatures which depend on our planet management?

Thank you for your consideration.

Bill Leighty
 Director, The Leighty Foundation (TLF)
 Principal, Alaska Applied Sciences, Inc. (AASI)
www.leightyfoundation.org/earth.php

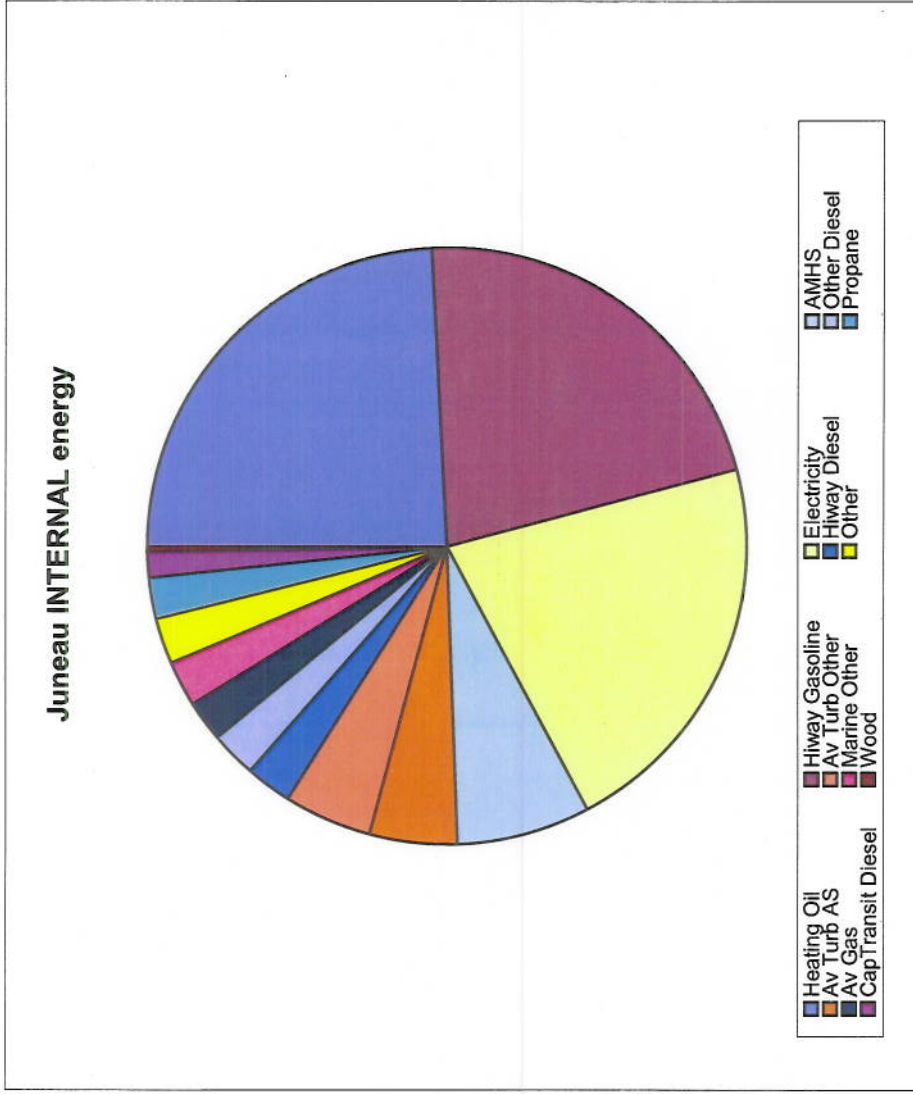
5/4/2011

Juneau INTERNAL energy economy

million gallons of oil or oil-equivalent @ 130,000 btu / gal

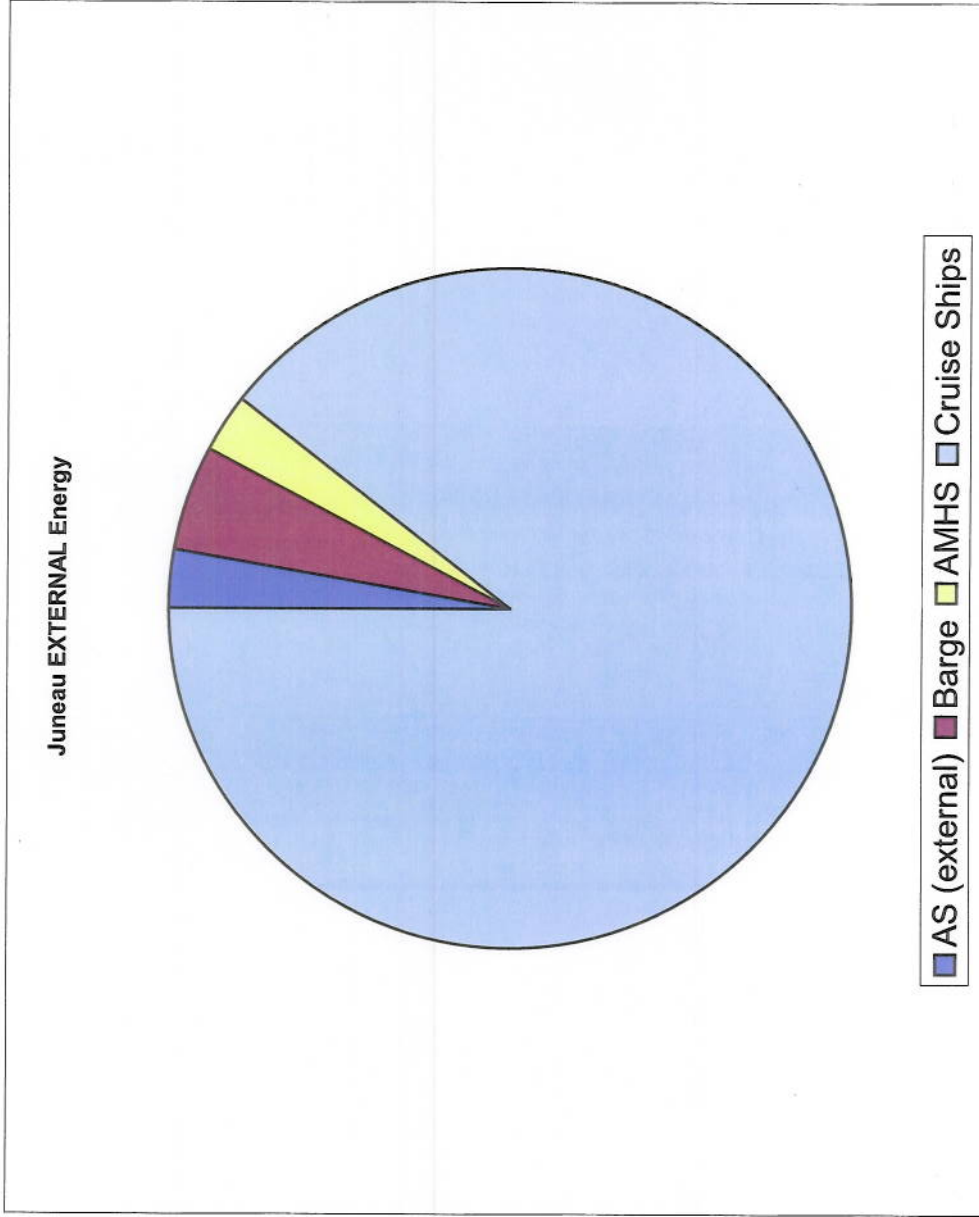
Heating Oil	0	10.00
Hiway Gasoline	0	9.00
Electricity	0	8.84
AMHS	0	3.00
Av Turb AS	0	2.00
Av Turb Other	0	2.00
Hiway Diesel	0	1.00
Other Diesel	0	1.00
Av Gas	0	1.00
Marine Other	0	1.00
Other	0	1.00
Propane	0	1.00
CapTransit Diesel	0	0.50
Wood	0	0.15
TOTAL	0	41.49

(million gallons oil or equivalent)



Juneau EXTERNAL energy economy
million gallons of oil or oil-equivalent @ 130,000 btu / gal

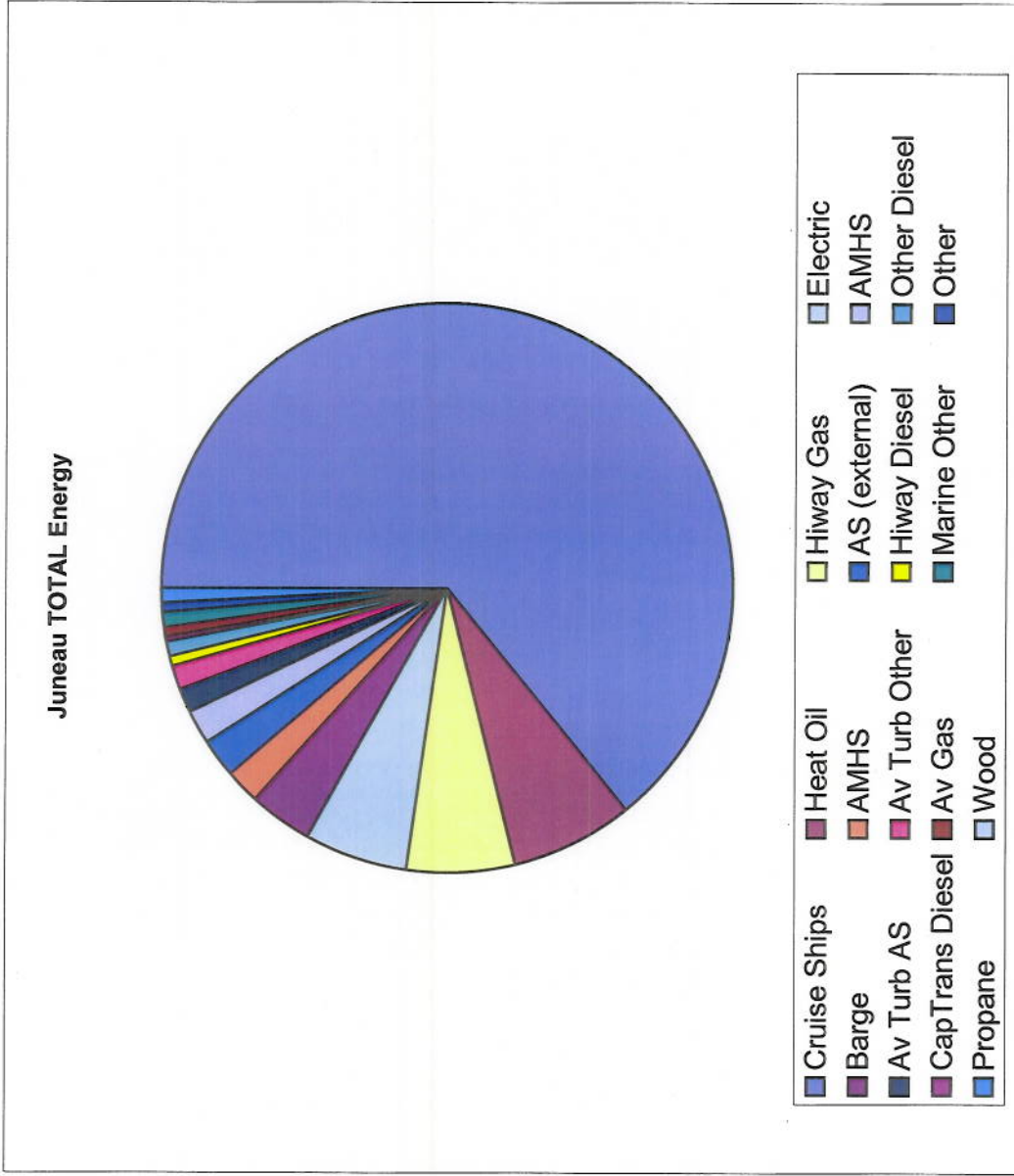
EXTERNAL	
Juneau external energy	
AS (Alaska Airlines)	3
Barge (AML, Northland)	5.2
AMHS (ferry)	3
Cruise Ships	95
TOTAL	106.2
(million gallons oil or equivalent)	



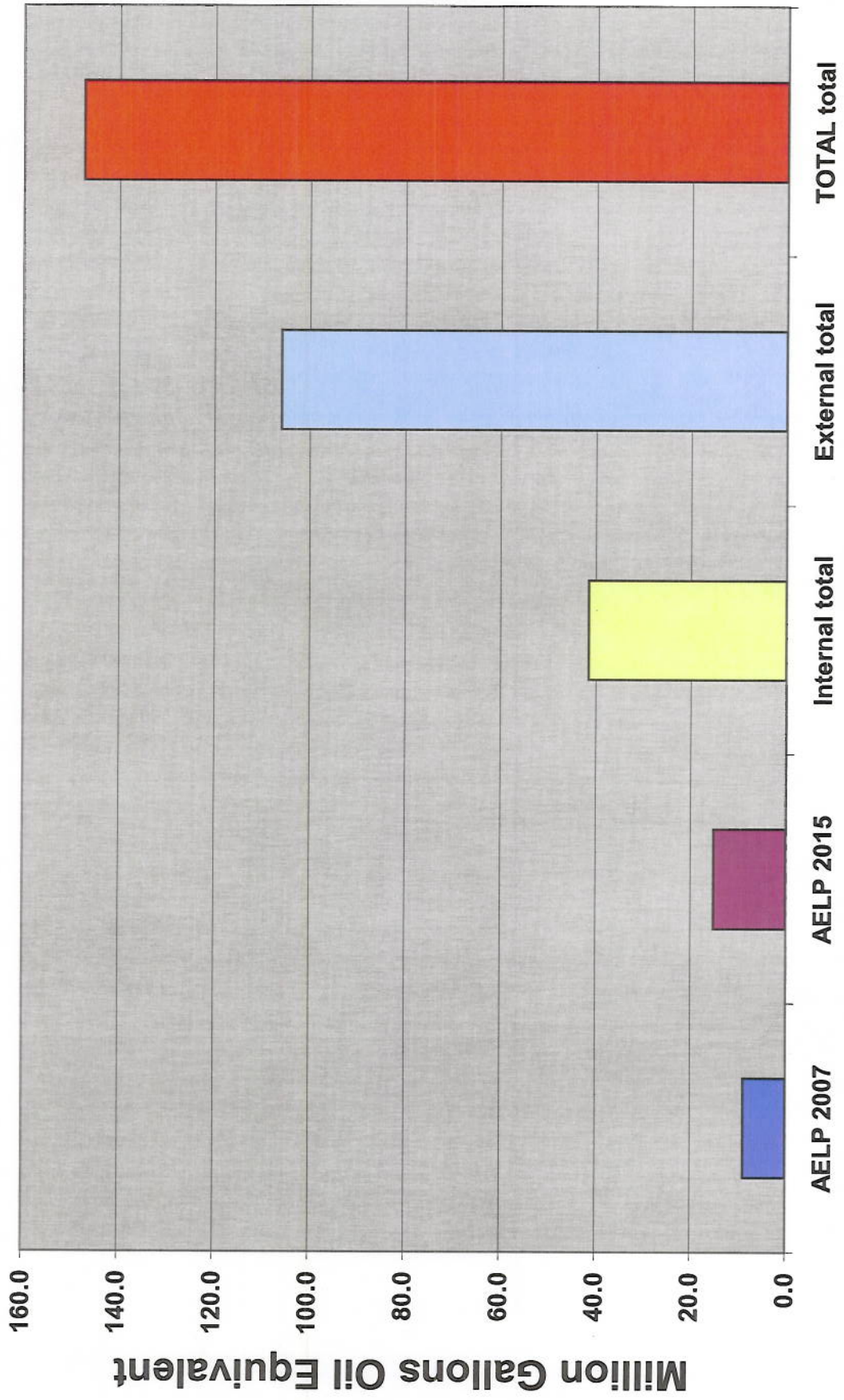
Juneau TOTAL energy economy

Million gallons (or equivalent) per year

TOTAL		
Juneau total energy		
Cruise Ships	95.00	
Heat Oil	10.00	
Hiway Gas	9.00	
Electric	9.00	
Barge	5.20	
AMHS	3.00	
AS (external)	3.00	
AMHS	3.00	
Av Turb AS	2.00	
Av Turb Other	2.00	
Hiway Diesel	1.00	
Other Diesel	1.00	
CapTrans Diesel	0.50	
Av Gas	1.00	
Marine Other	1.00	
Other	1.00	
Propane	1.00	
Wood	0.15	
TOTAL		147.85



Juneau Annual Energy



AMHS 2007 total gallons purchased FY 2007

Source: *Cathy Belfry* Date: 13-Nov-07
Program Budget Analyst III
Alaska Marine Highway System
907-228-7266
catherine.belfry@alaska.gov

FYE

<u>Vessel</u>	<u>Gallons Purchased</u>
Aurora	787,636
Chenega	833,925
Columbia	2,191,440
Fairweather	1,338,450
Kennicott	2,174,007
LeConte	618,758
Lituya	107,979
Malaspina	959,460
Matanuska	1,631,961
Taku	1,004,071
<u>Tustumena</u>	<u>882,007</u>
TOTAL	12,529,694

<u>Vessel</u>	<u>Annual Gallons</u>
Aurora	787,636
Chenega	833,925
Columbia	2,191,440
Fairweather	1,338,450
Kennicott	2,174,007
LeConte	618,758
Lituya	107,979
Malaspina	959,460
Matanuska	1,631,961
Taku	1,004,071
<u>Tustumena</u>	<u>882,007</u>
TOTAL	12,529,694

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Saturday, March 26, 2011 2:04 AM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Stephen E. Wright	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: Any proposed mine development must include the following conditions prior to any consideration: 1) Condition to address Sheep Creek/water issues: Underground storage may or may not be feasible for all AJ tailings, particularly if mine expansion were sought in the future. Any phase of the AJ, including any future modification, should not threaten Thane wells, Sheep Creek valley, and Sheep Creek flow and water quality. Thus, Sheep Creek valley must be placed in a legally protected special management status that will guarantee it will not be used for tailings storage before any mine may begin development. 2) Condition to address traffic/safety: Development of the AJ should not pose road safety issues. Thane Road must be made safe and provided with a separated bike/pedestrian path before any mine facilities may be located in Thane. 3) Condition to address quality of life: Development of the AJ should not diminish Thane and Juneau's quality of life because of associated noise and light. Thus, any mine must place noise and light producing operations underground. 4) Condition to address access/congestion: Development of the AJ should not make transit of downtown more difficult than it already is. Mine facilities located in Thane or at the Rock Dump must not result in any increase of downtown congestion during either construction or operation; provisions to ensure this could include such measures as a downtown bypass or water-only transportation to the mine facility. 5) Condition to address power generation: Development of the AJ should not create air pollution from power generation. For any mine all power must be provided via hydropower. Thank you for this opportunity to comment. Stephen E. Wright, Juneau, AK 99802	

Lori Savage

From: Rorie Watt
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2011 3:58 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: FW: Gold Creek: USGS Streamflow Measurements

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

-----Original Message-----

From: wleighty
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2011 12:39 PM
To: Rorie Watt
Subject: Gold Creek: USGS Streamflow Measurements

Rorie,

Please provide and review with the AJ Committee:

1. USGS daily streamflow measurements(<http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/measurements>)for the Gold Creek gauges that had been on Gold Creek at the steel bridge (1505000 Gold Creek at Juneau); at the Ebner dam site below Snowslide Gulch (15049900 Gold Creek near Juneau).

Randy Host reports there has been no gauge on Gold Creek since 2007.

2. CBJ water rights on Gold Creek.

3. CBJ water usage. (Most recent information on CBJ website is for 2007)

The CBJ criteria for considering a mine proposal in the Gold Creek Watershed should include:

1. water gauge(s) for streamflow monitoring, installed above the CBJ well field at Last Chance Basin in order to continue the historic (although interrupted) record of Gold Creek streamflow.
2. maintenance and improvement to the historic AJ Mine Drainage Tunnel flow that enters Gold Creek just below Snowslide Gulch. The quantity and quality of this streamflow should be maintained.
3. no or regulated diversion of water from the Gold Creek Watershed. This is especially critical during low flow periods of time.

Thank you for your consideration.
Nancy Waterman

Lori Savage

From: Rorie Watt
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2011 3:36 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: FW: AJ Mine & Housing
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple
Attachments: Housing 2011 (1).pdf

From: Scott Ciambor [mailto:sciambor@jedc.org]
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2011 8:40 AM
To: Rorie Watt
Subject: AJ Mine & Housing

Hi Rorie --

I read the article about the AJ Mine discussions and the estimated potential of 200 local jobs.

One thing I think the committee must consider is the housing component and where potential new employees will live. Kensington struggles with housing the 200+ new employees that they've phased in over the past two years and see it as one of their biggest hurdles. Given the housing data gathered (summarized in the attachment), my thoughts are that any major job creation initiative or significant economic development will be hampered by the lack of housing. Last quarter we saw 0% vacancy rates in some housing categories (3, 4, and 5-bedroom rental apartments) and the five-year vacancy rate for all rentals is between 2 and 3%. This is ridiculously low...a healthy target for residents is 5%.

Factor in that subsidized affordable rental units are routinely at 1% vacancy rates with long waiting lists and a projected need of 200 single-family homes built to meet current demand --- and you begin to see that the community isn't positioned to grow from a housing perspective. Adding jobs will strain the housing market and potentially stifle the economic gains projected with the opening of the mine.

Thanks,
Scott

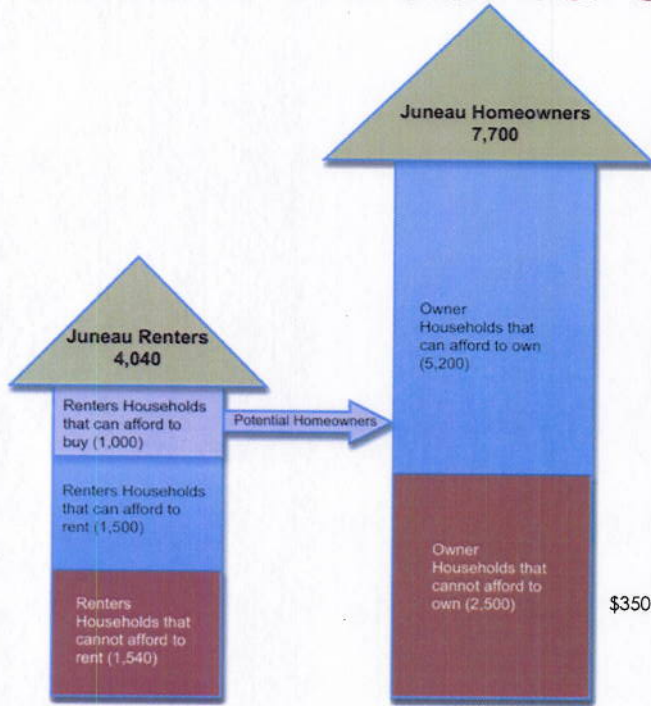
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Scott Ciambor
Affordable Housing Coordinator &
Co-Chair of the Juneau Homeless Coalition
Juneau Economic Development Council
(907) 523-2338
sciambor@jedc.org

The Juneau Homeless Coalition is on facebook

JUNEAU'S HOUSING CRISIS AFFECTS ALL

JUNEAU HOUSING 2011



Three Distinct Affordability Problem Areas in Juneau:
If a person pays more than 30% of their wages toward rent or mortgage, they are rent-burdened. This negatively affects housing choice, upward mobility, and the overall attractiveness of the community.

1. Low Income Renters/Homeless.
2. Renters that should be owners.
3. Home owners that are mortgage burdened.

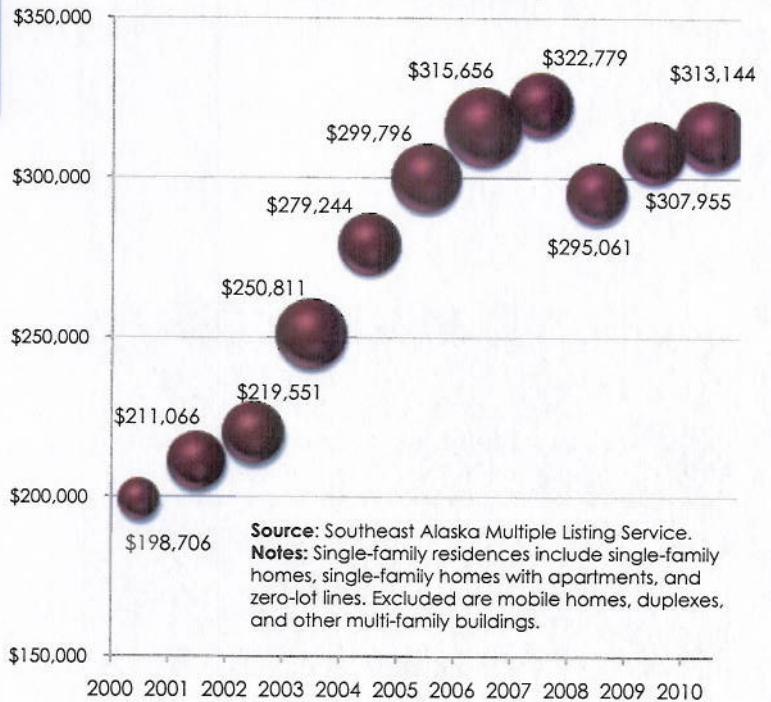
The Cost of Housing

Juneau housing costs are anywhere from 35-64 percent higher in Juneau than in the "average" US city, depending on the comparison criteria:

- In 2008 the **median assessed value** of an owner-occupied housing unit in Juneau was 53% higher than the national median value and 30% higher than the Alaska median value.
- Housing costs for a family of four with a relatively **low standard of living** costs 49% more in Juneau than a standard U.S. city.
- **Professional and executive housing** is 64% more expensive in Juneau than the "average" US city.
- The **median monthly Juneau homeowner cost** (for those homeowners with a mortgage) was \$2,039 in 2008. Comparatively, these costs are 17% higher than the Alaska median and 35% higher than the national median.

The Average Price of a Juneau Single Family Home 2000 to 2010

(Bubble size = Volume of Sales)



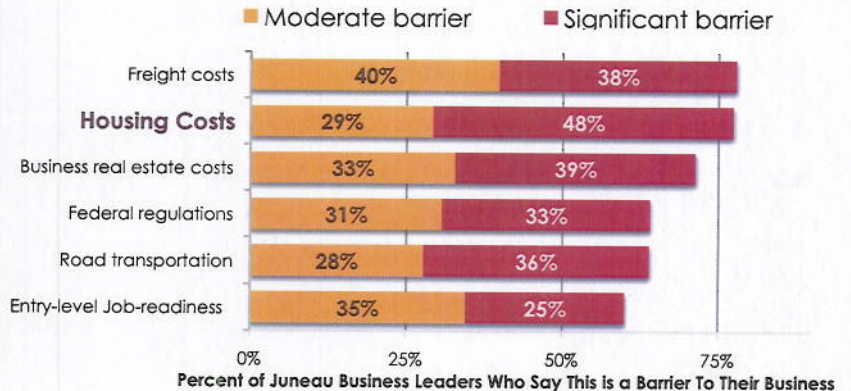
Source: Southeast Alaska Multiple Listing Service.
Notes: Single-family residences include single-family homes, single-family homes with apartments, and zero-lot lines. Excluded are mobile homes, duplexes, and other multi-family buildings.



The High Price of Housing Hurts Juneau Businesses

We asked 125 Juneau business leaders to tell us which elements act as barriers or benefits to operating their businesses. Two of the top three answers included the high price of local real estate. The high cost of housing in general was deemed a barrier 78% of Juneau business leaders, and business real estate costs were called a barrier by 71%.

Juneau Business Barriers: How significant are each of the elements listed below to operating your business?



Juneau does not have enough housing to meeting current demand (let alone enough housing to support growth)

In 2010, one, three and four bedroom rental homes each posted vacancy rates of zero.

NUMBER OF HOUSING UNITS NEED IN JUNEAU TO MEET 2009 PENT UP HOUSING DEMAND

Housing Type	RENTER OCCUPIED UNITS IN MULTI UNIT BUILDINGS	RENTER OCCUPIED SINGLE FAMILY HOMES	OWNER OCCUPIED UNITS IN MULTI UNIT BUILDINGS	OWNER OCCUPIED SINGLE FAMILY HOMES	TOTAL NEW UNITS NEEDED
Total New Units Needed	114	36	25	168	343

Low-Income/Affordable Housing Developed in Juneau in the Last 10 Years

AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT, 2000-2010, RENTAL/SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Grantee Name	STATE FISCAL YEAR	FUNDING SOURCE	HOUSING TYPE	UNITS CREATED
St. Vincent de Paul Society	2003	DCCED-CDBG	Transitional	7
Juneau Alliance for Mental Health Inc(JAMHI)	2003	AHFC - SNHG	Permanent Supportive Housing	1
Juneau Youth Services	2008	AHFC - SNHG	Transitional	8
REACH, Inc.	2009	HUD-811	group home	4
REACH, Inc.	2010	AHFC-SNHG	group home	5
Total				25

AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT, 2000-2010, HOMEOWNERSHIP

Grantee Name	State Fiscal Year	Funding Source	Housing Type	Units Created
Juneau Housing Trust	2001	AHFC - HOME	Single-Family	1
Tlingit-Haida Regional Housing Authority	2004	LIHTC - Glacier Village I	Single-Family	41
Tlingit-Haida Regional Housing Authority	2005	LIHTC - Orca Point	Single-Family	47
Juneau Housing Trust	2007	AHFC - HOME	Single-Family	1
Juneau Housing Trust	2011	HUD- Neighborhood Stabilization Program	Single-Family	3
Total				92



Juneau Housing Needs Assessment Recommendations, 2010

1. Continue to develop the organizational capacity for affordable housing and continue to monitor local housing data.
2. Encourage the creation of more one and two-bedroom apartments and single-family homes to manage unmet needs.
3. Establish an Affordable Housing Trust Fund.
4. Address the buildable land issue
5. Strengthen the Juneau Homeless Coalition



Juneau Affordable Housing Fund

On July 19, 2010 the City and Borough of Juneau Assembly passed ordinance No. 2010-11(G)(b) that appropriated \$400,000 into the Juneau Affordable Housing Fund to be used for the creation, acquisition, rehabilitation, or preservation of affordable housing based on review and recommendation of the Affordable Housing Commission.

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Monday, April 04, 2011 6:18 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Charles Renick	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: The CBJ should not develop the AJ Mine. It is unwise to put Juneau's watershed in danger.	

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 5:30 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Jai Crapella	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: Dear Members of the A-J Advisory Committee, I would be very opposed to the re-opening of the A-J mine. It seems we live in a world where everywhere you turn there are man-made disasters and harm to natural resources and public health. Why would we want to invite the same to our community? Our pure drinking water is precious and vital and a mine is not compatible with those values. It would be fool-hardy and irresponsible to allow the A-J to reopen. Please consider my comments in your deliberations - thank you. Jai Crapella Douglas	

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Sunday, April 10, 2011 11:24 AM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Doug Boddy	E-mail: Telephone Number:
----------------------------	--

Comments:
When the AJ mine was operating they had a pressurized salt water system that was apparently used for some purpose in their milling operations. One of the by uses was a fire hydrant network throughout the downtown area that was available, in addition to the fresh water hydrants, for fire department purposes. Since water availability is one of the concerns of the AJMAC, I wonder if they have explored the practicality of using seawater for some of the mine operations.

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Monday, April 11, 2011 6:39 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Jonas Lamb	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: High quality of life, pristine environmental quality (air, water, soil), easy access to recreational opportunities and public lands have been repeatedly cited as major influences over the citizens of Juneau choosing this community as our home. Re-opening the AJ Mine in the Mt. Roberts area would have dire impacts on this quality of life in terms of air and water quality, industrial noise, increased traffic on residential and under-sized roadways and more. I would absolutely consider leaving Juneau in the event that the mine were to reopen. I've read too too many essays documenting the atrocities of resource extraction operation on adjacent communities and don't want to see Juneau become another. Do we need a reminder that Echo Bay Mines was found poisoning the Gold Creek watershed, the City Water source by illegally dumping mine waste and that the Alaska Supreme Court found the permitting of the AJ Mine by the CBJ the last time around, illegal. The pursuit of this operation is an insult to our community. The profit that the CBJ stands to make off this venture will be nothing when compared to the impact on quality of life within the borough.	

Rod Swope

From: armunro [armunro]
Sent: Monday, April 11, 2011 1:28 PM
To: Borough Assembly
Cc: City Clerk
Subject: Do we really need an AJ GOLD MINE?

Importance: High

Dear Mr. Mayor and all the members of the CBJ Assembly:

I write to all of you in hopes of appealing to your individual and collective sense of correctness and intelligence. I can perhaps understand--but totally disagree with the rationale our Juneau City and Borough's elected officials are expressing in wanting to reopen the Alaska Juneau Gold Mine as a purely speculative, revenue-investing, venture. It is an investors and developers psychological need to do so--even though it regularly causes serious adverse effects. It is perhaps analogous to many other forms of addictive behavior--that can and do--reach way beyond those who are initially responsible. In this particular instance such adverse action spreads outward and upward into Juneau homes through a fairly direct drinking-water resource system and our naturally occurring watershed. Juneau went through a similar gold-drill scenario in the 1990s when this singular but pernicious lust for gold was then defeated by public outcry. But now, in 2011, there are some new players sitting on the Assembly who seem to be uninformed and are committed to repeating what is known now as a totally divisive chapter in Juneau's gold-seeking history.

However, our Mayor would tell them and us all--we are running out of oil and that CBJ administration will require even more revenue generated by digging for gold. But then--I personally have yet to see any real noteworthy, belt-tightening plans being set-forth by either the CBJ assembly or administration. In closing, I have but one question to ask all of you and that is--shouldn't we be exploring a more reasoned strategy before we risk destroying Juneau's pure drinking water reservoir?

Thank you for your most sincere attention to this high-priority matter.

Alan R. Munro, a Juneau resident who drinks our pure mountain water daily and for going on 40 years now.
Let's keep it that way for the coming generations.

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2011 8:36 AM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Daniel Kirkwood	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: I am very concerned about the proposed reopening of the AJ Mine. As a tour guide I worry that our clients will not enjoy an active modern mine in the downtown area. I am concerned about the development of areas like Last Chance Basin and Thane - places of beauty that define Juneau. Most importantly I am concerned about drinking water. The cost of replacing our year round source of water would far exceed the spoils from the mine. I have been to the Greens Creek and Kensington Mines. While they are economic drivers, I wouldn't want either of them in my back yard (or kitchen sink). I think CBJ should promote the AJ mine under NO circumstances. If it is to go forward then CBJ must address issues of how it with enforce the stringent regulations necessary, and create an oversight committee of Juneau residents.	

Lori Savage

From: Lori Savage
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2011 3:48 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: FW: submitted documents

From: guy archibald
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2011 2:12 PM
To: Rorie Watt
Subject: submitted documents

Rorie,

After listening to the city attorney's statement that empowering a citizens committee was "problematic", I thought of an alternative. This is an example of a Good Neighbor Agreement that has been in effect for some time, with a few changes between the Stillwater Mining Company and a citizens organization. <http://www.northernplains.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/10/2005amendedgna.pdf>

Speaking with Dave Chambers, he thought this could be a good idea to consider. He also said that just rewording any upcoming lease into a legal contract between the mining company and a citizens group would also work. This should be one of the conditions, but I am not on the advisory committee.

Could you please post the agreement under submitted documents.

--
Guy Archibald
Southeast Alaska Conservation Council
Clean Water Coordinator

Lori Savage

From: Rorie Watt
Sent: Thursday, April 14, 2011 8:51 AM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: FW: Comments for AJ Mine Advisory Committee
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

From: Marjorie Menzi
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2011 9:07 PM
To: Rorie Watt
Subject: Comments for AJ Mine Advisory Committee

Please share the comments below with the Advisory Committee. Thank you.

April 20, 2011

To: Members of the AJ Mine Advisory Committee

I have reviewed the topics under consideration by the committee in regard to a possible mining operation: wastewater treatment/mine discharge, economics, sustainability/energy/, traffic, noise/light, and local/and regional hire. I believe that we can't judge the acceptability of a mining proposal until it is presented but think that the committee is headed in the right direction in regard to the parameters being discussed in these aforementioned areas.

I concur with the committee and CBJ staff, that the primary concern related to a mine is the protection of Juneau's water supply. However, there has been a major oversight. I have not read about any discussion related to the water supply for the 50 plus households on Thane Road which do not receive city water but which could be as vulnerable or more vulnerable to impacts from a mine. Any phase of the AJ should not threaten Thane wells, Sheep Creek Valley, or Sheep Creek flow and water. Our water supply should be included in the protective measures put in place for the rest of the CBJ water supply.

Monitoring of water quantity and quality, enforcement of compliance with quantity and quality standards, identification of an alternative water supply, required water recycling, and financial warranties should all be considered by the Advisory Committee in regard to Thane's water supply as well as that of the city's water supply. If Thane's water is compromised, whatever alternative is developed for city water users must also be made available to Thane residents.

Marjorie Menzi
Juneau, AK 99801

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Monday, April 18, 2011 10:30 AM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Roman Motyka	E-mail: Telephone Number:
<p>Comments: AJMAC & CBJ Must Protect Our Water Supply Dear AJMAC committee members: Thank you for all of your work on this issue. I am submitting written comments to you because I will be out of town and unable to attend the one and only AJMAC meeting where oral public testimony can be presented. Personal background: I am presently employed as a Professor of Geology and Geophysics by the Geophysical Institute, University of Alaska, and am based in Juneau. However, my views are my own. My professional career in Alaska spans almost 40 years of research and study of the state's geology and geophysics, and includes 16 years when I was employed by the Department of Natural Resources, Alaska Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys (DNR-DGGS; 1979 – 1995). Twenty years ago, during my tenure as Senior Geologist with DNR-ADGGS, I participated in a joint study investigating the potential impacts that reopening the AJ mine could have on the city's water supply in Last Chance Basin (LCB). My contributions involved developing a better understanding of the geology and hydrology of the basin in support of state and CBJ hydrologists. Last Chance Basin geologic history: An accident of nature created the aquifer system in Last Chance Basin, which is the primary source of water for CBJ. After glaciers retreated following the Last Glacial Maximum (12,000 to 16,000 yr ago), stream sediments began flooring the basin at first with relatively impermeable glacial mud and silt, and later with layers of sand and gravel. A landslide off Mount Juneau then dammed Last Chance Basin (at the road bridge) and created a temporary lake. Silt and mud precipitated from the lake, covering the sands and gravels. The lake eventually filled with sediment and Gold Creek re-established itself, producing the modern day basin we now see. Aquifer system: The sand and gravel sandwiched between the two mud layers constitute a semi-confined aquifer system from which CBJ draws our main water supply via five pumps. Infiltration into the aquifer occurs at the head of the basin in the river section from the Mine-Museum footbridge to Snow Slide Gulch. Stream flow from Silver Bow and Granite Basins (Gold Creek) are the principal sources of water infiltrating into this aquifer but drainage from mine adits also provides a significant fraction of water flow into Gold Creek, especially during cold spells. These adits drain water that enter through the Glory Holes in Silver Bow Basin and then course through the old mine workings. The LCB aquifer itself is not very large, being only 30 to 40 m in thickness, 0.5 km in width, and 2 km or so in length. The CBJ LCB water supply therefore depends strongly on adequate water volume entering the aquifer at the head of the basin. Concerns: In my opinion, the results of studies done 20 years ago make it quite evident that the CBJ-LCB water supply would be seriously vulnerable to contamination and diminished water flow should the mine be reopened. The nature of the aquifer system, with its open infiltration at the head of the basin, is such that any contaminated water entering the streams up-valley or from the adits could infiltrate and contaminate the aquifer. Closing the adits altogether may prevent mine contamination entering the aquifer system but it would also significantly diminish water flow. Juneau's alternate water supply, Salmon Creek Reservoir, is subject to turbidly events that periodically shut down water supply from this source and thus cannot be depended on. Ironically, there are no economically and environmentally viable alternative water sources, in rain-country Juneau. This is because of the prohibitive cost that filtration of other water sources would entail, as noted by the CBJ city engineer. Conclusions: The April 10, 2011 Juneau Empire featured an article about AJMAC deliberations. From this article, I am heartened that the committee is acutely aware of the threats that reopening of the AJ mine would pose to our city's water supply. It is therefore incumbent on this committee, the mayor, and the CBJ assembly to ensure that all precautions be taken to prevent any endangerment to our water supply. We as citizens of CBJ have a vested interest in maintaining clean and adequate water supplies for ourselves and future generations. We must ask ourselves where our true wealth lies: is it the gold in "them dar hills" or is it the life sustaining water that we are fortunate to have in our own back yard. Sincerely, Roman J Motyka, Ph.D. Professor of Geology and Geophysics</p>	

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Monday, April 18, 2011 7:32 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Gregory A Beischer	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: The modern mining industry has proven through the operations at Green's Creek and Kensington that it can coexist quite compatibly with the values of wilderness and beauty people from Juneau and the surrounding areas enjoy, and with the other industries that form the basis of the local economy - fishing, tourism and government. Juneau has the opportunity to take a lead role in multiple land use and to build an exceptionally strong, diversified economy by embracing the mining industry and the re- opening of the AJ mine. I encourage city and borough of Juneau to support development of a mining operation at AJ as long as the developers can demonstrate an environmentally and socially responsible project. My comments are provided from my position as an Alaskan concerned about the future of our state's economy and its nearly sole reliance on petroleum revenues, and from the position as an entrepreneur bringing investment for exploration and development of resources to the state, and as past president of the Alaska Miners Association. Yours truly, Gregory A. Beischer President & CEO Millrock Resources Inc.	

4545 Thane Road
Juneau, Alaska 99801

907-586-9768 (phone/fax)
srbehnke@ak.net
lspengler@ak.net

April 19, 2011

Dear AJ Mine Advisory Committee members:

We appreciate the time, energy, and attention you have given to looking at these issues. We have three general suggestions and six specific suggestions for the draft report.

General suggestions

1. Maximize certainty to minimize community conflict.

You have developed a number of recommended conditions to address major concerns about AJ development. However, it is difficult to see how some of them will hold over time in the face of changing political or financial circumstances. In order to be clear to a potential developer, and to reassure Juneau residents, the conditions you recommend should be as specific and enforceable as possible. We have made some specific recommendations below, but there are additional areas that would benefit from application of this principle.

2. "Redundancy is our friend."

One of you made this remark during a committee meeting, and drew pleasant chuckles. We'd like to think they were chuckles of recognition. One of the purposes of your report – assuming the assembly embraces it -- is to make it clear to the public and to any potential developer what the city will treat as key sideboards to any mine proposal. To be really plain about what is intended may mean putting the same content in under different headings, if the condition, comment, or recommendation is tied to more than one main topic of concern. This is not a place to put in only the bare minimum.

3. Options as an owner.

As a majority owner in the AJ property, the city has options that go beyond the options it has as the eventual permit issuer and regulator. Thus, if there are items that are very important to Juneau residents, it is quite appropriate for those to be spelled out in your report, even if the topic is one that will eventually come before the planning commission. Once it does, the requirements you articulate will guide the planning commission's consideration of options. If a private company or individual were leasing land for a project, that company or person could include conditions that would circumscribe what the lessee could take before the planning commission. Here, the city is in that same position, and should take advantage of it to articulate those protections it decides are key, above and beyond what it could do as a permitting or regulating agency.

Specific suggestions

1. Suggested addition to the "**Drinking Water System**" section conditions:

"An alternative city water supply should be developed, in order to provide certainty on this issue of central significance to all residents.

Reason:

There is no debate that the Gold Creek well field is currently Juneau's only adequate water supply; Salmon Creek is not sufficient in quantity or quality on a year round basis. It simply makes no sense to even consider approving a mining proposal that could jeopardize our town's drinking water without first identifying and developing a sufficient alternative. Even a very large financial deposit by a developer is not going to give Juneau residents water to drink should a problem – catastrophic or otherwise – arise with the Gold Creek supply.

2. Suggested addition to the "**Traffic**" section conditions:

"Require bus or water transport for employees."

Reason:

This project could contribute substantially to the existing traffic congestion on lower South Franklin and Thane Road, conflicting with residential, tourism and other business uses. In order to minimize concerns about these conflicts, it would be better to specify this up front rather than leave it for later consideration by the planning commission. This is an example of something the city can do in its role of majority owner.

3. Suggested waste rock condition for the "**Surface Storage, Use, and Export of Sorted Mine Rock**" section:

"Waste rock will be disposed of underground unless and until there is a buyer for it and unless and until a method is developed to prevent the noise from impacting adjacent neighborhoods, including those across the channel."

Reason:

Offloading, storing, and distributing waste rock are likely to create substantial noise. Again, it would be in the interests of all concerned to have as much specificity as possible in order to reduce conflict. This is another example of something the city can specify in its role of majority owner.

4. Suggested addition to the "**Recreation/Tourism/Sheep Creek Valley**" section conditions:

"Establish a conservation easement or other permanent land management designation to protect Sheep Creek Valley over the long term, which would, among other things, prohibit the storing of mine tailings or waste rock there in any form."

Reason:

While the intent is to put tailings underground, mines change over time, as we have seen with Green's Creek, and permit conditions can be altered. Establishing a conservation easement would provide the certainty that Sheep Creek Valley will not be used for tailings disposal.

5. Suggested condition for the "**Public Process/Promotion of the Mine**" section:

“The assembly should contract for a preliminary mine design and environmental impact report, to provide a baseline scenario for community review and a basis for development of an request for proposals or lease agreement.”

Reason:

This is one of the weakest areas in the current draft. If it decides to proceed, the city should design a public process that is open, clear, and well informed. Many of the problems and conflicts 20 years ago resulted from the city turning the process over to a private company rather than figuring out what the community wanted first.

6. Suggested condition for the "**Public Process/Promotion of the Mine**" section:

“The assembly should establish a mechanism for ongoing citizen input or oversight for the mine.”

Reason:

There is much skepticism in Juneau about any effort to reopen the AJ. A formal, separate process for citizen input or oversight could help assure the public that the conditions governing the mine would not be modified or loosened over time without adequate review.

Again, thank you for the work you have put into this.

Sincerely,

Steven R. Behnke
Larri Irene Spengler

April 19, 2011

Dear Members of the AJ Mine Advisory Committee,

I reside at 4660 Thane Road, one of two residences that are directly adjacent to Sheep Creek. Unfortunately, I am not able to attend in person tonight's public hearing as I will be out of town. For this reason, I have requested my friend - Fred Morino read this letter into the record.

Thane has been my home for only 9 years; but, I am somewhat familiar with the history surrounding the litigation that arose because of the Thane Neighborhood Association's efforts when Echo Bay Alaska Inc. applied for a permit in November 1990.

I start by providing my perspective as a Thane homeowner - my water source is a well that was drilled in the 1960's. Based on the information I have reviewed, I have absolutely no concern about water issues related to my drinking water. While several of my neighbors have expressed to me concerns about their water sources -- most of their concerns are about quantity and not quality. I also see in Thane a trend towards surface capture -- indeed roof catchment of rain water is being utilized more and more.

That said, I next share my broader concern as a member of the community of Juneau at large. At the heart of this concern is the City and Borough of Juneau's ownership of the AJ and decisions necessary to move forward. As a substantial owner of a gold mine -- a gold mine that is not only valuable to Juneau but the entire region as well, it is incumbent on the CBJ to maximize the value of our asset in a manner that is consistent with good stewardship. My concern over ownership is exacerbated by the fact that the CBJ is also a regulator of mining activities. Accordingly, the CBJ wears two hats - one as a profit oriented entity and the second as a regulator. As a regulator, it is incumbent for the CBJ to be fair and consistent in a manner prescribed by law. In a very real and meaningful sense the City is therefore confronted with an inevitable conflict of interest as it assumes both roles. It therefore must be vigilant not to diminish the value of its asset by creating a political divide or entertaining a discourse that invites uncertainty and polarizing elements so that potentially capable management or operators are "turned away" from further participation.

Sideboards should be general and in accordance with current policy and regulation in place for the safety, health and welfare of the community. This will provide potential operators a framework to evaluate alternatives. If the desire of the Assembly is to move forward in a meaningful way it is imperative that the CBJ first consider this question -- *Should we be in the mining business and is there a better owner for this asset?*

If the answer is that the CBJ is not the right owner, please recommend a change in the nature of the public enquiry to that of what type of owner should the CBJ look to sell its interest to. This way the CBJ can adopt its proper and more suitable role as regulator. Your recommendation should assist and guide the Assembly to this end.

I urge the CBJ to consider a sale of its interest to a mining company that the Assembly would approve of. Necessary criteria including strong expertise, a strong balance sheet, a history of innovation and good stewardship – particularly post closure – all of which is in the best interest of the CBJ to consider in lieu of being an owner/regulator. A decision to move toward a more traditional relationship with the business community sends a strong signal to the capital markets and proclaims that Juneau is ready to move into the 21st century as not only the Capital City of Alaska but as a center for responsible development, innovation and progressive mining activities.

I suggest that the number one priority is to attract a mine developer that meets these criteria. Putting pre-conditions on the development limits the community's ability to look at some of the best companies out there as successful business will tend to avoid controversial and highly politicized uncertainty. An innovative plan for development and operations which a new owner might propose, which we may not see as a community yet, should be encouraged.

Let us more fully vet the value of our asset by bringing it to market. Let us let the experts give it some thought and leave the details to the permitting stage. Alaska has very good environmental protections and the State and CBJ large mine permitting process should address the details.

Finally, as a suggestion to improve the design and functionality of this project when it moves forward, I encourage the CBJ and the State of Alaska design an avalanche tunnel through the Thane avalanche diversion area as part of the new portal facility. I also suggest that a small boat harbor and boat ramp be part of the facility. However, making these a condition of approval is wrong. Let's find the right developer/owner and let's allow the free market of ideas to guide the development of this valuable asset. I am comfortable that the permitting system currently in place will protect our health, safety and quality of life.

Thank you for allowing my letter to be read into the record.

Respectfully,


Peter Naoroz

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Tuesday, April 19, 2011 10:09 AM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Shelly F Wright, Southeast Conference	E-mail: Telephone Number:
<p>Comments: Southeast Conference offers full and enthusiastic support for reopening the AJ Mine. Juneau was built on its rich heritage in mining and that rich heritage has made our city a wonderful place to live. All of Southeast Alaska will benefit from this mine opening. It will offer tremendous career opportunities for our young families in the region. The average mining wage is approximately \$80,000 compared with the average State of Alaska or tourism wage of approximately \$40,000. The benefits of these jobs extend outward in the city as well as the entire Southeast region as these workers buy homes, pay taxes, shop in local stores, and send their children to the local schools. The AJ Mine is estimated to hold at least 780,000 ounces of gold. At \$1400 an ounce, that's over one billion dollars gross value. Juneau City and Borough stands to collect significant revenue in the form of royalty payments, as land owner, taxes and other fees, which benefit all residents. It is in the best interest of the project that we attract a viable mine developer and conditions of the mine opening and operation be developed through the contract and permitting process. Pre-conditions should not be established by the advisory committee. Mine design and development should be left to the mine developer and not be limited to one scenario before the process even begins. It is important to remember that drinking water, wastewater treatment, mine drainage, economics, energy, traffic, noise, lights, hiring and recreation are permit issues and should be addressed under the permitting process. The modern permitting processes offer environmental and other important safeguards than can be trusted and should be respected. Opening this mine is a tremendous opportunity for the economy of Juneau and all of Southeast. Leaders and advisory group members should be sure we are creating an open and friendly environment for business to take place. We must take responsibility for our own infrastructure and water supply as well as our business climate. We must make sure we have a healthy environment for our new business partners to work in when they begin the exciting endeavor of opening the AJ Mine. How exciting it will be to see our heritage come alive.</p>	

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Tuesday, April 19, 2011 11:07 AM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Dennis Steffy	E-mail: Telephone Number:
<p>Comments: AJ Mine Advisory Committee Public Testimony 4/21/11 www.juneau.org/engineering/AJ_MINE/public_comment/index.php To the members of the AJ Mine Advisory Committee: My name is Dennis Steffy, Executive Director of the University of Alaska Mining and Petroleum Training Service and operator of the Center for Mine Training at the University of Alaska Southeast. I have been providing training in mine operations and environmental aspects of mining in Alaska since 1969 and in Juneau since 1986. We have trained thousands of SE residents who are now working all over the world as well as in the Juneau and SE mining industry. These are local folks, many of whom I suspect you know. They now have good jobs, with excellent benefits and they are spending their wages in Juneau and SE Alaska. Millions of dollars are now staying in Juneau instead of being exported to the lower 48. I have spent months in the AJ, from the Ebner to the Sheep Creek Portal. We use the Sheep Creek Portal as a hands-on training site for our new miner classes in Juneau. Given that background, I sincerely believe the AJ can be reopened and operated in an environmentally sound and profitable manner. What could derail the project are perceived concerns that have valid engineering solutions or alternatives. I see a number of communities across the state who have tried to maintain the status quo and as a result have lost their economy and are starting to lose their residents. I did the startup training for the Alyeska pipeline and the East side of the slope back in 1976 and 1977. My personal take is that oil production will continue to decline beyond the point where the pipeline can operate for reasons of simple physics. The CJB has a unique opportunity to take positive steps to mitigate the loss of state oil and gas revenue and the effects that loss will have on CBJ. Afflicting a potential operator with onerous or unproductive permitting conditions will likely drive capital dollars away from the AJ. It is quite possible to assemble a set of parameters to protect the City's interests while attracting a partner that will add to the City's tax base and employ local residents and capture a share of their wages. That is not rocket science. It is sound engineering and sound choices. I sincerely encourage you to consult with people with experience in the sort of mining and engineering required to have a successful project.</p>	

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Tuesday, April 19, 2011 2:38 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Michelle Hardy-Fournet	E-mail: Telephone Number:
<p>Comments: Hello, I am writing to voice my opposition to re-opening the AJ Mine in Juneau. Not only am I opposed to the current conditions being proposed to re-open the mine, I'm both shocked and disappointed that the city of Juneau would create a committee that asks "under what conditions would we re-open the mine?" instead of "do conditions exist that would warrant re-opening the mine?" I feel that an issue this socially, environmentally, and financially pertinent to the citizens of Juneau has been under attended to. However, given the issue at hand I feel it is important to point out that NO MINES HAVE SUCESSFULLY accomplished what this mine claims to be able to do! Though many have tried to efficiently dispose of their waste, no mine has been successful in living up to the standards that this project is attempting. To assume it will be accomplished is naive and foolhardy. To risk Juneau's water supply on this gamble is irresponsible at best and criminal at worst. We have a tendency as Southeast Alaskans to undervalue water. It surrounds us, permeates us, and downright soaks us. That does not devalue it. The opposite is in fact true-our culture is based upon it. No price tag is worth risking the clean water in our taps. In many ways it is the lifeblood of this community. This mine risks that. 2/3 of our water supply come from Gold Creek. Our alternative water supply- Salmon Creek- is not plumbed to reach the majority or our city. Nor is it possible to rely on fresh drinking water from Salmon Creek for the majority of the year. Without Gold Creek the people of Juneau will run out of drinking water. The cost of re-plumbing the city to rely on an alternative water source is both financially unrealistic as well as ecologically impossible. Children promise their mothers they won't spill their juice. Mines promise the environment they won't pollute the water. I see a lot of Moms with sticky towels, and I see a lot of dirty water. Additionally, the risk that re-opening the mine poses to our recreation areas, our environment, and to Gastineau channel further reinforces my support for keeping the mine CLOSED! Mining underneath the Perseverance trail would permanently alter a historically important area and a widely used recreation area. Alpine ecosystems are fragile, the exhaust of mining machinery, the destruction of plant and wildlife species to build mine infrastructure all comes at the costs of the living things that we value. We live in Juneau because it is pristine, beautiful, and wild. We did not choose to live among large trucks, heavy machinery, dust, smoke, and noise. The runoff from constructions reaches our waters, our homes, and our downtown. For just a moment consider the practical implications on our downtown landscape. Good intentions often lead to disastrous consequences. Our city will be forced to shoulder the financial burden or readying the mine, and when the time comes, it will shoulder the burden for shutting it down. I ask you to consider -Our drinking water -Our environment -Our tourism -Our sleep -Our peace of mind -Our economy Do not disturb our precious trails with mining. Do not threaten our tourism industry with noise and filth. Do not disturb our sleep with the sound of trucks and dumping rocks. Do not threaten the fish in Gastineau channel. Do not pick-up the check for another mine gone bad. It is not worth it. My voice may be one voice. But for every one voice that takes the time to speak out there are many more nodding their heads and clapping their hands. Take me seriously. I am the voice of the citizens of Juneau.</p>	

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Tuesday, April 19, 2011 3:10 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Drew Green	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: <p>The circumstances should not be mountains of conditions pertinent to a mine's operations as these would be huge dissentives for anyone to consider investment in our Borough. The conditions should be that the CBJ is facing extremely difficult financial future unless we attract more business opportunities and development in our regions. The existing state and federal regulatory regime as well as CBJ planning already adds enough hurdles for a mine to consider operations in our area. We shouldn't reflect a type of Kensington process, regulatory struggle and potential for legal actions against a party interested in pursuing this opportunity. The CBJ should be looking at ways to attract this type of development and not add more constraints and restrictions. The work of the committee could be formed as a series of operational considerations and recommendations preferred by the community but not mandated. Incentives could be built in for deal breakers instead of a list of requirements before a solicitation process even begins. The land should be leased with some sort of timeline for production with assurances that all appropriate permits should be in place from existing regulatory oversight. The CBJ should let a company develop its own plan for what works from their own operational and responsible development perspective while the CBJ receives a royalty for this lease opportunity. Thank you for the opportunity to comment and I hope that the CBJ moves forward with developing our local resources.</p>	

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Tuesday, April 19, 2011 3:35 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Corey Baxter	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: As a fourth generation Juneauite I am in favor of opening the AJ mine. Juneau was build out of the AJ mine and the tread well mine. This project will be a great asset for Juneau by the financial need juneau will be getting and it will put alot of locals to work. This project will help with Juneau's infustructure needs as well. I have heard about the concerns with the drinking water, which with the technology we have now a day's we should be able to over come this situation and proceed with a project that can be done enviromentally safe and responsible. With the royalties Juneau can recevie off the AJ mine we can fund are own projects without asking money from the state. Juneau can be more indepentent. Thankyou Corey Baxter	

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Tuesday, April 19, 2011 7:10 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Thomas Chaplin	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: The more jobs the better! Juneau needs to stay strong. Please support the opening of the AJ Mine.	



REPRESENTATIVE CATHY MUÑOZ



CBJ

APR 23 2011

Engineering

April 20, 2011

AJ Mine Advisory Committee
City and Borough of Juneau
155 S. Seward Street
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing in support of the City and Borough of Juneau's efforts to explore the re-opening the AJ Mine and I commend the Advisory Committee's efforts to identify, suggest solutions, and make recommendations to the Assembly.

The AJ is estimated to hold at least 780,000 ounces of gold with a possible gross value of over one billion dollars. Opening the AJ would provide many job opportunities for our residents. During the past year, I have worked with leaders of the University of Alaska Mining and Petroleum Training Service to improve UAS mining training infrastructure and expand opportunities for local residents. Mining industry jobs, averaging \$80,000 annually, provide great benefits to Juneau through home purchases, taxes, and increased economic activity.

In light of our region's declining population made evident through the current redistricting process, the opportunities of mining and economic diversification provide hope that future redistricting processes will be more favorable for Southeast.

Thank you for your willingness to serve on the advisory panel and for your commitment to make this important project work.

Sincerely,


Cathy Muñoz
Representative, District 4

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2011 8:32 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Judith Hauck	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: I believe that the opening of the AJ mine is a project that the CBJ should scrutinize carefully before promoting any development. The fact that the city water source could be adversely impacted with a very small event in the mine should be a red flag. Without adequate alternate sources of water the city could be in a disasterous position. The City should not promote permitting the mine unless there is a viable plan in place that would provide a reliable source of uncontaminated water for the city on a long term basis.	

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2011 7:41 AM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Chris Prussing	E-mail:
	Telephone Number:

Comments:

I concur with all the attached suggestions made by my neighbors Larri Spengler and Steve Behnke. While I can see potential benefits to the Thane neighborhood from re-opening the AJ Mine, the history of mining in Juneau warrants extreme caution lest the city once again be left holding the bag of decaying mining debris and polluted land and water. It seems paramount 1) to ensure protection of the city's water supply and 2) prevent pollution of the Sheep Creek drainage by tailings, waste rock containing lead and arsenic, or drainage water contaminated by diesel, nitrates, or mercury left over from prior workings. This is especially important if the Sheep Creek drainage is viewed as a potential auxiliary water supply for Thane and the city. Chris Prussing Thane Road Juneau, Alaska 99801 April 19, 2011 Dear AJ Mine Advisory Committee members: We appreciate the time, energy, and attention you have given to looking at these issues. We have three general suggestions and six specific suggestions for the draft report. General suggestions 1. Maximize certainty to minimize community conflict. You have developed a number of recommended conditions to address major concerns about AJ development. However, it is difficult to see how some of them will hold over time in the face of changing political or financial circumstances. In order to be clear to a potential developer, and to reassure Juneau residents, the conditions you recommend should be as specific and enforceable as possible. We have made some specific recommendations below, but there are additional areas that would benefit from application of this principle. 2. "Redundancy is our friend." One of you made this remark during a committee meeting, and drew pleasant chuckles. We'd like to think they were chuckles of recognition. One of the purposes of your report – assuming the assembly embraces it – is to make it clear to the public and to any potential developer what the city will treat as key sideboards to any mine proposal. To be really plain about what is intended may mean putting the same content in under different headings, if the condition, comment, or recommendation is tied to more than one main topic of concern. This is not a place to put in only the bare minimum. 3. Options as an owner. As a majority owner in the AJ property, the city has options that go beyond the options it has as the eventual permit issuer and regulator. Thus, if there are items that are very important to Juneau residents, it is quite appropriate for those to be spelled out in your report, even if the topic is one that will eventually come before the planning commission. Once it does, the requirements you articulate will guide the planning commission's consideration of options. If a private company or individual were leasing land for a project, that company or person could include conditions that would circumscribe what the lessee could take before the planning commission. Here, the city is in that same position, and should take advantage of it to articulate those protections it decides are key, above and beyond what it could do as a permitting or regulating agency. Specific suggestions 1. Suggested addition to the "Drinking Water System" section conditions: "An alternative city water supply should be developed, in order to provide certainty on this issue of central significance to all residents. Reason: There is no debate that the Gold Creek well field is currently Juneau's only adequate water supply; Salmon Creek is not sufficient in quantity or quality on a year round basis. It simply makes no sense to even consider approving a mining proposal that could jeopardize our town's drinking water without first identifying and developing a sufficient alternative. Even a very large financial deposit by a developer is not going to give Juneau residents water to drink should a problem – catastrophic or otherwise – arise with the Gold Creek supply. 2. Suggested addition to the "Traffic" section conditions: "Require bus or water transport for employees." Reason: This project could contribute substantially to the existing traffic congestion on lower South Franklin and Thane Road, conflicting with residential, tourism and other business uses. In order to minimize concerns about these conflicts, it would be better to specify this up front rather than

leave it for later consideration by the planning commission. This is an example of something the city can do in its role of majority owner. 3. Suggested waste rock condition for the "Surface Storage, Use, and Export of Sorted Mine Rock" section: "Waste rock will be disposed of underground unless and until there is a buyer for it and unless and until a method is developed to prevent the noise from impacting adjacent neighborhoods, including those across the channel." Reason: Offloading, storing, and distributing waste rock are likely to create substantial noise. Again, it would be in the interests of all concerned to have as much specificity as possible in order to reduce conflict. This is another example of something the city can specify in its role of majority owner. 4. Suggested addition to the "Recreation/Tourism/Sheep Creek Valley" section conditions: "Establish a conservation easement or other permanent land management designation to protect Sheep Creek Valley over the long term, which would, among other things, prohibit the storing of mine tailings or waste rock there in any form." Reason: While the intent is to put tailings underground, mines change over time, as we have seen with Green's Creek, and permit conditions can be altered. Establishing a conservation easement would provide the certainty that Sheep Creek Valley will not be used for tailings disposal. 5. Suggested condition for the "Public Process/Promotion of the Mine" section: "The assembly should contract for a preliminary mine design and environmental impact report, to provide a baseline scenario for community review and a basis for development of an request for proposals or lease agreement." Reason: This is one of the weakest areas in the current draft. If it decides to proceed, the city should design a public process that is open, clear, and well informed. Many of the problems and conflicts 20 years ago resulted from the city turning the process over to a private company rather than figuring out what the community wanted first. 6. Suggested condition for the "Public Process/Promotion of the Mine" section: "The assembly should establish a mechanism for ongoing citizen input or oversight for the mine." Reason: There is much skepticism in Juneau about any effort to reopen the AJ. A formal, separate process for citizen input or oversight could help assure the public that the conditions governing the mine would not be modified or loosened over time without adequate review. Again, thank you for the work you have put into this. Sincerely, Steven R. Behnke Larri Irene Spengler

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2011 9:44 AM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Sandro & Sharon Lane	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: 1. Drinking Water Systems: The committee's comments are strictly focused on the CBJ drinking water system. While Thane is in close proximity to CBJ drinking water system, the system has not been extended to Thane. Thane is also in close proximity to the AJ mine. Thane residents rely on wells, creeks/streams, and rain water catchment systems for their domestic water supply. Please make sure you include verbiage that protects not just the Gold Creek drinking water system which serves a majority of CBJ residents, but also Thane water sources. Consider the implication if wells and streams in Thane become unusable as a result of the mining activity and consider a condition that includes an alternate water source for Thane residents which the mine developer may be required to meet, depending on how they manage their wastewater, tailings, and waste rock.. 2. Public Process - the CBJ is 60% owner of the AJ mine land. This can create some conflicts when mine permits are issued, reviewed, and renewed. Consider adding a community oversight group to the list of signers on any lease the CBJ will make with the mine developer. The Community oversight group could be 12 seats and should consist of a broad spectrum of CBJ residents with 3 seats for local businesses, 3 seats to residents "at large", and 6 seats to the homeowners in closest proximity to the mine site (entry of mill site). I thank the committee for its hard work, and the CBJ for its foresight in bringing the community in at this early stage of planning and scoping. We recognize the value of this asset to the community and the value of bringing in CBJ residents early on in the process. We believe that a mine project at the AJ site, if economically feasible, would be of great strategic importance to the community as a whole.	

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2011 11:10 AM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Brien Daugherty	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: There needs to be more public comment periods to cover the following: This mine will operate 24/7. There needs to be more information and on Surface noise and lighting issues for downtown and Douglas residents. No city assembly has the authority to gamble with the city water supply. An alternate water supply should be located and developed in advance of permitting the mine. If this can't be done then don't proceed with the mine. (The same idea as Greg Erickson's.) We could loose the Capital in a heart beat. The City of Juneau becomes liable and subject to lawsuit if things go wrong. The city will have a conflict of interest. What mechanism will be in place that will insure that what we agree to today, will still be in place in the future or when a new assembly is voted in and mining dollars are buying political influence. (Bluntly put, but try to deny the reality.) An independent, third party, professional monitoring firm would have to hire to insure that all regulations and water quality was being upheld. There are questions as to what body of law, or city code would need to be developed that creates the contract, including the issues of monitoring of standards and liabilities. It seems there would also need to be a citizens advocate agency created, something like the State Ombudsman (with Teeth)to address concerns and complaints and to avoid law suites. What areas are deemed sacred to traditional public use: The Alpine areas of Mount Roberts - The old AJ plan called for a tall vent out of the top of Roberts. The old plan also would have created expanding glory holes, closing Perseverance Trail above Ebner Falls. When the mine wants to expand in the future, what will the process be? More discussion is needed on the permitting process, an outline of the steps involved. Please allow more public discussion before delivery your report to the Assembly. Thank you.	

To: AJMAC
From: Paula Terrel
Juneau, Ak. 99801
Date: April 21, 2011
Re: Comments on Draft Conditions

My thanks to the Committee for the time they have been taking to deal with this extremely difficult and contentious issue.

General Comment

During the meetings of the Committee, I have frequently heard a variation of “we don’t need to specify a condition because this will be the purview of the Planning Commission or the Assembly.” This is very troubling. While it is true that this issue might culminate in a mining proposal and the Planning Commission and the Assembly will be involved in the process, this AJMAC was tasked with a specific question; the response and the conditions that the committee submits can, and should serve as guidance for other bodies. Vague- and in some cases – meaningless conditions just lessen public confidence and appear to be an abrogation of the committee’s charge.

Drinking Water System

Condition: an alternate water supply for the CBJ must be identified and in place prior to mining exploration.

Rationale: The AJMAC considers the protection of Gold Creek water system to be the “highest priority.”

Given the location of the ore body, there is no possible way to eliminate the potential risk to our water system. Of what value is a financial warranty, if the citizens of Juneau wake up to find they either have no water or there is pollution that requires a shutdown of the system?

Since Salmon Creek cannot replace the Gold Creek system, the city needs to find an alternative source; mine proposal or not, there is no time like the present to start such a process since the Gold Creek water system is vulnerable and there is no backup system.

Process-

Condition:

The Assembly should establish a mechanism for citizen input and oversight of the mine. Whether this is an easement agreement with the Land Trust as mentioned by John Hartle or a community council appointed by the Assembly, the mechanism must include provision for this entity to enter into a contract with the mining company and the CBJ to guarantee the conditions that have been imposed.

The Assembly should investigate the options that are available and that have been used in other states and in similar situations, such as the Stillwater Agreement in Montana and the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens Advisory Committee.

Rationale: With the CBJ in the position of being both regulator and landholder, there will be- as there was 20 years ago - the perception that there is a conflict of interest. The only way to gain public trust is to have some mechanism in place that will represent the **community's** interests and concerns. While the theory is that the Assembly is representative of the voters, in actuality, it is a political body with dual hats, in this case. When (not if) the time arrives that significant changes are proposed to the above 'conditions' in order to save jobs and keep the mine operating, there will be enormous pressure on the CBJ to amend the lease to protect jobs and to keep the mine operating. In the case of almost every mine, there is some change from the original permit/lease that is requested; Greens Creek has done so, Kensington lobbied for a change to the Large Mine Permit, Red Dog asked (and was denied) for a change in the net smelter rate. Some of these requests may well be acceptable with the public. However, there must be an entity separate from the public officials that must be able to represent the interests of the groups that these guarantees protect.

Condition:

In the absence of a federal Environmental Impact Statement, the CBJ will contract with an independent third party to develop information and research on environmental and socioeconomic impacts equivalent to the NEPA process.

Rationale:

The Large Mine Permit does not fulfill this function and again, the public has every right to expect the process to be as thorough and as in depth as possible. Without this, there will be little public confidence in findings.

Tailings Disposal

Recommendation: delete “in a manner that preserves long term development of the mine.”

Rationale: This phrase is very confusing and contradictory. If the voids are filled with tailings and the mining company seeks to continue or expand its development – long term, then where will the tailings go? It appears that this condition, as written, would pave the way for an amendment to the permit or lease; if tailings disposal doesn't preserve the long term development of the mine, then the lease would have to be amended to allow tailings disposal elsewhere – and not underground. So, in essence, the condition as written – while it seems that it resolves objections short term – will allow for a breach of a guarantee long term.

Traffic

Condition: Require bus or water transport for all employees

Condition: Trucks hauling supplies or rock would be required to accomplish their tasks during hours that do not add to the downtown traffic congestion.

Rationale: There will be a need for employee transportation and a need for trucks to access the rock dump site (as this is the site that is mentioned as being most appropriate). This will exacerbate an already traffic congested area and will impact the tourism industry and the access for Thane Road residents. As an example, during the development of the Phase 1 of the Lake Dorothy project where the staging site was on Thane Rd. close to Sheep Creek, AJT worked with Thane residents to truck supplies during “slack” commuter times. The above conditions can be accomplished.

Noise/Light

Recommendation: In addition to the condition requiring construction and operation of an underground mill, add,

- a. Outdoor lighting shall be minimized to greatest extent possible, and anti-light pollution procedures shall be employed.
- b. An independent noise expert, in advance of any mine construction, shall conduct a baseline noise survey and modeling shall be done for the mine activities that will be taking place.

Rationale: A baseline noise survey was done previously for the Echo Mine project that covered the Thane, Douglas and downtown area and it was conducted by a third party, hired by the CBJ. It provided a thorough baseline and provided a good indication of the noise levels to be expected. Since any mine proposal may well be 360 days/year, 24/7, this would be needed.

Surface Storage, Use, and Export of Sorted Mine Rock

Condition: Tailings, and waste rock that is not sold for other uses, will be disposed in the mine. If there is a buyer for the waste rock, it may be temporarily stored at the surface.

Condition: Require a baseline noise study and a modeling of the noise that will occur with transportation of waste rock be it underground or temporarily stored at the surface and mitigate any noise that will negatively impact adjacent neighborhoods, such as Thane, downtown, and Douglas.

Rationale: There will undoubtedly be noise associated with any movement of waste rock and possibly noise even underground that will impact residents. These conditions would prevent any temporary storage pile from becoming permanent, and would also prevent other “uses” of the rock that might justify leaving it on the surface.

Recreation/Tourism/Sheep Creek Valley

Condition: Establish a permanent conservation easement for Sheep Creek Valley.

Rationale: During the hearings on the Echo Bay proposal for reopening the AJ, the proposal to use Sheep Creek Valley for tailings disposal and create a large dam met with enormous opposition, inasmuch as Sheep Creek has been a very frequented recreational place. Although the present mining concept would not utilize the Sheep Creek Valley, there is public concern that, as conditions change, a mining company might need additional tailings storage and would look once again to Sheep Creek Valley. This condition would do a great deal to lower the level of public concern. If this condition is not acceptable, I would question why the objection, since Sheep Creek is not being proposed for tailings disposal. Again, a condition such as this would provide public confidence that the guarantee for tailings disposal will be met.



April 21, 2011

Dear AJ Mine Advisory Committee:

Let me compliment you on your progress. Our region is in a demanding period requiring a collective effort from our diverse population to supply our needs. The Committees priority should be to consider our opportunities. The strong incentives mentioned below are a few of the many motivators to now look for a Mining Investor:

- The Mine will fully comply with the U.S. Clean Water Act assuring Pure Drinking water
- The Mine will have a financial bond to Guarantee all work.
- 100% of the Mines tailings can be recycled back into the mine
- The Mine will have all the needed state, local, and federal permits.
- During construction the Mine could employ 300 and 400 workers.
- The Mine will employ 200 workers once operations commence.
- The Mine will contribute millions of dollars in state and local taxes and CBJ stands to collect significant revenue in the form of royalty payments.

Your duty to ALL residents of Juneau, Present and Future, is to attract a competent Partner for the betterment of our community. Many believe that you should wholeheartedly support attracting a viable Mine Company to propose ways to reopen the AJ.

Respectfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Fred M. Morino





President
Neil MacKinnon

Vice President
Sara Chambers

Treasurer
Frank Bergstrom

Director
Scott Spickler

Director
Joe Kahklen

Director
Rosemary Hagevig

Director
Fred Morino

Director
Richard Burns

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Corey Baxter

Executive Director
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*First Things First
Alaska Foundation
is a 501(c)3
nonprofit
organization
dedicated to
preserving the
economic
viability and*

April 21, 2011

AJ Mine Advisory Committee

First Things First Alaska Foundation thanks each member of the AJ Mine Committee for your commitment to serving the best interest of the residents of the City and Borough of Juneau. Re-opening the Alaska-Juneau Gold Mine is an exciting prospect that would both honor the history of our city as well as provide valuable benefits for our future. As you have already learned, over one billion dollars in gross value of gold is estimated to be simply waiting for extraction. A portion of that money could be going toward paying good wages to many Juneauites working in a reopened mine. Furthermore, all residents can benefit from the additional city revenue received in royalties and taxes. As other revenue sources decline (i.e. reduced federal funding, and government jobs moving out of the capital city,) pursuing this opportunity is a fiscally responsible undertaking.

You were tasked with suggesting conditions under which the CBJ could promote the mine. Please don't interpret this charge to mean that you as a group are solely responsible for establishing premature stipulations. Such cumbersome prerequisites will only serve to hamper the attraction of a viable mine developer. Please do not restrict development to one scenario (that is, all activity occurring underground,) as preferable methods may be identified as experts study the project. Issues such as traffic and light mitigation would be better addressed as the particulars of the project become better formulated. Guaranteeing a safe water supply is a city responsibility that should be addressed as such, not passed along to a yet-to-be identified outside entity. Your work has found that regardless of a mine project, the Gold Creek water supply may be less reliable than citizens have been led to believe and if this is in fact the case, measures for improvement to other sites, such as Salmon Creek, may be necessary and should be undertaken independently by the CBJ.

We are governed by a modern permitting process that offers far more environmental safeguards than when mining first began at the AJ Mine. We respectfully ask that you allow this process to work as intended and to further a recommendation to Mayor Botelho that the city actively and enthusiastically promote the reopening of the Alaska-Juneau Mine in a manner that emboldens its success.

Respectfully,

Neil MacKinnon

Rorie Watt, P.E.
C/O A-J Mine Advisory Committee
Department of Engineering
City and Borough of Juneau
155 S. Seward Street.
Juneau, AK 99801

April 21, 2011

Re: Downtown Juneau Neighborhood Association's Questions on A-J Mine Review.

Dear Mr. Watt;

We are writing on behalf of the Downtown Juneau Neighborhood Association regarding the City and Borough of Juneau's A-J Mine Advisory Committee's review of the circumstances for re-opening the A-J Mine. We would like to encourage the Committee to evaluate the impacts that re-opening this mine could have on the quality of life for residents in downtown Juneau, including water quality, noise, and traffic.

We recently saw the summary of Echo Bay's small mine option on the CBJ website (http://www.juneau.org/engineering/AJ_MINE/documents/SmallMineConcept_Pierce.pdf). Of foremost concern are the potential deleterious effects on our water supply. The nature and scale of the mine raises serious questions about how the operators of the mine can ensure the safety and purity of our drinking water supply. For example, we find inadequate the summary's assurance that "[t]he impact on the drainage tunnel water quality from mining operations would be minimal." How exactly would this be ensured? What does "minimal" mean? What type of safety nets will be in place in case of a "negative" impact? Also, we would like to have access to the scientific studies that show the rock has no acid generating potential.

We are concerned with other generalized, unsupported statements that the summary makes on the potential negative impacts on downtown residents. For example, the summary states that "noise normally associated with mining operations would be contained underground" and that "[i]t is unlikely that underground blasting would be heard or felt in the City". The residents of downtown Juneau are naturally concerned about anything that could increase the level of noise, or especially, impact the stability of the landscape. The blanket assurances that downtown Juneau will not be impacted in a negative way, however, do not relieve our concerns as they are not backed by any evidence. If plans for the A-J mine are to move forward, we will need to see more evidence to support these claims.

In short, operating a large mine in an urban area raises numerous questions. The A-J mine could have negative impacts on downtown Juneau air and water quality as well as slope stability, could increase traffic (especially large machinery), and could cause noise disturbances. We ask the Committee and the Assembly take a hard and in-depth look into these concerns far beyond what was offered in the summary.

We are particularly interested in hearing directly from other communities and urban areas in the lower 48 that have had mines operate within their communities. Getting a firsthand account of the potential impacts would help us identify and address areas of concern, and we encourage the CBJ to facilitate this.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and please do engage the Downtown Juneau Neighborhood Association in this process.

Sincerely,

The A-J Mine Sub-committee, Downtown Juneau Neighborhood Association:

Emily Ferry
836 Calhoun Avenue

Alan Munro
120 W. 9th Street

Sonia Nagorski
605 N. Franklin Street

Jonas (John) Lamb
312a 6th Street

Cindy Smith
314 Irwin Street

Ellen Andrews
1133 Glacier Avenue

Rebecca Van De Water
411 12th Street

Carolyn Bergstrom
706 6th Street

Kathy Hill
570 Seater Street, Apt. 3

Tracy Goldsmith
706 6th Street, Apt. B

Brett Dillingham
313 7th Street, #1

Shawn Eisele
143 Gastineau Avenue

CC: Mayor Bruce Botelho
Assembly Members:

Bob Doll
Johan Dybdahl
Mary Becker
David Stone
Karen Crane
Jonathan Anderson
Ruth Danner

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Thursday, April 21, 2011 9:22 AM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Scott Spickler	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: I appreciate the time and energy the committee has taken to start the process of evaluating the AJ project. I would hope that the committee would recommend it moving forward without a substantial list of pre-conditions designed to halt the process of an open minded approach to seeing if it is feasible. If the CBJ has too many unrealistic pre-conditions, no mining company would spend 10 cents to consider the project. We all want to protect our water supply and none of us want to endanger our environment. That is the responsibility of the State and Federal regulatory agencies through the permitting process to determine and enforce. The modern mining techniques with the oversight of the various agencies have shown that mining can be done safely as we have seen with Greens Creek and the Kensington. I would like to see our CBJ have the opportunity to create jobs and revenue for our community, particularly our younger generations. I think we can have the best of both worlds and this project warrants moving forward without the "sky is falling" claims and conditions that some in our community persist in pursuing. Thank you	

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Thursday, April 21, 2011 11:20 AM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Sonia Nagorski	E-mail: Telephone Number:
<p>Comments: To the AJMAC, As both a downtown mother of 3, and as a geologist specializing in mining impacts to water quality, I am highly concerned about the potential development of the AJ mine in Juneau. From the documents I have been able to access to date, this project looks to have inevitable direct impacts to the quality and quantity of our drinking water, and I find this unacceptable. In short, I am unable to develop a circumstance under which this mine should be opened. Closing off the mine adits in an attempt to separate the mine workings from Last Chance Basin would threaten the adequacy of the volume of water used to recharge our aquifer. Keeping adits open, on the other hand, would connect mining pollutants with our drinking water. If our water were to be contaminated (and such a finding would require very expensive and persistent monitoring), remedial action may be prohibitively expensive and potentially highly complex. With the city having no back-up year-round water supply, the risks are simply too great. If more scientific information on the project becomes available, I will be eager to see it and to evaluate it. I am pleased to read that the AJMAC is already aware of many of the important issues raised by this mine proposal, and I hope that it continues to closely scrutinize this extremely important issue for our community. Thank you for taking my comments. Sincerely, Sonia Nagorski 605 N.Franklin St. Juneau, AK 99801 The profits reaped to the company and its employees due to the current high price of gold are not worth the risk to public health and safety. If this project were to be further considered for development anyway, a far more extensive and detailed investigation would be needed on the various proposed actions. I would want this process and the documents produced to be fully transparent to the public and evaluated by the state and preferably a third party as well.</p>	

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Thursday, April 21, 2011 11:39 AM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Carrie Talus	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: I am concerned about the AJ Mine developing due to the fact that I have heard about the water supply of Juneau will be affected. It is very important to keep the Juneau water supply pristine for the health of everyone in this town. Please take this into consideration. It is not worth it to compramise the health of so many people. It's just not worth it. Thank you, Carrie Talus	

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Thursday, April 21, 2011 2:10 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Suzanne Cohen	E-mail: Telephone Number:
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Comments:
First, I would like to thank each of you on the AJ Mine Advisory Committee for your public service. I am a health practitioner and parent and I am extremely concerned about the impact that the AJ Mine would have on the quality of our drinking water and the water of the Gastineau Channel. After looking at the draft, I have to say, the idea of a "severe financial penalty" if they pollute our water, or cause subsidence, doesn't make me feel safe. My health, and my families health depends on clean water. All the gold ore in the world is worthless if your families health is impaired. Also, my family eats a lot of fish from the Gastineau Channel. Has the effect of the mine on our most local food supply been explored? Would the channel become a mixing zone? Would that mixing zone contaminate the fish our community catches at DIPAC and along the channel? These are extremely important considerations. Please be sure that our drinking water and our channel are protected from contamination before considering re-opening the AJ. Thank you for your attention. Suzanne Cohen

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Thursday, April 21, 2011 2:14 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Stuart Cohen	E-mail: Telephone Number:
<p>Comments: Dear Sirs, Thanks for your thoughtful work on this difficult issue. I am very familiar with the AJ's impressive history and with the attempts to reopen the AJ Mine in the eighties and nineties. I read your conditions carefully and have a few comments. First, I would like the conditions to address long-term operation of the mine. Mines may get permitted for one level of operation, but, if they are fortunate, they eventually want to expand the scope of their operations. This has happened with Greens Creek and will likely happen at the Kensington with the Horrible and Jualin orebodies. We may permit the AJ as is, but, in fact, once the AJ is operating, it is very hard to say no to an expansion, even though that expansion was not agreed to in the first place. An operating mine has huge political and economic power in a small town, and it will be very hard for the city to say "no" to expansion, even if that expansion increases the risk of pollution. As I recall, the previous attempt to reopen the AJ was also an underground mill plan (Barrick Resources) that quickly ballooned into a larger project than the original AJ. I am concerned also about the surface facility and the quality of waste water going into the channel. My 13 year-old son fishes regularly at Sheep Creek, the bridge, Harris Harbor and Dipac, as well as Bayview. So do hundreds or thousands of other Juneau-ites. No royalty in the world is enough to replace the value of a clean, healthy fishery. I would suggest that a mining operation should have to meet water quality specifications set by the City, rather than by the State, which can always intercede to lower standards or propose "mixing zones." Threats to drinking water are significant. The AJ operated in a town of 3000 people who could take their drinking water directly from Gold Creek. We are now a town of 30,000 people with much greater water needs, and probably greater expectations. Mistakes by the mining company that result in impaired drinking water are liable to be permanent if they impact the structure of the well-field. It should be incumbent on any mining operation to find an alternative source of water for its own use. While the idea of enforcement with large financial penalties sounds good, in fact, this becomes a legal and State matter, and there is no guarantee that such penalties would be enforced if it went to court. Witness the Exxon Valdez settlement that was essentially annulled after twenty years. In summary, I appreciate everyone's efforts, as I know that all parties involved want the best for our city. I have deep doubts about the net value of a mine in our most important watershed, and would say that we should not even consider it unless we are in a desperate financial bind. Thank you, Stuart Cohen Juneau, AK 99801</p>	

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Thursday, April 21, 2011 2:49 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: David Audet	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: A suggested condition would require that there be an established safety region around the LCB aquifer. No mining activity above, below, or within a certain lateral distance of the known extent of the aquifer. Conditions should be crafted that there would be no seepage into the aquifer from mining activity; no lessening of the current recharge; and no chance of disturbing the aquifer due to subsidence. Thank you.	

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Thursday, April 21, 2011 3:32 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

<p>Name: Jeff N. Grant</p>	<p>E-mail: Telephone Number:</p>
<p>Comments: Jeff N. Grant Juneau, Alaska 99801 April 21, 2011 Jeff N. Grant Our Economy is constricting requiring a strong effort from all our citizens. The incentives below should induce you to look for a Mining Investor: • 100% of the Mines tailings can be recycled back into the mine • The Mine will have all the needed state, local, and federal permits. • During construction the Mine could employ 300 and 400 workers. • The Mine will employ 200 workers once operations commence. • The Mine will contribute millions of dollars in state and local taxes CBJ stands to collect significant revenue in the form of royalty payments • The Mine will fully comply with the U.S. Clean Water Act assuring Pure Drinking water • The Mine will have a financial bond to guarantee all work. Your duty to ALL residents of Juneau, Present and Future, is to attract a competent Partner for the betterment of our community. Many believe that you should wholeheartedly support attracting a viable Mine Company to propose ways to reopen the AJ. Respectfully Jeff N. Grant</p>	

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Thursday, April 21, 2011 4:14 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Jean Ann Alter	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: I have read the draft recommendations and concur with the need to establish an alternative water source before allowing any work with potential to pollute our water supply. Based on a long history, there is absolutely no reason to trust the assurances of the mining industry. I grew up in coal country and I'm quite familiar with companies that go out of business, declare bankruptcy, cut corners and leave environmental disasters. The profits are short term, the possible damages and consequences are long term and too risky.	

AJ Mine Advisory Committee (AJMAC)
City and Borough of Juneau

April 22, 2011

Re: Draft AJMAC Conditions

Dear AJMAC members:

Thank you for considering public input in responding to the question: “Under what circumstances, if any, should the CBJ promote development of the AJ Mine?”

The comments below were handed to you, and read in-part, at the April 21 meeting. I have changed a few words to increase clarity. I note that my comments are made in a constructive spirit as suggested by the Mayor, and do not characterize my overall view of seeking to reopen the AJ: unless the substantial concerns expressed by the community can be addressed, I could not support efforts to reopen the mine.

General Statement:

A key reason the last effort to reopen the AJ Mine was so strongly resisted was that the social and environmental impacts of the proposed 22,000 ton-per-day (tpd) urban mine were so high. The CBJ assembly and the AJMAC share that a key element of current efforts to reopen the AJ mine is a vision for a mine having a substantially smaller production rate, along with a new assumption that the CBJ water supply will be safe.

It is clear that the realized (actual) production *rate* would be a key to the possibility of a healthy marriage between the neighborhoods impacted by, and the operators of a new AJ Mine. For example, that rate will scale noise impacts, waste water discharges, the quantity of non-ore-bearing rock that could be exported to Thane and then to users via barge and trucks, and whether societal costs and benefits might better be characterized as short-term and “high”, or protracted and “moderate, or low”.

Suggestion 1:

I urge AJMAC members to include a condition establishing a maximum allowable production rate at the proposed AJ mine. This would help to preclude future conflict over the acceptable scale of operations, and aid CBJ planning to address long-term impacts.

The condition could specify a maximum average quarterly production rate, and the maximum allowable quantity of rock (tpd) exportable from the mine over some time period. If such a cap is unacceptable to potential developers, then CBJ planners would know up-front that their vision of a low-impact urban mine is not viable.

Reason: Without a specific production cap, one can only hope the current draft conditions *would* really limit production rates near a “target” thought by some (3,500 tpd) to enable

a project viable to CBJ. Should enterprising developers find means to achieve production rates well above (say, an initial target of 3,500 tpd, which by itself is 1.5 times the size of the Greens Greek mine!), what would preclude their development? Do we argue it is *not* a usual and customary goal of business to strive for increases in production and profit? Could affected residents just flail endlessly in response to changes in scope and scale of operations?

Suggestion 2:

I urge AJMAC to recommend that at the minimum, a detailed plan for an alternative water supply must be developed prior to proceeding with any lease negotiation. Also, I urge the CBJ to specify a financial warranty sufficient to insure the alternative water supply can quickly be brought on line in the case of significant harm to the water system.

Export of Sorted Mine Rock:

The AJMAC draft conditions states “Noise management from the stacking of waste rock and loading rock on to barges will be problematic”. According to the materials prepared by Mr. Watt for this committee, about 1,500 tpd of non-ore-bearing rock would be *available* for export under the planned 3,500 tpd operating output; this is 150 10-ton dump truck loads, or - I will simply guess – about 1 or 2 barges per day. The potential scope of such rock moving impacts should not be left to a planning committee exercise.

Suggestion:

I urge AJMAC members to include a condition establishing a maximum allowable tonnage of mine rock that can be exported per unit time, and that no mine rock will be trucked through downtown Juneau or barged up Gastineau Channel past downtown Juneau.

Reason: Long-term light, noise, and visual impacts of a large, industrial rock-hauling operation are most assuredly unacceptable to residents of Douglas, Thane, and west Juneau. As such, strong conditions that insure such impacts could not occur need to be included in this planning exercise.

Waterwater Treatment / Mine Discharge:

Mine discharges to Gastineau Channel presented a major problem to developers in the last attempt to open the AJ Mine. Important conclusions reached by the EPA included¹: “a high potential for significant degradation of Gastineau Channel” (due to discharge of treated water), and that “unlike the Kensington Mine Project, reliable measures (e.g., secondary treatment of the effluent, isolating the tailings) for reducing the anticipated water quality impacts described above to significantly lower levels do not appear to be feasible.”

Suggestion:

I urge AJMAC members to include a condition that any treated mine effluent to be discharged to Gastineau Channel must meet the strictest EPA standard for sensitive aquatic life at the end of the discharge pipe, with no provision available for a mixing zone in Gastineau Channel.

Reason: Gastineau Channel is an important recreational destination and resource for both residents and tourists. Significant harvesting of fish and shellfish occurs in Gastineau Channel, as documented in the final EIS for the last proposed AJ Mine project. Long-term discharges of treated mine waters into Gastineau Channel lead to the predicted degradation due to the slow mixing rates between marine waters nearest to and outside the Channel...in spite of assuming the treated discharges would meet (State of Alaska) water quality regulations with a mixing zone.

Sincerely,

Robert Marshall
Juneau AK

¹ USEPA. December 1994. Alaska Juneau Gold Mine Project: Technical Assistance Report. USEPA, Seattle, WA. (See Conclusions, Page 178).

Pie chart source, from reverse side: JuneauTotalEnergy-27Feb07-Rev22Jan09.xls
I will be pleased to email this file upon request. Your critique and suggestions are welcome.
Rename the file and use it for your purposes, as you wish.

Data is from estimates obtained from helpful local Juneau sources in '07-09. Since Juneau's economy has not changed much since '07-09, this analysis is probably still valid and useful for the Community of Juneau policy and planning purposes. I composed this analysis unofficially for CBJ Commission On Sustainability (COS) as citizen input. I do not claim accuracy or veracity for any part of this resource; simply my best effort.

Input for the AJ Mine Advisory Committee, 21 April public meeting: "Under what circumstances, if any, should the CBJ promote development of the AJ Mine?" The "Sustainability / Energy" part of "Draft Conditions", 14 April 11, is too weak and ambiguous:

Sustainability / Energy

Objective: Maximize the use of renewable energy, promote development of hydro facilities that have long term benefits for the community, promote steady mine operations and employment opportunities.

Condition: Require advance planning to consider renewable energy sources.

Comments: At a minimum, a mine operator will require stand-by power generation facilities. Use of hydro energy or other renewable energy sources should be strongly encouraged.

Suggested revision:

Sustainability / Energy

Objective: Require that at least 90 per cent of total mine operating energy within CBJ be produced from renewable, near-zero carbon emission, sources. This includes all vehicles and transport equipment associated with mining, milling, and logistics operations. Consequently, encourage investment in long-service-life renewable energy generation assets which will provide long-term benefits and economic value to the Community of Juneau, as we proceed to supply all of our "internal" energy economy needs with renewable-source energy, to approach total replacement of fossil-source energy.

Conditions: (a) Require that at least 90 per cent of total mine operating energy within CBJ be produced from renewable, near-zero carbon emission, sources. This includes all vehicles and transport equipment associated with mining, milling, and logistics operations; (b) any proposal for establishing a mine shall include the total estimated embodied energy, and consequent greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, in this process of preparing for mining operations; (c) any proposal for operating a mine should include the total estimated annual emissions of all GHG's including nitrous oxide (N₂O), emitted from most mining explosives, which has about 300 time the heat-trapping effect of carbon dioxide (CO₂), by weight. See: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nitrous_oxide

Comments: We cannot now predict which renewable energy resources will be most economically and environmentally attractive. We wish to encourage private enterprise to supply the renewable energy demand of any mining operation, responding to market conditions. Constructing and preparing a mine for operation, and mining operations, are very energy intensive. Therefore, the Community of Juneau must be aware of the effects of an AJ Mine on global and local energy resources, markets, and prices, and on global climate change.

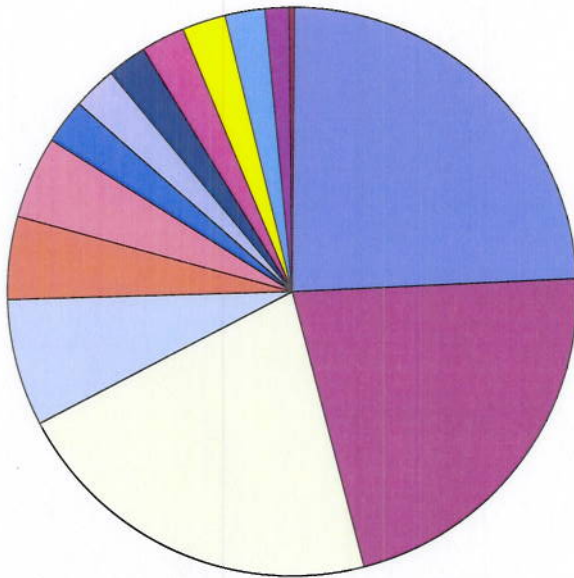
The AJ Mine should not be developed under any circumstances because it does not help meet essential human needs, thus does not meet the "sustainable" definition:

"Meeting our needs without compromising the needs of future generations to meet their own needs."

1. Over 80 per cent of the produced gold will be consumed in jewelry and by hoarding, with no essential benefits to mankind, and at significant expense and risk to Earth's natural capital.
2. Gold has no substitute for many scientific, industrial, and medical uses, but humanity already possesses enough refined gold for these purposes, for centuries, assuming a high recycling rate.

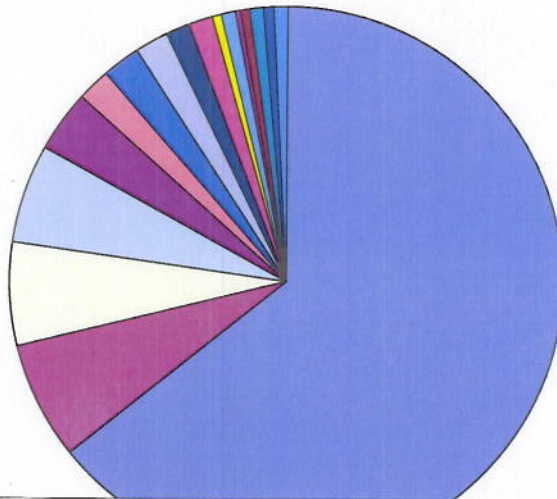
If the AJ Mine is developed, the Community of Juneau strategy should be to derive from it a durable increment of renewable-source energy generation capacity, by which to displace our present large fossil fuel use.

Juneau INTERNAL energy



- | | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| ■ Heating Oil | ■ Hiway Gasoline | □ Electricity | □ AMHS |
| ■ Av Turb AS | ■ Av Turb Other | ■ Hiway Diesel | □ Other Diesel |
| ■ Av Gas | ■ Marine Other | ■ Other | ■ Propane |
| ■ CapTransit Diesel | ■ Wood | | |

Juneau TOTAL Energy



- | | | |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------|
| ■ Cruise Ships | ■ Heat Oil | □ Hiway Gas |
| □ Electric | ■ Barge | ■ AMHS |
| ■ AS (external) | □ AMHS | ■ Av Turb AS |
| ■ Av Turb Other | ■ Hiway Diesel | ■ Other Diesel |
| ■ CapTrans Diesel | ■ Av Gas | ■ Marine Other |
| ■ Other | ■ Propane | □ Wood |

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Friday, April 22, 2011 8:49 AM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Robert Armstrong	E-mail: Telephone Number:
----------------------------------	--

Comments:
Do not reopen the AJ mine. The possibility of the activities altering and polluting Juneau's water supply is too great. Also, as history reveals, once a permit is granted changes and exceptions to stipulations are usually granted.

Lori Savage

From: Rorie Watt
Sent: Friday, April 22, 2011 9:02 AM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: FW: AJ Mine Draft comments

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

-----Original Message-----

From: Mariya
Sent: Friday, April 22, 2011 7:14 AM
To: Rorie Watt
Subject: AJ Mine Draft comments

Rorie,

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank you and the committee for all the hours and effort you put into developing the draft proposal for the conditions under which AJ Mine could potentially operate as well as for all the research and public testimony taken into serious account in the draft.

As a person considers Juneau home, the issue of having a mine in the heart of Juneau is a very serious one. While I do not want to live in a depressed town with unviable economy, and sad citizens who can not afford to buy anything relying on health and social services for support because there are no jobs and all of their children are gone to places with more jobs, somewhere in China, I also do not want to live in a place the most beautiful and valuable assets of which are ruined.

Development and economy are important but there are other important things. I can not speak for anyone else, but am pretty sure that I am not alone in knowing that I live here because it is not like down South. Here we have clean water and beautiful land, the kind of beautiful land not left in a lot of places in the world.

A lot of this is because we are a newer state and a lot of it is because we have seen what happened to places down south as a result of unregulated resource exploration, choosing as we do with our salmon, to do things in a wiser and more responsible manner.

I command you for putting conditions on the proposed mine. Development and business needs to be regulated and does not regulate itself. The City is in the position to potentially develop a great resource and to develop it well and only if it is possible to do so without compromising the most important things, our water and our well being. If the City sticks to the draft conditions you outline, our water, our levels of stress associated with noise and congestion levels, as well as our recreational opportunities, an our energy utilization will be protected.

I would specifically request that the final draft maintains/includes the following condition. No mine can operate without there being an alternative water supply to all of the CBJ, including the Thane wells and creeks. That completely protected status is assigned to the entire Sheep Creek and Gold Creek watersheds. That alternative access, other than Thane Road is established, as you outline in the draft and that the Sheep Creek egress can only be used in life threatening emergencies, deemed to be emergencies by the City personnel. Lastly, that the water monitoring is done by a completely independent organization, which is affiliated with neither the mine nor CBJ, and again that an alternative water source is already established and has the potential to immediately begin operating before any pre-development/development activities begin.

Thank you very much again

Mariya Lovishchuk
Juneau, AK 99801

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Friday, April 22, 2011 11:13 AM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Max Mertz	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: I believe the CBJ should work to reopen the mine if economically feasible and environmentally responsible. The former can only be determined by asking firms in the industry to evaluate the mine options and make proposal(s). The latter will be determined through the permitting process. I encourage the Advisory Committee and the Assembly to not place numerous precedent conditions on a possible mine. Let these be determined by the market and environmental process. Thank you for your work on the Advisory Committee.	

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Friday, April 22, 2011 1:26 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Alan R. Munro	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: RE/public Testimony 4/21/2011 CBJ Chambers: AJMAC public comment meeting CBJ Chambers, 5:00 P.M. 4/21/2011 I feel a majority of Juneau residents are in disbelief--that the CBJ would again consider reopening the historic downtown A.J. Gold Mine--especially since the whole idea has been solidly rejected and soundly defeated before! However, it seems the high price of gold combined with the collective wisdom of our CBJ leadership has begged this very question anew. The Mayor suggests the flow of oil-generated revenue into the CBJ treasury is slowing and CBJ will need to find a new source soon--thus this attempt at reopening our historic downtown gold mine to the processing of low-grade ore. But is it possible we are simply looking at an old oily bucket replated with the pure lure of political gold? I think it is safe to say that a wise municipal budget can not be measured by all the non- essential wants of its people--but rather by all their truly essential needs. We are a small and finite community with a small and finite tax base--yet CBJ government appears to also wish for many amenities found only in cities many times our size. Although it's really hard to understand why--it seems CBJ is willing to give serious consideration to reopening an old historic mine and to blast the gold-bearing rock surrounding our one and only true source of potable water. In the years ahead--what might our CBJ legacy be? A ten-carrot gold necklace around the neck of a tourist or an ice cold glass of clean water in every CBJ resident's hand? Alan R. Munro, Juneau, Alaska 99801	

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Friday, April 22, 2011 2:15 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Johnn R Kelly	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: As a homeowner on Thane Rd I am shocked to find CBJ looking into opening a mine that would have a detrimental effect on water quality and the overall quality of life of the community of Thane that the AJ Mine is located near. I understand looking into all possible economic avenues for the future prosperity of Juneau, but at what cost? I want CBJ and the AJMAC to know that myself and my neighbors are ABSOLUTELY AGAINST the reopening of the AJ Mine. Protect the longterm sustainability of our water quality and environment. Make a responsible longterm decision for the Community of Thane and the city of Juneau.	

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Saturday, April 23, 2011 1:43 AM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Shawn Eisele	E-mail: Telephone Number:
<p>Comments:</p> <p>Dear Committee Members, I am a Juneau resident and have concerns about the reopening of the A-J mine. First, I understand that CBJ does not believe it has the ability to deny a permit if the applicant correctly submits an application. If that is true, that section of local ordinance should be changed. A community should have the ability to decide if risks outweigh the benefits of having a local mine. Second, it is my understanding that some people involved in this decision have ties to the A-J mine. The decision on the A-J mine should be made based on the harms or benefits a mine would bring the community. The decision should not be made by those with any interest in the mine. Strong voices from the community, from regulating agencies, and from environmental experts should be present on the committee. Third, much of downtown is in a mass wasting zone. Huge mudslides have occurred in the past, and have been large enough to bury Franklin Street. Snow avalanches frequently impact Thane Rd. Massive blasting in the mountain seems likely to increase these risks. Besides safety concerns, the potential for avalanches or mudslides would hurt real estate prices. Also, how is liability handled if a mudslide or avalanche were to occur while active mining was going on? Fourth, I am concerned about drinking water quality. Although the mine is proposed below the reservoir, is there any possible scenario where pumped wastewater or collapsing tunnels would impact water quality? What back-up does Juneau have for drinking water, and would the mine's bond be large enough to finance this? I am not easily reassured by mining industry claims that there won't be harms, and instead find Prof. Motyka's recent op-ed convincing. The committee should have a risk evaluation done by independent experts not connected with any proposed mine. Fifth, if the mine exits to the channel, would an accident result in discharge into the channel? Independent experts should also evaluate the potential impact to the Juneau waterfront, salmon runs (including DIPAC), and the tourism industry. Sixth, I am concerned that noise from blasting, loading, or other activities would be very noticeable in Juneau and Douglas. Seventh, I am concerned about the enforceability of terms that the mining company would have to comply with. I would like to see independent oversight by an organization that has legal authority to compel compliance with the permit terms. I would also like a large bond to be required, that would cover disasters including damage to drinking water and the channel, as well as any damage due to mudslides or avalanches. In closing, I know many proponents of the mine are concerned that too many conditions will make mining unfeasible. That should not be the committee's concern. What makes Juneau unique, and what drives our economy, is the local environment. If terms necessary to ensure the safety of our drinking water, homes, and environment are too onerous to allow mining to go forward, that is perfectly reasonable. Thank you for considering my comments.</p>	

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Saturday, April 23, 2011 5:57 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Christine & Martin Niemi	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: We are opposed to the reopening of the A-J mine in Juneau. 1. Our drinking water is necessary to sustain our lives. Products from the mine are not. 2. Noise from the mine is a big issue & causes hearing impairment up close & is a negative for for quality of life for residents. The quality of life including our clean air & water in Juneau is a major reason many of us live in Juneau. The A-J is much too close to our homes. No mine has ever improved the quality of its surrounding water. NO A-J!	

The Menzies



19005 Glacier Hwy. Juneau, Alaska 99801 (907)-789-9025

April 24, 2011

Ms. Donna Pierce
Chair, AJ Mine Advisory Committee
155 S. Seward Street
Juneau, AK 99801

Re.: AJ Mine Reopening "Draft" Condition

Dear Ms. Pierce, Committee members & staff,

I have read most of your individual papers, your draft conditions and attended the 4/21/11 public meeting. As an engineer that has both replied to and written RFP's, I feel your conditions are not written in a positive tone that would result in a firm responding to such an RFP for a mine even with an estimated resource of 785,000 oz. of Gold (worth \$1,180.64B in today's dollars). I feel you're being too restrictive by the "draft" conditions and not allowing firms to use their ingenuity to work with the community to mine the A.J.

I do feel conditions are necessary. But conditions need to be more open for the future contractor/partner to our community. The natural resources CBJ owns can do so much good for Juneau and its citizens. Mining should be allowed.

As a "rough" example, I recommend that the conditions be adjusted or rewritten in a more positive tone that will allow proposers to tell the community how they can work with Juneau in developing the mine with the well being of Juneau in mind. Below I have attempted to place your draft conditions in what I feel is a more positive tone to attract mine developers while leaving little question as to the communities concerns. My examples are;

Tailings Disposal: If your mine plan doesn't dispose of all mine tailings within past and created voids of the A.J., what estimate have you made for those tailings to be disposed of above grounds, where and how?

Mine Access: Mine access, via Last Chance Basin and the business/residential areas of Juneau is not desired. A new sea level adit near the A.J. rock dump may be desirable for both the community and the mine developer. If access is desired via Sheep Creek, describe how you can work with ADOT/PF to reconstruct Thane Road (such as using the states Road to Resources funding) so as to provide for mine and residential traffic [note: DOT has not reconstructed Thane road as they feel it's a neighborhood access that does not meet their traffic requirement to rebuild--thus the past patch work].

Milling/Crushing: Replace "must be" with *should be* conducted underground and if not, describe how and where milling and crushing can be conducted above ground meeting CBJ's noise ordinance and the air-omission regulations of Alaska's Department of Environmental Conservations.

Mine Development: How will your mine plan protects against surface caving and subsidence.

Drinking Water: Describe how your mine plan provides a protection of our communities major drinking water source [Gold Creek] and what plans will you make and present to the community for an alternate source.

Wastewater Treatment/Mine Discharge: Good condition.

Economics: Good positive conditions.

Sustainability/Energy: Good positive conditions but do not add the citizen recommendations that all mine vehicles be electric.

Traffic: Thane Road, south of the rock dump will be allowed to be used as major mine access if reconstructed to the 20 year traffic projection of ADOT/PF, CBJ Engineering (and Community Development) and the mining company.

Noise/Light; Local/Regional Hire; Surface Storage: Good condition.

Recreation/etc.: Tailing disposal in Sheep Creek valley and elsewhere within CBJ will be allowed with a proper improvement plan which will benefit CBJ, its residents and the mine developer.

Public Process: The development of an AJ mine oversight committee is desired jointly with the mine operator. Describe how your firm will accomplish such with CBJ and move jointly through any and all Federal, State and CBJ permitting requirements.

The AJMAC has spent hours drafting the conditions. I feel that it appears most "draft" conditions are written to discourage (small) mine or any mine development. I have attempted to place a positive tone to the conditions which to me meets the committee's objective of "*Under what circumstances, if any, should the CBJ promote development of the AJ Mine*". I'm sure my recommendations need "work", but only in a more positive tone. However, I hope the AJMAC understands my recommended intent.

Thank you all and the CBJ staff for your service on this most important community goal.

Respectfully submitted,

ss

Malcolm A. Menzies, P.E. & L.S.

xc: Rorie Watt, P.E.
Director of Engineering

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Sunday, April 24, 2011 6:27 AM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Carl B Jones	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: Nice Job" AJMAC for speaking up"and spanking SEACC for the Bad Publication in the Empire" Juneau once was a Gold Town and can be again.Keep up the positive attitude/outlook at the whole picture this time,And not let a good thing for Juneau go by as with Echo Bay.	

Lori Savage

From: Rorie Watt
Sent: Sunday, April 24, 2011 8:47 AM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: FW: FW: Comments to the CBJ AJMAC Draft Conditions
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple
Attachments: RM AJMAC Testimony 4-21-11.doc

From: Margo Waring
Sent: Saturday, April 23, 2011 11:58 AM
To: Rorie Watt
Cc: Bob Marshall
Subject: Fwd: FW: Comments to the CBJ AJMAC Draft Conditions

Rory,

Please share with the Mine Review Committee my agreement with Bob Marshall's comments to you. I missed his testimony and was glad to read it when he sent it to me. I think that Bob had identified an important consideration that should make its way into conditions for a lease.

Margo Waring

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Sunday, April 24, 2011 5:36 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Pam Woolcott	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: I have lived on Thane Road for the past 32 years. Needless to say, I have seen many changes in our downtown community. I understand the need for jobs for our city and do not object to the mining opportunities that have been created around our community. With that said, I am dumbfounded that the City is even considering opening the AJ after all we went through with the proposed Echo Bay venture. My main concern is how impossible it would be, with the current road system, for emergency response teams to respond to ANY emergency that might occur from S. Franklin Street to the end of Thane Rd. From October through April S. Franklin street is easily traveled. However when the "tourist" season opens and the cruise ships arrive, it takes MUCH longer to get through the area from the "rock dump area" to Egan Drive safely. I feel strongly that if the AJ were to reopen that they would be required to provide a totally different bypass/access road for all of their vehicles so as not to impact the current congestion in that area and be able to respond promptly to any emergency that might occur.	

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Sunday, April 24, 2011 7:47 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Debera Cokeley	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: Count me as a NO, do not re-open the AJ mine. Juneau enjoys a beautiful watershed within walking distance of the city and clean water from the tap. Water is the most basic need on the planet and not worth the risks involved for temporary monetary prosperity. Will we continue to be faced with this re-open, risk the water supply question every time the price of gold goes up? Can the city truly self regulate a major industry using the mine it owns and protect the water resource for the long term? Thank you to the Committee for your care in considering all the costs to our quality of life (water, noise, pollution) and infrastructure, water, power, services in weighing this dilemma.	

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2011 12:17 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Alan Munro	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: Juneau, AK April 25, 2011 Dear AJMAC Chairperson: Please share this with all the members of your Committee, the public and especially the Juneau Chamber of Commerce: I for one and there are so many others, as well, who wish to thank Laurie Ferguson Craig, in spades, for her forthright letter to the press. If other AJMAC members would follow suit it could set the record straight on just how Mr. Mayor's chosen Committee splits-out in regard to this highly visible, emotionally charged and most controversial issue of commercial gold mining in and around our downtown Juneau watershed. Thank you. Most sincerely, Alan R. Munro, a 39 and soon to be 40 year Juneau resident.	

Lori Savage

From: Rorie Watt
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2011 1:25 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: FW: AJ comments
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

From: Backlagoon
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2011 12:13 PM
To: Rorie Watt
Cc: Backlagoon
Subject: AJ comments

Hello Rorie,

While I applaud the city for looking into economic opportunities for its residents and the progressive nature of asking the question about what type of mine is acceptable, I do have concerns about the reopening of the AJ Mine. Part of the success of having the community accept a mine in their neighborhoods will be a result of having established conditions placed on a contract ahead of a bidding process. People have built their lives around their neighborhoods in the community and a poorly managed mine will leave lasting scars on the residents and landscape.

Surface size of mine

Although the mine's mill is going to be underground, where is the city going to create a large industrial site downtown to dump waste rock, store equipment and infrastructure? **The surface size and location need to be part of the conditions.**

Using existing disturbed sites is appropriate; filling in tidal areas or wetlands is not acceptable.

A mine will either grow or fail. Unfortunately, too many mines have left disgraceful lasting legacies. **Set the limits of surface size in the contract.** Don't leave an open-ended clause that allows for the trickle of sprawl-like development. If a mine can come in and mine in an acceptable way, then that will be the case and it will succeed. Let's not try to fit a square peg into a round hole. A mine does not have to be a regrettable venture if it's done appropriately.

Bonding

Again, a mine will either grow or fail, and for failure potential, **Juneau must have full bonding that covers for bankruptcy and unforeseen pollution cleanup costs.** As part of the contract, collect mitigation costs for cleanup, pollution and long-term protections ahead of time. Both fresh and salt water quality is of utmost importance.

Thane Road

If the Sheep Creek area is to be used, even secondarily, equipment and more traffic will be using Thane Road. **Thane Road must be widened for safety reasons.** It is dangerous now, with a high 45-mph speed limit and zero shoulder.

Thank you,

Anissa Berry-Frick
Juneau AK 99801

5/4/2011

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2011 3:51 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: DOUGLAS MERTZ	E-mail: Telephone Number:
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Comments:

I am providing you, at the end of this message, with a copy of the outline of my comments on the AJ proposal from last week's meeting. I also understand that the committee had a number of questions about the idea of a citizen's oversight group, and how it might work. First, as to precedents, in addition to the provisions in the Stillwater mining agreement, which I believe you have, there are the two RCACs, in Prince William Sound and Cook Inlet, which are functioning entities that provide solid mediation between industry and local citizenry, and at least in the case of the PWSRCAC, provides additional expertise. As a further precedent, consider that when the Kensington was first going through the CBJ Large Mine Permit process, the company agreed to a Citizens Advisory Committee, or CAC, through CBJ Commitment No. 5 in the original permit. The CAC, as agreed to by Coeur and CBJ, was to have -- six to nine members, with representatives from commercial, fishing, mining, business, and environmental groups, serving staggered terms, with the members to be appointed before construction began; -- An overall balance of membership so that no groups or interests could dominate it; -- A general mission to act as an independent clearinghouse for citizen concerns and for reviewing and evaluating mine performance and potential problems; -- the CAC's activities to be funded through the operator's permit fees to the CBJ; -- and all meeting and records were to be open to the public. In addition to the CAC, the tentative agreement with Coeur (which was never implemented for unrelated reasons) also called for empowering the Kensington Coalition of environmental groups with power to examine records, take independent samples, make independent site visits, and, most important, enforce permit terms and other agreements with the operator. It was felt at the time, and Coeur did not disagree, that this feature gave entities independent of the government staffs the ability to enforce rules through court actions. The primary precedent for this ability is the provision of the Federal Clean Water Act that permits citizen suits to enforce wastewater discharge permit terms when the government agencies are made aware of violations but decline to bring enforcement actions themselves. The Clean Water Act citizen suit provision exists due to a recognition that at times the government may lack either the resources or the political will to enforce the law; the fact that dozens of successful citizen suits have been brought under the Act is testimony to the correctness of that recognition. It is particularly important where, as here, the government with primary jurisdiction, the Borough, is also an owner and hence has a built-in conflict of interest. In the present case, it makes sense to have another entity that can do the work, and hence will give the citizens a greater belief that their interests are not being ignored. Obviously the ability of citizens to bring such suits to enforce permit terms depends on their having good access to up to date data on what is going on within the mine. That is the reason that the CAC should have free access both to records and to the site, and that the information it receives and generates should be available to the public, so that any enforcement action is based on solid information, not speculation. When we negotiated the agreement with Coeur we built into it a separate basis for empowering the citizens groups, namely a contractual agreement with the operator giving them such powers. This is in addition to the authorization, similar to the Clean Water Act citizen suit provisions, permitting the public to enforce permit terms after notice to the government. In summary, there is a lot of sense as well as precedent for using a CAC to mediate between the mine operator and the public, and to empower the public to bring private enforcement actions so that the CBJ with its potential conflict is not itself caught in the middle as the sole protector of citizen rights.

Summary of testimony Drop the language that suggests this is a small mine. It is comparable to the Kensington and to Greens Creek, with an enormously greater potential for damage to the community due to its location. Essential: Bonding -- including a provision for immediate payment

– for damage to the LCB water supply. Amount should be ample to provide an alternative supply, which should be ready to implement on an emergency basis prior to mining activity. Protecting the water quality at the discharge point: Treatment, not just settling. And agreement that there be no mixing zone, i.e., that the discharge meet legal water quality standards at the point of discharge. Attenuation for noise impacts: Last time, single largest source of citizen concern, especially given likelihood of mine-related activities on the Rock Dump. Monitoring and oversight: A citizen's oversight council, funded by mine proponents, is essential. Would do much to allay public concern, especially if given free access to mine, right to take own samples, right to review environmental reports. A realistic reclamation bond that protects against damage and liability for indefinite future. At least \$10 million per year for first five years, \$5 million after that. Claims to be adjudicated in Juneau, not some foreign place.

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2011 8:17 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

Name: Marinke Van Gelder	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: I urge you to recommend to the City and Borough Assembly that the CBJ under no circumstances promote the development of the AJ Mine, due to close proximity of the mine to downtown Juneau. Heavy industry, such as mining, should not be allowed this close to downtown Juneau. I appreciate the care and time spent by the AJMAC to draft conditions for promoting development of the AJ Mine. These conditions demonstrate what is at risk by developing the AJ Mine. There is too much at stake. Mining activity needs to be restricted to areas further away from our population center.	



Southeast Alaska Conservation Council

SEACC 419 6th Street, Suite 200, Juneau, AK 99801
(907) 586-6942 phone • (907) 463-3312 fax
www.seacc.org • info@seacc.org

April 28, 2011

Dear A-J Mine Advisory Committee,

I am an attorney with the Southeast Alaska Conservation Council (SEACC), and last Thursday, I testified at the Committee's public hearing on behalf of the organization. My testimony focused on enforceability. If the A-J Mine does re-open, SEACC believes a strong role for citizen oversight is absolutely necessary. In particular, we asked the Committee to recommend that the A-J Mine not be reopened unless a third party citizen oversight group is empowered, by contract, to enforce the various operating conditions imposed on the mine. Because I wanted to give some more thought to several of the questions you asked me, I said that I would submit additional testimony in writing. This is that testimony.

Regulatory capture is a real risk, and one that Juneau must take seriously going forward. Regulatory capture occurs when a regulatory body created to act in the public interest becomes dominated by the very industry it is charged with regulating. Regulatory capture occurs because industry interests have the greatest financial stake in regulatory activity, and are therefore more likely to be motivated to influence the regulatory body than dispersed members of the general public. This problem is exacerbated when industry pushes government to relax regulations aimed at guarding against occurrences that are perceived to be improbable "black swan events," so that industry may achieve relatively concrete short-term goals. Regulatory capture results in government making imprudent decisions that favor industry at the expense of the public interest. Recent American history is riddled with examples, including, but not limited to: capture of the Minerals Management Service which led to last year's Deepwater Horizon oil spill (See <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB124580461065744913.html>), capture of the New York Fed which gave rise to the 2008 financial crisis (See <http://www.nber.org/~wbuiter/NAcrisis.pdf>), and capture of the Federal Aviation Agency (See <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB124580461065744913.html>).

With respect to the A-J, we are very concerned that regulatory capture will be a problem for CBJ. We foresee a day, some years after the mine has reopened, when the price of gold drops. The mining company will present CBJ with an ultimatum: unless certain costly conditions are dropped, it will no longer be able to make a profit, and will have to shut down and lay off its employees. Thus, our concern is that even if the current City Assembly comes up with a satisfactory list of conditions on the front-end, those conditions will not actually be enforced as originally written. Those with a

financial stake at issue – the mine’s investors, as well as the 200-some employees and their families – will focus their resources and energy on achieving the short-term concrete goal of keeping the mine open, while the general public will likely remain diffuse and relatively silent. For the City Assembly to prioritize guarding against various events that *might* happen (the contamination of our drinking water supply, irreversible ecological damage, etc.) over one that *will* happen unless the City changes course (the closing of the mine and loss of 200 jobs) would be incredibly unpopular politically. As elected officials concerned with re-election, City Assembly members are unlikely to withstand such political pressure, even if it would be more prudent to keep conditions that protect our health and environment in place. Because of CBJ’s position as primary owner of the mine, the problem is exacerbated. CBJ’s financial stake in the A-J’s profitability makes it even more vulnerable to capture by industry interests, putting the Assembly in the inherently conflicted position of simultaneously acting as a profit-focused fiduciary and the representative of the general public interest.

Because regulatory capture is a real risk, we believe that if the Assembly does decide to re-open the A-J, it must put an enforceability back-stop in place. In particular, we think a third-party citizen oversight group, empowered to independently enforce the mine’s operating conditions, is the best answer. In fact, Coeur d’Alene Mines agreed to just this kind of third party enforcement for Kensington. Although the tentative agreement embodying that third-party enforcement mechanism was never implemented for unrelated reasons, it exemplifies the willingness of some mining interests to work with conservation interests to ensure compliance. That agreement included both a Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) and the Kensington Coalition. The CAC was to be six to nine members, with reps from different industries and environmental groups, serving staggered terms, and authority to review and evaluate mine performance. The Kensington Coalition was a coalition of environmental groups, who would have given up their right to litigate permit terms in exchange for the authority to examine records, take independent samples, make independent site visits, and most importantly, enforce permit terms and other agreements with the mine operator. The Kensington Coalition would have had independent enforcement authority via the courts, much like citizens do under environmental statutes like the Clean Water Act – where the government fails to ensure compliance, citizens have the right to do so. (The Clean Water Act’s citizen suit provision is itself recognition of the reality of regulatory capture; Congress delegated enforcement authority to citizens in recognition of the fact that the government does not always have the resources or the political will to enforce the law. The number of successful citizen suits brought under the Clean Water Act is testimony to the existence of regulatory capture, and the need for such enforcement back-stops.)

In this case, we envision a single group that shares characteristics of both the CAC and the Kensington Coalition. Like the CAC, it would be composed of citizens, rather than groups. But like the Kensington Coalition, a contract between the mining company and the citizens’ group would grant the citizens’ group independent inspection and enforcement authority. The group would have free access to records and the site, and

any information the group receives or generates would be made available to the public. In exchange for enforcement authority, each individual member of the group would give up his right to litigate regarding anything other than the very conditions the citizens' group is authorized to enforce.

Most importantly, this group would be *entirely independent* from CBJ government. Members would not be appointed by the mayor or the Assembly; rather, they would be appointed by very same interests the conditions were meant to protect. We envision an 11-member group. Three of the members would represent environmental interests, and be selected by local and regional environmental groups. Three of the members would represent business interests, with one spot reserved for a representative of the tourism industry. These members would be chosen by the Downtown Business Association and/or the Chamber of Commerce. Three of the members would represent resident interests – one selected by Thane, one selected by the Downtown Neighborhood Association, and one selected by Douglas. Finally, two of the members would be scientists with expertise in geology, water science, and/or ecology. One of the scientists would be chosen by the environmental interests, and the other by business interests. The hope is that keeping the selection process entirely separate from city government would insulate the group from any regulatory capture of CBJ that does occur. Although the citizens oversight group is bound to face political pressure, as well, because they will represent those interests most directly protected by the mine's operating conditions, they will be better able to withstand such pressure.

The members of the group would serve staggered terms. Appointees from each of the major groups would be designated for one, two, and three year terms. One of the scientists would serve a two-year term, and the other would serve a three-year term. Any appointee could be re-appointed for consecutive terms. With respect to voting, most group actions would only require a majority vote of the whole. However, in order to change the conditions themselves, the group would need a super-majority.

Although the specific details are somewhat flexible, we believe that a group like the one envisioned here is absolutely necessary. During my testimony, CBJ Engineering Director Rorie Watt asked whether third party oversight like this had ever been employed where the mine was owned by a governmental entity. Unfortunately, I was unable to locate any examples. However, the fact that this back-up enforceability mechanism is not yet widespread enough to offer a diverse set of examples should not deter the Committee. First and foremost, this option is absolutely legally viable. CBJ would enter into a mining lease with the mining company, and in that lease would be a provision stating that: (1) the mining company must also enter into an independent contract with the citizens group, and (2) that that independent contract would include all the conditions expressed in the lease. Once the mining company enters into the contract with the citizens group, it is bound by the contract. The requirement that the mining company enter into a contract with the citizens' group is a condition of the lease just like any other condition – legally, it is no different than the condition that all tailings be disposed

underground or that there be limited noise and light interference. They are all simply conditions of the lease. Moreover, the fact that a governmental entity partially owns the mine is legally irrelevant to the validity of this independent contract.

Second, the fact that this mechanism is innovative should not, in and of itself, deter the Committee from recommending it. According to the draft recommendations, the Committee is already planning to recommend two innovative and relatively untested mining techniques (all milling underground, and all tailings-disposal underground) in order to protect our environment and way of life. Why shouldn't it also consider an innovative legal mechanism for achieving the same outcome?

It is our sincere hope that the Committee take the risk of regulatory capture seriously, and include in its recommendations a provision for third-party oversight and enforcement.

Thank you for all of your hard work.

Sincerely,

Olivia Sinaiko
Legal Fellow
Southeast Alaska Conservation Council (SEACC)

Lori Savage

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us
Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2011 9:10 AM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Purple

<p>Name: George Danner III</p>	<p>E-mail: Telephone Number:</p>
<p>Comments: To All, As I watch this Mine Advisory Committee go through its process and to watch the public participation and testimony appear to diverge into two opposite camps (again!) I feel as a 3rd generation "Juneauite" that our history as a mining community and what it left us (beside the City itself), continues to benefit our city today and should be remembered and considered in your analysis. 1. The sandy beach at Thane, (fishing, dog walking) 2. The AG Mine tour, (for locals & tourists) 3. The Annex Creek trail, (hiking) 4. The Perseverance Trail, (hiking, history, dog walking) 5. The AJ mine tunnels used to store our water (obvious) 6. The waste rock under the City Hall, Centennial Hall and the JACC to name just a few of Juneau's buildings and streets built on a mining resource spin off. 7. Sandy Beach, (recreation of many types) 8. Treadwell ruins, (hiking, exploration, tourism) 9. The Treadwell ditch, (recreation) 10. Salmon Creek Dam and trail. (another drinking water source for the CBJ , Fish Hatchery, energy source and recreation) 11. Nugget Creek trail, (hiking, tourism) 12. Annex Creek hydropower supply 13. Juneau Mining Museum and AK. State and CBJ Museum Exhibits, (tourism, history) 14. The City of Douglas 15. A "can do attitude" I believe that all of the things I have listed above that were left us by our long history as a mining community can be called "Improvements" to our quality of life in present day Juneau and should be given their appropriate due in you considerations. Personally, I am favor of reopening the mine if the "Under What Circumstances" does protect out water supply, the majority of which was left us by the mines. Juneau has a long history of thinking outside the box, pioneering new technologies and making things work. We need to keep new local employment and revenue opportunities coming and this could be a big one. Thank you all for your hard work and countless hours given to our community in addressing this important issue. George Danner III, AK 99801</p>	

Lori Savage

From: Rorie Watt
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2011 3:15 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: RE: AJMAC Public Comment

From: webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us [mailto:webmaster@juneau.lib.ak.us]
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2011 8:41 PM
To: Lori Savage
Subject: AJMAC Public Comment

Name: Karla Hart	E-mail: Telephone Number:
Comments: I am totally against the AJ Mine opening under any circumstances. We fought this battle already. No.	