

BRISTOL BAY NATIVE ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 310

DILLINGHAM, ALASKA 99576

By the Full Board of Directors

RESOLUTION 2006-37

A Resolution Opposing All Large Scale Mining in the Bristol Bay Region
until Studies Unequivocally Prove there will be No Net Loss to Subsistence,
Commercial, and Sports Users

- WHEREAS: The Bristol Bay Native Association is an Alaska Native non-profit corporation and tribal consortium serving 31 tribes in the Bristol Bay region; and
- WHEREAS: BBNA has historically worked to protect and enhance subsistence use of resources within its region, has supported commercial fisheries, and has promoted preserving clear air, pristine water quality, protection of habitat, and the overall health of our land, air and water; and
- WHEREAS: BBNA's Board of Directors is very concerned that large scale mining will affect both surface and groundwater quality which would in turn harm the largest wild commercial salmon fishery in the world, a world class sports fishery, and the resources our people have relied on for thousands of years for subsistence; and
- WHEREAS: World salmon markets have turned their focus from farmed salmon to wild salmon as a preferred choice because of environmental and health concerns with farmed salmon; this trend may be undercut if mining causes pollution of our pristine water; and
- WHEREAS: Large scale mining may have such a massive "foot print" that it will affect our moose and caribou populations, which in turn will have a negative impact to our tribal members and their ability to obtain a valuable food source; and
- WHEREAS: Bristol Bay rivers, such as the Koktuli River, are major spawning grounds for salmon and may be "ground zero" for leaching ponds associated with large scale mining; and
- WHEREAS: The Bristol Bay mining district is within the Pacific "Ring of Fire" and is susceptible to volcanic eruptions and major earthquakes; and
- WHEREAS: The BBNA Board of Directors believes that large scale mining carries too many risks to our existing resource-based economy and way of life, and that the Bristol Bay Region is better served by economic development based on renewable resources;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Bristol Bay Native Association Board of Directors that BBNA opposes all large-scale mining within the Bristol Bay Region until studies for a project unequivocally prove that there will be NO NET LOSS to subsistence, commercial, recreational and sports uses of resources within our region or to the region's land, air and water quality.

Signed:

Fred J. Angason

President

CERTIFICATION:

I, the undersigned Secretary of the Bristol Bay Native Association, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly passed by the Board of Directors of the Bristol Bay Native Association at a duly called and noticed meeting on this 29th day of September, 2006, and that a quorum was present.

Signed:

Robert Heyano

Secretary