



DONLIN GOLD

NEWSLETTER
JULY/AUGUST 2014

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The State of Alaska Pipeline Coordinator's Office has invited the public to comment on the Donlin Gold Natural Gas Pipeline Application. If you would like to take part, the meetings will be held as follows:

- October 13, 2014
6:30-8:30 p.m.
Bethel Cultural Center
- October 14, 2014
7:00-9:00 p.m.
McGrath Captain Snow Center
- October 15, 2014
5:30-7:30 p.m.
Anchorage Loussac Library
- October 16, 2014
1:00-3:00 p.m.
Tyonek Tribal Center
- January 21, 2015
11:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m.
Skwentna Roadhouse

If you have questions about the meetings or the public hearing process, please contact the State Pipeline Coordinator's Office at (907) 269-6859 or visit dnr.alaska.gov/commis/pc/

DONLIN GOLD REACHES HISTORIC AGREEMENT WITH THE KUSKOKWIM CORPORATION

Donlin Gold is pleased to share the news that we have reached an updated long-term surface use agreement with The Kuskokwim Corporation (TKC).

This agreement is historic in our long-standing cooperation with TKC. In addition to setting terms for initiating construction and port operation, the agreement has provisions for TKC preference for contracts, and hiring and training TKC shareholders. It also has provisions to fund scholarships and work with federal, state and local entities to help create and fund a training facility in Aniak. Calista shareholders, their spouses and descendants also have scholarship opportunities and a hiring preference under a separate agreement with Donlin Gold.

"This agreement represents a commitment by the project's key stakeholders in continuing to advance the project in a responsible and sustainable manner for the benefit of the region and its shareholders," said Donlin Gold General Manager, Stan Foo. "We value our strong and time-honored relationship with both TKC and Calista Corporation, who own the surface and mineral rights to Donlin Gold project lands."

Calista selected the land where the Donlin Gold project is located under the terms of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act for its resource development potential. The Calista and TKC agreements with Donlin Gold mark an important step towards realizing an economic benefit for the shareholders of these Alaskan Native Corporations. If developed, the Donlin Gold project will create up to 3,000 construction jobs and between 600 and 1,400 jobs during the mine's 27-plus years of operation. ■



Stan Foo, Nastasia Jackie Levi, TKC board member and Lower Kalskag tribal administrator, and Maver Carey, president/CEO of The Kuskokwim Corporation, presenting the historic agreement with The Kuskokwim Corporation.

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.

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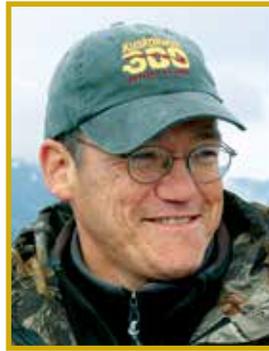
(907) 273-0200
(888) 225-7590 toll free

Find us on Facebook at
[Facebook.com/DonlinGold](https://www.facebook.com/DonlinGold)

For more project information visit us online at www.DonlinGold.com

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

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The recent tailings storage facility failure at Mount Polley in British Columbia has left many people with questions and concerns about tailings storage facility safety. All of us at Donlin Gold share these concerns. This event is a disaster that should not have happened, and failures like this affect the mining industry as a whole. **Tailings storage facilities that are constructed, operated and maintained properly do not fail.** We, along with many Federal and State agencies, want to understand the events that led to the Mount Polley tailings storage facility failure, and to identify areas where improvements can be made to the regulatory process, and industry practices for tailings storage facility design, operation and maintenance.

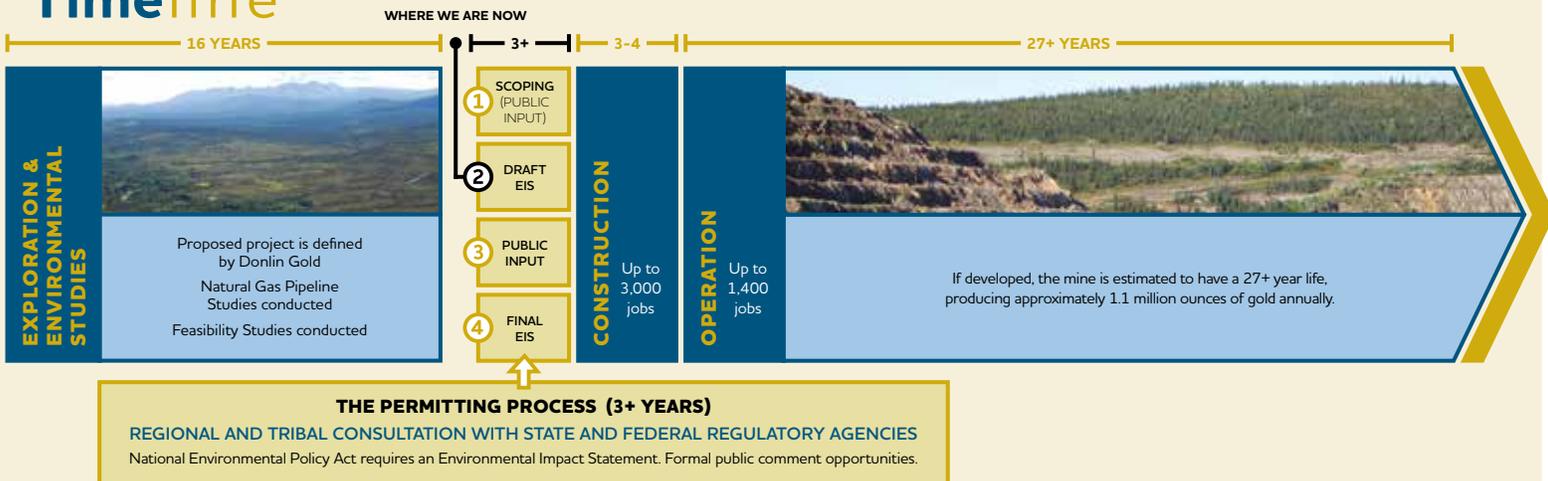
Donlin Gold's tailings storage facility (TSF) is designed to meet the highest safety standards and incorporates industry best practices. We will be required to operate the TSF with robust operations and maintenance plans, including third-party inspections, monitoring, an emergency action plan and a closure plan. Donlin Gold will operate the TSF in a safe, responsible and prudent manner.

After many years of study, and after reviewing the latest information, we are confident the type of tailings storage facility we have proposed for Donlin Gold, a "downstream-constructed rock-filled storage facility," is the safest design for our project and our location. Although every location has different requirements, this type of rock-filled storage facility is recognized as the safest.

Donlin Gold will be responsible for the design, operation, maintenance and closure of the tailings storage facility. The Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Dam Safety and Construction Unit (DSCU) is responsible for regulating and permitting the TSF. The Alaska DSCU has a very rigorous program which reviews, approves, and has operational oversight of all storage facilities in Alaska, including mine tailings storage facility. For additional information about Alaska's Dam Safety

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Timeline



DONLIN GOLD SUPPORTS EDUCATION AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT IN 2014

Donlin Gold's goals and commitments are to hire as many local, qualified residents as possible. We are dedicated to helping youth in the region prepare themselves for the potential jobs that would become available should the project be developed.

In 2014, we continued to support programs and scholarships that prepare youth and the community for potential job opportunities at Donlin Gold.

Donlin Gold is sponsoring the youth Academic and Trades Decathlon in Aniak this spring through the Kuspuk School District and will host a youth camp at the project site to give students an understanding of future career opportunities. Donlin Gold is also a major sponsor of the Calista Education and Culture scholarship, the Kuskokwim Education Foundation scholarship and the Kuskokwim Native Association fisheries internship program.

In addition, Donlin Gold provides support to the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP) at the University of Alaska, donates personal dictionaries to every third grader in the YK region, supplies Yup'ik dictionaries to rural school

libraries, and distributes Alaska SeaLife Center distance learning science courses to schools.

By investing in regional youth education, Donlin Gold strengthens its commitment to supporting YK communities. ■



Stan Foo presents a \$50,000 check to Maver Carey for the Kuskokwim Education Foundation scholarship program. A \$50,000 check was given to the Calista Education and Culture scholarship program earlier this summer.

JOIN DONLIN GOLD'S TALENT BANK

Donlin Gold is focused on identifying the needs of a local workforce while the project is in the permitting process. If agencies issue permits that approve the project for development, thousands of positions would be available during construction and operation of the mine. Donlin Gold wants to fill these positions with as many qualified residents from the YK region as possible.

To get a general idea of the current skills, job experience and education residents from the region have, Donlin Gold created a Talent Bank on its website where people can provide this information. Providing this information will help Donlin Gold plan for training and education that may be needed in the region to maximize local hire.

Please fill out and submit your work history profile information in the Talent Bank section of our website by visiting: www.DonlinGold.com/employees Additionally,

we can mail a physical copy for you to fill out and return. Contact Dorena at (907) 273-0200 or (888) 225-7590.

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 is kept confidential.

Permitting is expected to take a minimum of four years. If you are interested in working at Donlin in the future, you can start preparing yourself with the training and education you will need to have an opportunity to join the Donlin Gold team. A "Planning for your Future" jobs booklet is also located on our website and will help you understand the types of jobs that will be available at Donlin Gold in addition to the education and training requirements needed to fill these jobs. Donlin Gold will help direct residents to the programs and training resources available that will support them in becoming a desired job applicant. ■

DONLIN GOLD IS GIVING AWAY 100 GALLONS OF FUEL.

Join Donlin Gold's Talent Bank at www.DonlinGold.com/employees and you'll be entered to win. If you have joined the talent bank already, you are automatically entered to win.

DONLIN GOLD SUPPORTS SUMMER INTERNS

Donlin Gold encourages Yukon Kuskokwim (YK) residents to stay in school, become educated and prepare themselves for future employment. This summer, Donlin Gold continued its practice of offering internships so students can perform some of the kinds of tasks they would do if they were to join the Donlin Gold workforce in the future. We currently have several interns out in the field this summer.

Meghan Riopelle, with ties to Eek, is majoring in chemical engineering with a minor in mineral processing at Michigan Technological University. This summer, Meghan is working as a metallurgical engineer intern in Cortez, Nevada for Barrick Gold.

“If it weren't for Donlin Gold, I would not have had this opportunity to gain valuable experience in a field that I plan on having a career in after school,” says Meghan. “Now I feel more confident in my future plans and more prepared.”

She continues, “Actually applying my knowledge and being on site, I've learned more than I ever will in a classroom, such as the emphasis on safety in a workplace. I now have experience and skills on top of my education that I can bring to the table for future jobs.”

Donlin Gold also provided \$10,000 to the Kuskokwim Native Association (KNA), which helps support three interns in KNA's fisheries program. Amanda Hoeldt, Ben Hoeldt and Brad Gusty, all from Aniak, participated in collecting scales from salmon, installing and maintaining floating and fixed weirs, and determining number, sex and species of salmon escapement.

“We are very proud of the accomplishments of our interns and we are grateful for the support Donlin Gold has provided to the program over the years,” said Rebecca Frye at KNA. “We hope to continue this successful partnership in the future.”

Previous interns offer an excellent measure of success. For example, former Donlin Gold intern Thomas Albert from Tununuk, is spending his summer at Brice Construction in an internship funded by Calista Corporation. Thomas is studying to be an engineer and hopes to continue to graduate school to study mechanical engineering or mathematics. We are pleased that we could help support Thomas along his career path.

Internships are an excellent way for students to gain firsthand work experience. Donlin Gold is committed to hiring qualified shareholders and descendants from the YK region if the project is approved for development. ■



All photos: Donlin Gold Intern Meghan Riopelle at work in Cortez, Nevada for Barrick Gold.

STUDY EXAMINES RAINBOW SMELT MIGRATION

Rainbow smelt are a popular subsistence resource in the Yukon Kuskokwim (YK) region, and many villages harvest smelt as they swim upstream to spawn after breakup. This May, Donlin Gold conducted a study of the rainbow smelt spawning run in the Kuskokwim River. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers requested the study in response to local residents' concerns over the potential impacts of increased barge traffic on the river.

Through the second half of May, the study followed the smelt during their upstream migration. Researchers evaluated many aspects of the smelt's movement, including the timing of the run, the upstream reach of the migration and the ultimate spawning location.

The study was conducted by a small crew, and residents also participated. The environmental director for the Native Village of Napaimute, Dave Cannon, assisted with tracking the migration by providing daily updates on the smelt as they passed.

Following the migration was only one part of the study. Once the smelt spawned, the study team began the process of mapping the spawned eggs' distribution.

The rainbow smelt moved very rapidly upstream the Kuskokwim River, traveling from Bethel to Kalskag (114 river miles) in just four days. The team used a pipe dredge to collect sediment samples, and analyzed them for the presence of absence of the tiny rainbow smelt eggs, which are only one millimeter in diameter. The study found that the eggs are deposited in relatively deep, swift current areas, of mixed sand and gravel along a roughly four miles stretch or river channel just upstream of Kalskag.

The Army Corps and cooperating agencies on the environmental impact statement (EIS) will incorporate the results of the rainbow smelt survey into the Draft EIS document.

Donlin Gold is committed to environmental responsibility. Since the exploration phase began in 1995, we have conducted numerous baseline studies that have been used in the design process. ■



Top: Survey crew member emptying the contents of the sediment dredge for further analysis.
Bottom: Survey crew inspecting sediment samples for the presence of rainbow smelt eggs.
Photos provided by Owl Ridge Natural Resource Consultants.



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Rainbow smelt eggs. Photo provided by Owl Ridge Natural Resource Consultants.

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“FACE TO FACE WITH STAN FOO”

Program and their requirements you can visit:

<http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/water/dams/>

We will continue to work with the Army Corps of Engineers and cooperating agencies as they lead the environmental review process in development of an environmental impact statement (EIS). That process will ensure that Donlin Gold’s proposal receives rigorous review from a host of expert agencies. We encourage Yukon Kuskokwim residents to continue to participate in the environmental review process and share your concerns and comments with the Federal and State agencies. Please visit www.DonlinGoldEIS.com to learn more about the EIS and environmental review process.

Donlin Gold’s commitment to responsible development is unwavering. You will continue seeing us in your communities as we share with you our plans for the

project and answer your questions. We will continue to look at best practices for all aspects of the project. As always, please feel free to contact us at any time with any questions or concerns through our Anchorage, Bethel or Aniak offices or by email at info@DonlinGold.com.

Stan Foo
General Manager
Donlin Gold

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