



# DONLIN GOLD

NEWSLETTER  
JANUARY 2013

## EIS PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS

In January, public input meetings were held by the Corps in the following communities:

**BETHEL**  
**ANIAK**  
**CROOKED CREEK**  
**ANCHORAGE**  
**NUNAPITCHUK**  
**AKIAK**

EIS meetings in Quinhagak and Kipnuk were canceled due to weather conditions and will be rescheduled.

Please be sure to visit the Army Corps of Engineer's project website for the most up-to-date information:  
[www.DonlinGoldEIS.com](http://www.DonlinGoldEIS.com)

## MEETINGS WILL BE SCHEDULED IN THE FOLLOWING VILLAGES

### FEBRUARY 2013

Toksook Bay, Hooper Bay,  
Emmonak & Saint Mary's

### MARCH 2013

Holy Cross & McGrath

## ARMY CORPS BEGINS PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS ON DONLIN GOLD

For the proposed Donlin Gold project, the US Army Corps of Engineers is working on putting together a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) to assess the environmental impacts of the project prior to permitting decisions being made. The EIS process for the Donlin Gold project involves a scoping stage that allows for public input to identify environmental concerns and issues related to the proposed project. Initial meetings were held during January in the region and in Anchorage. Additional meetings are scheduled throughout February and March.

## PROVIDE INPUT ON THE DONLIN GOLD PROJECT

If you are unable to attend a scoping meeting, but would like to provide your input on the EIS process for the proposed Donlin Gold Project, comments can be submitted through March 29, 2013. Verbal and written comments are considered equally. Comments received after March will be considered, but will not be included in the scoping report.

You can submit your comments on the Donlin Gold project directly to the US Army Corps of Engineers by:

- Email: [comments@DonlinGoldEIS.com](mailto:comments@DonlinGoldEIS.com)
- Use the comment form on the website, [www.DonlinGoldEIS.com/Comment.aspx](http://www.DonlinGoldEIS.com/Comment.aspx)
- Fax: (907) 562-1297
- Mail:  
Don Kuhle, Regulatory Division  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
PO Box 6898  
Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson, AK  
99506-0898

## WHAT IS AN EIS?

An environmental impact statement is a detailed document that evaluates a proposed action and considers alternatives for a project. It allows decision makers to have a complete picture of the benefits, potential risks and alternatives of a project, like the proposed Donlin Gold project, before they make any permitting decisions. The public, other agencies and organizations can provide input for the preparation of the EIS and provide comments on the draft

CONTINUED INSIDE: "ARMY CORPS BEGINS PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS"

# Face to Face with Stan Foo

Public input is a very important part of our planning process, and we would like to hear from you.

## SEND MAIL TO:

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Anchorage, AK 99503

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(907) 273-0200  
(888) 225-7590 toll free

Find us on Facebook at

[Facebook.com/DonlinGold](https://www.facebook.com/DonlinGold)

For more project information visit us online at [www.DonlinGold.com](http://www.DonlinGold.com)

To voice concerns or complaints about the project contact us at [complaint@DonlinGold.com](mailto:complaint@DonlinGold.com) or (855) 279-0382

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The Donlin Gold EIS is underway with the kickoff of scoping meetings that started in January. We encourage everyone to be involved in the EIS scoping meetings and throughout the process. Whether you are a supporter, you have concerns or you oppose the Donlin Gold project, your comments and concerns are important to help the regulatory agencies complete their review of our proposed project. Your comments and concerns can be provided to the US Army Corps of Engineers at the scoping meetings or by mailing or emailing them—all comments are considered equally regardless of the way they are provided.

I am very proud of our efforts over the past few years to help stakeholders better understand and visualize the proposed mine through tours of the Donlin Gold project site and through mine tours to other active operations. I am also proud of our team's efforts to openly communicate project information to stakeholders throughout the YK region and along the proposed pipeline route, of our robust baseline studies over the past 16 years, and of our history of local hire, community participation and listening to stakeholder concerns. Your input and concerns have helped shape the project into what we are proposing today, and we are committed to using the best available technologies and innovative designs. Barging has been at the forefront of concerns throughout project development, and I hope we have demonstrated to you how we have listened to your concerns—as they have truly changed the face of this project with the design of the proposed natural gas pipeline. I hope our history demonstrates to you our commitment to being an environmentally and socially responsible neighbor.

As the EIS moves forward, please continue to ask questions and share your thoughts. You will continue to see us in the region talking about workforce development and project updates. If you have any questions, please call our office or visit our website, [www.DonlinGold.com](http://www.DonlinGold.com) which has up-to-date project information, as does the Corps' EIS project website, [www.DonlinGoldEIS.com](http://www.DonlinGoldEIS.com)

Stan Foo  
General Manager  
Donlin Gold

## Timeline



### THE PERMITTING PROCESS (3+ YEARS)

REGIONAL AND TRIBAL CONSULTATION WITH STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATORY AGENCIES  
National Environmental Policy Act requires an Environmental Impact Statement. Formal public comment opportunities.

## K300 KICKS OFF MUSHING RACE SEASON

“Finish what you start,” was the message Bethel musher Pete Kaiser was sharing with students during Donlin Gold’s fall workforce development meetings in the Yukon Kuskokwim region. And just a few months later that’s exactly what Kaiser was doing in the Kuskokwim 300: applying the same principles of teamwork, safety and dedication as he and his dog sled team mushed over 300 miles to come in third place in the first major race of the mushing season.

Donlin Gold has supported the K300 for six consecutive years. A total of 21 mushers participated in the race this year, many of which are from the Yukon Kuskokwim (YK) region.

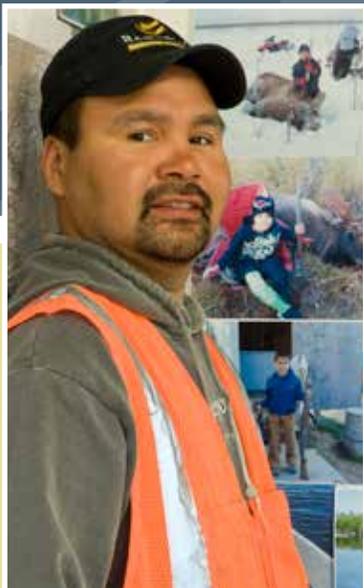
The event requires dozens of volunteers from marking the trail to providing housing and transportation to mushers and their dog sled teams. The 300-mile trail for the 2013 K300 ran from Bethel to Akiachak to Tuluksak to Kalskag to Aniak to Whitefish Lake, then back to Bethel.

Veteran musher Jeff King claimed first place in this year’s K300. This was his ninth win. Many mushers who competed in the K300 will go on to compete in the Iditarod in just a few weeks. While many of them enjoy mushing as a sport, they also do it to honor the traditional values of their culture.

Donlin Gold is a major sponsor of the K300, honoring the YK region’s history of mining and mushing. ■



Top: Residents watch as mushers take off at the Kuskokwim 300 start. Bottom: Children pet the dogs preparing to race in the K300.



## DONLIN GOLD EMPLOYEE RECOGNIZED WITH BARRICK EXCELLENCE AWARD

Every year one of Donlin Gold’s parent companies, Barrick Gold, recognizes people who have demonstrated leadership, commitment and achievement in safety, continuous improvement, security, community relations and environment at its properties around the world. This year, Donlin Gold employee Peter Boise Alexie was selected among thousands of possible recipients to receive the “Barrick Excellence Award” for being a Safety Champion.

Alexie has played a vital role in developing Donlin Gold’s strong safety culture and ensuring all employees operate safely. Alexie regularly conducts field level risk assessments and takes initiative to stop or delay unsafe activities. His promotion of safety extends beyond the workplace and has reached communities in the Yukon Kuskokwim region, encouraging families to live safely each day.

Donlin Gold congratulates Boise Alexie, and is thankful for all of his hard work and commitment to safety. Employees like Alexie help Donlin Gold achieve its safety motto, “each and every person going home safe and healthy every day.” ■

Donlin Gold employee Peter Boise Alexie has been recognized for his outstanding safety practices with a Barrick Excellence Award.

## Continued from Front Page **“ARMY CORPS BEGINS PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS”**

EIS. The EIS process can take a few years to complete and involves several steps. A draft EIS is developed followed by a final EIS and is then completed with a Record of Decision.

The US Army Corps of Engineers is the “lead agency” for the Donlin Gold project EIS, that is, they are the agency that leads the process. In addition to a lead agency, there may also be cooperating agencies that either have special expertise to offer or that have jurisdiction (or permitting authority for some resource). The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Alaska Department of Natural Resources are serving as cooperating agencies. Cooperating tribes include the federally recognized tribes of Crooked Creek, Chuathbaluk, and Napaimute. The Kuskokwim River Watershed Council is a regional cooperating organization.

For updates and more information on the EIS process for the Donlin Gold project please visit: [www.DonlinGoldEIS.com](http://www.DonlinGoldEIS.com) ■

### ESTIMATED TIMELINE OF THE EIS PROCESS (Information adapted from the US Army Corps of Engineers)



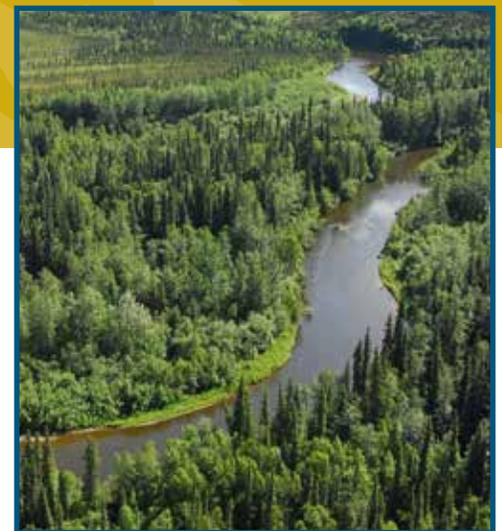
## DONLIN GOLD SUPPORTS TRIBAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

To assist tribes in the Kuskokwim region with their environmental programs, Donlin Gold provided a nearly \$50,000 donation to the Kuskokwim River Watershed Council (KRWC). The funds will help provide scholarships to federally recognized tribes in the region to help train staff in monitoring water quality and handling invasive plant species.

This past summer, through the KRWC Invasive Species Field Program, two invasive plant species were found in Bethel and another species was found in Quinhagak. This may be an indication that there may be more invasive plant species in other locations. Invasive plant species can cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human, animal or plant health.

The KRWC also provides special trainings for villages to promote environmental programs and the collection of baseline natural science data. There are several two-and-a-half day trainings KRWC has planned for villages this year. Donated funds to the KRWC are used to pay for travel expenses for tribal staff, training materials, water quality equipment and instructors. During the trainings tribes will also be educated on how to write a Quality Assurance Project Plan, which is essential to all water quality science programs.

Donlin Gold is committed to responsible development and, like the KRWC, understands the importance of collecting scientific data for evaluation and planning purposes. Donlin Gold is



The Kuskokwim River Watershed Council provides training for tribes to learn how to monitor water quality in the region.

pleased to support the KRWC, which is dedicated to maintaining and promoting healthy habitat areas essential to fish and wildlife subsistence resources and for the well-being of all indigenous tribes. ■

## POTENTIAL JOBS AT DONLIN GOLD

Donlin Gold published a jobs booklet containing information on the potential jobs at the proposed project and training resources. In each newsletter, Donlin Gold is highlighting some of the careers from the jobs booklet that could be available if a decision is made to begin construction of the mining project. You can view the full jobs booklet online by visiting [www.DonlinGold.com/employees](http://www.DonlinGold.com/employees)

### DRILLER

Drillers safely operate a variety of heavy drilling equipment for completing wells and bore holes into the ground to remove core samples during mineral exploration or soil testing, and to facilitate the use of explosives in mining. Drillers may use vertical or horizontal earth boring machines. A Driller must be comfortable with holding a position of high responsibility, work well under pressure and must work well with others.

### PREPARATION AND TRAINING

A high school diploma or GED and some previous work-related experience are required for this job. Completion of an apprenticeship program is preferred.



### ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER

Environmental Engineers research, design, plan or perform engineering duties in the prevention, control and remediation of environmental hazards using various engineering and scientific disciplines. Work may include waste treatment, site remediation or pollution control technology. An individual seeking this position should be a problem solver, analyzer and be able to work with others toward a common goal.

### PREPARATION AND TRAINING

A high school diploma or GED, and a bachelor's degree or higher in environmental sciences or engineering from an accredited college or university program are required for this job.



**Donlin Gold plans to continue meeting with youth and residents of the YK region to share information on potential jobs and training resources available for residents. ■**



Snowmachine riders should always wear goggles and a safety helmet.

## BE SAFE: ON THE GO, IN THE SNOW

As seasons change in Alaska, so do our activities. Many residents in the Yukon Kuskokwim region travel by snowmachine in the winter. Whether it's visiting friends and family or going trapping, hunting or ice fishing, snowmachines provide a reliable way to get around in the snow. By following safety practices, we can make sure our winter expeditions remain safe and fun for our families.

### SNOWMACHINE SAFETY

- Wear goggles and a safety helmet approved for use on motorized vehicles.
- Travel at safe speeds, and always scan your surroundings for potential hazards and obstacles.
- Create a trip plan and tell someone where you are going, who you are with, when you expect to return and what equipment you have with you.
- Be careful when traveling near water, and do not take risks. Drowning is a leading cause of snowmachine deaths in Alaska.
- Make sure you are appropriately dressed for the weather conditions and have extra food and water, and a communication device as well as a first aid kit and flash light.
- Do not drink and ride. Alcohol, cold and fatigue can impair your ability to make sound judgments.



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## IN THIS NEWSLETTER **K300 KICKS OFF MUSHING RACE SEASON**



Donlin Gold employees Mary Sattler, Vernon Chimegalrea and Colleen Laroux at the start of the Kuskokwim 300.

### NOVEMBER WORD OF THE MONTH WINNER

Congratulations to Alden J. Walker Jr., our Word of the Month winner who guessed the correct amount of times the word “Workforce” was referenced in November’s newsletter.

### DECEMBER WORD OF THE MONTH WINNER

Congratulations to Patricia Gineu Jacobus, our Word of the Month winner who guessed the correct amount of times the word “Year” was referenced in December’s newsletter.

### JOIN DONLIN GOLD’S TALENT BANK

With the project in permitting, Donlin Gold is focused on building a local workforce. If the project is approved for development, thousands of positions would be available during construction and operation of the mine. Donlin Gold is committed to filling these positions with as many qualified residents from the YK region as possible.

To get a general idea of what kinds of current skills, job experience and education residents from the region have, Donlin Gold has created a Talent Bank on its website where people can provide this information. This will help Donlin Gold create a workforce development plan that is tailored to the needs of residents in the region.

Please fill out and submit your work history profile information in the Talent Bank section of our website by visiting: [www.DonlinGold.com/employees](http://www.DonlinGold.com/employees)

Your talent bank profile is not an application for employment, but the information will help Donlin Gold plan and prepare for future local workforce development needs. All of the information submitted will be kept confidential.

Permitting is expected to take a minimum of three years. During this time, residents can start preparing themselves with the training and education they will need to join the Donlin Gold team. Donlin Gold’s workforce development plan will help direct residents to the programs and training resources available that will support them in becoming a desired job applicant. ■

**DONLIN GOLD IS COMMITTED TO CREATING A SAFE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE MINING PROJECT THAT PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAMILIES IN THE YUKON KUSKOKWIM REGION TO LIVE IN HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES**