

## DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, ALASKA JUNEAU REGULATORY FIELD OFFICE 8800 GLACIER HIGHWAY JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801-8079

September 3, 2010

Regulatory Division POA-2000-495-M3

Dear Reviewer:

On December 8, 2009, the Alaska District, Corps of Engineers, issued a Public Notice for Department of the Army (DA) permit application number POA-2000-495-M3, received from the City and Borough of Juneau for work at Douglas Harbor. The proposed activity included dredging approximately 30,000 cubic yards of material from the harbor with open water disposal within the Gastineau Channel, as well as upgrades/replacements to the harbor docks and piers.

The project site is located within Section 36, T. 41 S., R. 67 E., Copper River Meridian; USGS Quad Map Juneau B-2; Latitude 58.273° N., Longitude 134.384° W.; at the Douglas Small Boat Harbor, in Juneau, Alaska.

Since the issuance of the Public Notice, a number of concerns were raised by various agencies and members of the public with regard to the presence of mercury contamination within the Douglas Harbor sediments. As a response to these concerns, the applicant has submitted a modification to the proposal in a letter dated August 12, 2010 (copy enclosed). This submittal describes a capping plan involving the placement of a 6-inch thick layer of imported clean course sand with cobble over both the dredged material deposited in the Gastineau Channel disposal site and over the newly exposed dredge surface within Douglas Harbor. In addition, the applicant has proposed a work window for the dredging and disposal to occur only between November 1 and March 15.

We are requesting your comments on this modification in general, or with regard to any previous comments you may have submitted. Please provide any comments by September 24, 2010.

Please contact me via email at heidi.x.firstencel@usace.army.mil, by mail at the address above, or by phone at (907) 350-5092 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Heidi Firstencel

Heidi Firstencel Project Manager

Enclosures

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