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**Action Alert: Pebble Project DEIS
Public Meetings through April 16, 2019
Comment deadline May 30, 2019**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has released a draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Pebble Project. The DEIS is a comprehensive review of Pebble's technical, engineering, and environmental data for the construction and operation of a responsible mine at the Pebble site. The DEIS is now out for public comment and review. The Pebble team believes the DEIS demonstrates the project can be done safely and responsibly.

The public comment process is an important step in successfully advancing the project. Please take a moment to make your position known. Below are some suggested themes to help guide your comments. If you support the responsible development of Pebble, the diversification of Alaska's economy, and the permitting process for all projects – now is the time to speak up.

Public meetings in Southcentral Alaska:

Homer: Thursday, April 11 from 4:30 to 9:00 p.m. at the High School

Anchorage: Tuesday, April 16 from 12:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Dena'ina Center

Anchorage meeting testimony signup: <https://www.speakoutalaska.com>

Written comment deadline: May 30, 2019

Submit online: <https://pebbleprojecteis.com>

Mail to:

Program Manager
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
645 G Street, Suite 100-921
Anchorage, AK 99501

Points to consider in your comments:

Pebble will not harm the fish and water resources of Bristol Bay

- The Pebble team has long said the Pebble Project would not harm the fish and water resources of the area and believes the DEIS validates this commitment.
- The DEIS says the project would not reduce returning adult salmon to the Kvichak and Nushagak river systems as a result of project operations. And it predicts no long term change to the health of the Bristol Bay and Cook Inlet fisheries. (DEIS Exec Summary P.54)
- The USACE document states that a catastrophic failure of the tailings facility at Pebble is extremely unlikely (DEIS at 4.27.6.6) and that there would be no population impacts for fish from the tailings release scenarios evaluated. (DEIS Exec Summary P.71)
- There will be no downstream impacts from the pit in post closure. (DEIS Exec Summary P.41)
- The DEIS notes negligible impact to flows in Upper Talarik Creek during operations and no impacts to flows in the UTC after closure. (DEIS at 4.16.42)
- Pebble will use two water treatment plants to ensure water discharge meets Alaska's criteria for water prior to discharge and will use a sophisticated water management plan that will strategically discharge water in all three nearby streams to benefit fish habitat. (DEIS at 2-31)

Pebble can co-exist with the Bristol Bay fishery

- The DEIS notes Alaska's experience with co-existence between Alaska's resource projects and fishing. (DEIS Exec Summary P.53)
- DEIS notes that Pebble's approach will use industry best management practices and foresees no harm. (DEIS Exec Summary P.5)
- Alaska has a good environmental track record with mining – look at Red Dog, Ft. Knox, Pogo, Greens Creek and Kensington. All have responsible environmental track records and co-exist with the fish and wildlife resources around them.
- Alaska has high environmental standards. Alaska's experience in balancing environmental protection and resource development is a good one.

Pebble will create jobs for locals and provide an important economic opportunity for the region

- The DEIS says that overall economic and health benefits will be substantial. (DEIS at 4.10-8)
- The DEIS notes that project related economic benefits would be expected to result in benefits to many aspects of human health and well-being including increased income, employment, and educational attainment. (DEIS at 4.10-8)

- DEIS says that Pebble development could help the Lake and Peninsula Borough through revenue going to the borough and keeping population numbers up to avoid school closures. (DEIS Exec Summary P.28)
- DEIS says that project benefits would be more apparent in the small, rural communities closest to the mine site where even small changes in their economies could have a measurable impact on their overall health and well-being. (DEIS at 4.10-8)
- Pebble will make contributions to the Lake and Peninsula Borough via taxes and economic activity

The Pebble plan is responsive to stakeholder issues

- The project footprint is smaller and more compact.
- The project has committed to no use of cyanide for gold recovery.
- The tailings storage facility has enhanced safeguards including a flow through design to prevent the build up of water in the facility and added structural stability to the embankments. Additionally, pyritic tailings will be lined for storage during operations and returned to the pit at closure.
- No major mine facilities in the Upper Talarik/Kvichak drainage.

Pebble will be done in partnership with residents from around Iliamna Lake

- Land access agreement with Alaska Peninsula Corporation
- Long term business partnerships with village corporations
- Locals will continue to have a critical voice with us and a seat at the table about important issues of concern.

Pebble is an Alaska asset that will create jobs, help the economy, and provide revenues for the state

- On state of Alaska land that was completed via a three-way land exchange called the Cook Inlet Land Exchange thus ensuring the minerals under the ground at Pebble are for all Alaskans.
- The land around Pebble is open to mineral opportunity and mining.
- Pebble is an asset for all of Alaska. It will create thousands of jobs, provide hundreds of millions in tax revenue and economic activity.
- Pebble estimates about 2000 jobs will be needed to construct the mine. Pebble estimates about 850 direct jobs for operations with another 850 or so for indirect support of operations.

The DEIS shows a clear path forward for permitting with no major issues of concern

- Pebble's review of the DEIS found no significant environmental challenges with the project.
- The DEIS speaks to use of best practices and meeting environmental criteria.
- Pebble still needs to file for and acquire important state permits such as water discharge, dam safety, and fish passage.



- The USACE's review of the Pebble Project is in line with norms for Alaska resource projects in terms of length of time, page count, and public comment window. The Pebble team believes the USACE process to date has been among the most transparent in Alaska with timely posting of Requests for Information which has allowed interested public stakeholders the opportunity to review technical material well in advance of the release of the DEIS.

Pebble will provide critical minerals for our modern way of life

- Pebble will provide our society with copper, silver, gold, molybdenum, rhenium and palladium
- Copper is essential for all green technology – wind turbines, solar panels, electric cars all need copper.
- Copper is also used in hospitals because of its antimicrobial properties.
- Gold is used in high tech and car air bag deployment systems. It's also needed to protect humans in space from solar radiation.
- Molybdenum is used in pipelines and aircraft manufacturing.
- Products from mining, and the minerals at Pebble, make modern life possible – without domestic development, minerals will come from places with less environmental protection and poor working conditions.

Pebble's preferred project is outlined in Alternative 1 and features an ice-breaking ferry to transport sealed mineral concentrate from mine site to a proposed port site at Amakdedori.

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