



October 24, 2017

Ms. Ellen Lyons
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Re: Nanushuk EIS

Chugach Alaska Corporation (Chugach) is an Alaska Native Regional Corporation established pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971, as amended, 43 U.S.C. § 1601, *et seq.* As an Alaska Native corporation, we serve the interests of the Alaska Native people of the Chugach region and represent more than 2,500 shareholders. We employ nearly 5000 people, including 600 Alaskans. At Chugach, we believe that people matter most, from our shareholders to our customers to our employees. We strive to provide people opportunities for success, while promoting the cultural values of the Chugach people.

The Nanushuk project on Alaska's North Slope is vital to long-term development of Alaska's resources. This prospect has the potential to produce up to 120,000 barrels of oil per day, which presents an opportunity to increase the economic lifeline of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS). Chugach provides support to TAPS through our subsidiary company, Chugach Alaska Services, LLC. Our work as a contractor allows us to provide jobs and other economic benefits to our Alaska Native shareholders.

The long-term economic activity of this project is estimated to provide hundreds of jobs, and additional indirect and induced benefits would support many more jobs and provide other significant benefits to the Alaska economy. In addition to being the major economic driver of our state, the oil industry has a proven track record of responsible development in Alaska, providing protections to the environment and recognizing the subsistence needs of local residents.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Nanushuk project. Chugach adds our best wishes for a successful project that will ultimately benefit the state.

Sincerely,

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Josie Hickel,
SVP Energy & Resources