### Wales Native Corporation P.O. Box 529 Wales, Alaska 99783

June 14, 2006

Alaska Department of Natural Resources Office of Project Management and Permitting 550 West Seventh Avenue, Suite 900D Anchorage, Alaska 99501 Attn: Tom Crafford, Project Manager

Dear Mr. Crafford,

The Wales Native Corporation, Board of Directors respectfully submits this letter of support for the Rock Creek/Big Hurrah project in the Seward Peninsula. We have reviewed the permits on-line on the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources website for this project. The project being planned by Alaska Gold Company (AGC) has been done with respect to the subsistence, cultural, and traditional resources of people living in the region. The plans also include the enhancement of anadromous fish habitat in both creek systems.

The village corporations in our region work towards economic development while protecting the important subsistence resources of our region. We believe the Rock Creek project will provide an important economic boost to our region without adversely impacting the land and natural resources. We thank you for this opportunity to submit this letter of support. We look forward to the increased economic opportunity and training that will be provided to our regional residents.

Sincerely,

Ellen J. Richard, President

Wales Native Corporation

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ATTN: Jim Wolfe Regulatory Branch, CEPOA-CO-R P.O. Box 6898 Elmendorf AFB, AK 99506-0898

Re: Support for Rock Creek Project

The Brevig Mission Native Corporation supports Alaska Gold Company's project at Rock Creek in Nome, Alaska. Alaska Gold has been a provider of jobs for those of us living in the villages for many years and their interest in hiring residents of the Bering Straits shows they are willing to provide much needed income for those who want to work in Nome.

In all of these years, the Alaska Gold Company is known to abide by all rules and regulations consistent with their permit applications.

Quianna,

Reggie K. Barr, President

Brevig Mission Native Corporation

Cc: Irene Anderson, BSNC

Jim Wolfe, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Tom Crafford, ADNR/Office of Project Mgmt. and Permitting Luke Boles, AK Dept. of Environmental Conservation/Fairbanks William Ashton, AK Dept. of Environmental Conservation/Anchorage

### RECEIVED

JUN 30 2006

NOME CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 231 Front Street, Suite 211 Nome, Alaska 99762 907.443.3879 Fax 907.443.3892

June 21, 2006

Jim Wolfe, Project Manager U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, Alaska Division Regulatory Branch, CEPOA-CO-R PO Box 6898 Elmendorf AFB, AK 99506-0898

Tom Crawford, Project Manager Alaska Department of Natural Resources Office of Project Management and Permitting 550 West Seventh Avenue, Suite 900D Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Luke Boles Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation 610 University Avenue Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-3643

William Ashton Alaska Department of Natural Resources 555 Cordova Street Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2617

RE: ROCK CREEK PROJECT

Dear Sirs,

The Nome Chamber of Commerce would like to go on record in SUPPORT of Alaska Gold Company's permit applications for the Rock Creek Gold Mine.

The Chamber believes Alaska Gold Company has the qualified professionals on staff to operate the mine in an environmentally responsible manner. We also have confidence in the respective permitting agencies to properly monitor their permits. In addition, Bering Straits Native Corporation, Sitnasuak Native Corporation and the Solomon Native Corporation have a deep sense of pride and respect for their land and will add an additional layer of environmental protection.

The POSITIVE economic effects on the community and the region cannot be underestimated. The Rock Creek mine will create 135 new jobs in a region with a 17% unemployment rate. How many of the current employed are "under-employed" as a result of the 1998 closure of Alaska Gold Company's placer operations? The "Rock Creek Socio-Economic Report" estimates an additional 76 indirect jobs will be created for a total job creation of 208 jobs.

These Alaska Gold Company jobs will be high paying jobs with an average salary of \$62,963 per year. These higher paying jobs create more expendable income which will further drive the local construction and retail sector. Demand for housing will increase as will demand for snowmachines, boats, 4-wheelers to name a few. This will create more employment in these sectors of our economy.

The mine will provide new professional, technical and skilled jobs within the region thus allowing our young adults to fill these positions and stay in the region.

Alaska Gold Company is expected to operate in shifts of "one week on, one week off". This schedule will allow their employees to maintain residency in their respective villages, if they so desire. These employees will bring cash back to their communities and allow them to maintain their subsistence lifestyle and cultural ties.

Alaska Gold Company is expecting to spend \$13.6 million annually on materials and supplies for the mine. Many of these products and services can be supplied by local businesses, thus allowing them to expanding their product lines, increase profitability and provide additional employment.

In all, the Nome Chamber of Commerce sees the mine as a "win-win" for Alaska Gold Company and the Bering Straits Region.

M. t. h Crickson, Executive Direct R. Sue Greanly

Sincerely,

Sue Greenly

President

Nome Chamber of Commerce



## Bering Straits Native Corporation

June 22, 2006

Tom Crafford, Project Manager ADNR / Office of Project Management and Permitting 550 West Seventh Ave., Suite 900D Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Mr. Crafford:

Bering Straits Native Corporation (BSNC), the Regional Corporation established pursuant to ANCSA for the area of Seward Peninsula and Norton Sound, supports the development and operation of the Rock Creek Project. BSNC is a shareholder - owned corporation with over 6000 Alaska Native shareholders and has, or will, receive title to over 2 million acres of surface and subsurface estate within the region.

The Rock Creek Mine will provide significant economic benefits to the region and to BSNC shareholders and their families through the employment and business opportunities created during the construction and operation of the mine and related facilities.

BSNC Land and Resource Department has reviewed the materials related to the permitting process for the construction and operation of the Rock Creek Mine. BSNC approves of the documents prepared for the Federal Permit Application and Draft State Decisions as identified in the Public Notice for the Rock Creek Project.

BSNC looks forward to the completion of the public review and permitting process.

Sincerely,

Tim Towarak President

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JUN 2 6 2006



25, 25, 25 25 25 PO, BOX 948 | NOME, ALASKA \$976

SwitchBoard Telephone (907) 443-5231 EET FAX (907) 443-4485

## Education, Employment and Training Division Village Based Training Program

June 23, 2006

To Whom It May Concern,

The Village Based Training Program of Kawerak, Inc. would like to commend Nova Gold for their work with us to prepare and promote our local talent for the employment opportunities that will be provided with their new mining activities at Rock Creek and Big Hurrah.

Nova Gold came to us as soon as they solidified the prospects of their mining venture to ask for our support in creating a local, trained, job bank. All through their exploration and permitting process, they have kept us apprised of their progress. In addition, they have gone with us to a number of villages on the Seward Peninsula to bring presentations of their employment possibilities at Annual Village Corporation Meetings, Village Council Meetings, and even presented at stand alone meetings.

Nova Gold Administrators have worked with us to create apprenticeship programs for Carpenters, Plumbers, Electricians, Heavy Equipment Mechanics, and possibly Heavy Equipment Operators. These apprenticeships were done specifically for regional residents. The goals are to target the regional workforce, and give training positions that will grow with the opportunity, and keep the same workers employed and growing. Warren Woods, the Rock Creek Mining Manager, chairs our Regional Apprenticeship (Employers') Committee.

We have seen repeated indications of the commitment of Nova Gold to both training and using a local workforce for their mining efforts in Nome. We are also encouraged by their publicly expressed goals to train and support the work force they get, and to move them beyond entrance level jobs. Very few other employers who are the size of Nova Gold, and new to Nome have made that commitment.

Nova Gold is to be commended for their willingness to train and hire within the region.

Sincerely,

Lew Tobin- Regional Training Specialist



# CITY OF MOME

Celebrating 100 Years of Gold Rush History
Incorporated April 9, 1901

June 15, 2006

To Whom It May Concern:

As the Mayor of the City of Nome, I would like to express support for NovaGold/Alaska Gold Company's development of the Rock Creek Mine.

This new mine is important to Nome and the region as it will diversify our economy with the creation new jobs and the company will purchase goods and services from local businesses. The city will benefit by generating new sales tax revenue from the sale of power from our local utility to the mine site.

The State of Alaska constructed a new road to the proposed mine site creating safer driving conditions and to move the road away from our water source, Moonlight Springs. The Council supported this road project because the improvements would provide access for economic growth through the development of a mine.

For the last three years NovaGold/Alaska Gold representatives have held several community meetings explaining the site layout of the mine and the process they plan to use to extract the gold including the impact to the community and infrastructure. The mine manager has met with Nome's Local Emergency Planning Committee and has offered to train our Fire Department and Volunteer Ambulance on what to expect when they respond to the mine site.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this project. If you have any questions I can be reached at 443-6600.

Sincerely.

Denise Michels

Mayor

CC:

Manager City Council Good afternoon my name is Robert Keith. I am the chair of the Bering Straits Development Council, the ARDOR/RC&D for our region. The BSDC has representatives from throughout the Bering Straits region. We have housing, fisheries, workforce development, mining, health, and transportation representatives to name some of the 16 seats that make up our board. I am also Kawerak's Chairman of the Board. The Kawerak Board of Directors has not taken a formal position regarding Nova Gold plans.

With level funding and/or reductions in Federal/State funding of programs and the increase in energy costs, a major mining project like Rock Creek and Big Hurrah is welcome. The timing is ripe for a project of this nature. Nova Gold has been very transparent regarding their plans with our region. They have met with the Nome community, held regional meetings and have gone out to the surrounding villages when invited.

Nova Gold has also engaged Kawerak's Education and Training Division on workforce development needs. We want to assure that our Natural Renewable Resources are not adversely impacted, and Kawerak's Natural Resources staff have prepared comments and recommendations separately to raise their concerns. Kawerak has a strong interest in Economic Development and protecting our natural resources. I am hopeful that Nova Gold can spur economic development and minimize any potential impact on the environment.

My Grandfather in the 1930's ran a gold mine in the Big Hurrah, area. My Grandfather grew up in that area mining. On my Mom's side of the family, we have utilized natural resources since time immoral Doing both can be done if there is a attitude of wise stewardship of our resources. While I have not gone through all the planning documents that Nova Gold has had to prepare, their willingness to be transparent with our region is the right approach and implies the right attitude.

# Anderson & Sons Mining Box 1974 Nome, Alaska 99762 Phone (907) 443-7552

June 26, 2006

Tom Crafford, Project Manager DNR/ Office of Permitting Anchorage, Alaska

Hand delivered

Dear Mr. Crafford:

As a placer mining family operation in Nome, we support the jobs and improvement in the economy which the Rock Creek and Big Hurrah mining operation will bring to the community and region.

We follow the regulations for a small mine and believe that Alaska Gold Company has addressed all regulations for the development and operation of this large project.

We live in a part of Alaska where the climate effects our work and would expect that permits will be issued in a timely fashion to ensure that earth work for the construction of the mine facilities can be done this season.

Respectfully,

Respectfully.

Rainh S Anderson

Ralph S. Anderson, III

Floyd A. Anderson

Charles C. Timmons

cc: ADEC & COE

Date: Mon, 26 Jun 2006 16:43:58 -0800 From: Chee Kong Toh <c.toh@cmiak.com>

Subject: Public Comments - Rock Creek project for Alaska Gold

To: tom\_crafford@dnr.state.ak.us

Thread-topic: Public Comments - Rock Creek project for Alaska Gold

Thread-index: AcaZgscNctoRGaJKQGuPe5YK5Vqy0g==

X-MS-Has-Attach: X-MS-TNEF-Correlator:

X-pstn-levels: (S:48.24821/99.90000 R:95.9108 P:95.9108 M:96.8350 C:98.4741 )

X-pstn-settings: 3 (1.0000:1.0000) s gt3 gt2 gt1 r p m c X-pstn-addresses: from <c.toh@cmiak.com> [100/5] Original-recipient: rfc822;tom\_crafford@dnr.state.ak.us

I would like to offer my support for this project.

I believe that it is a good thing for the State of Alaska, but as well Nome and the surrounding communities. The mining industry has been a vital and essential part of these communities. The creation of the jobs and infrastructure will be a needed boost to the economy and growth of Nome.

Thanks.

Sincerely yours, Chee Kong Toh Date: Mon, 26 Jun 2006 15:48:18 -0800

From: "William J. Frishe" <b.frishe@cmiak.com>

Subject: Alaska Gold

To: tom\_crafford@dnr.state.ak.us

Thread-topic: Alaska Gold

Thread-index: AcaZeQcsgO+sPju/S/WqxWjYvNWNbg==

X-MS-Has-Attach: X-MS-TNEF-Correlator:

X-pstn-levels: (S:76.11568/99.90000 R:95.9108 P:95.9108 M:96.8350 C:98.4741 )

X-pstn-settings: 3 (1.0000:1.0000) s gt3 gt2 gt1 r p m c X-pstn-addresses: from <b.frishe@cmiak.com> [100/5] Original-recipient: rfc822;tom\_crafford@dnr.state.ak.us

#### Mr. Crafford

As you go through the public comment period for the permitting of the Rock Creek project for Alaska Gold, I would like to offer my support for this project. It is not only a good thing for the State of Alaska, but as well Nome and the surrounding communities. The mining industry has been in the past and will be in the future a vital and essential part of these communities. The creation of the jobs and infrastructure will be a needed boost in the economy and growth for Nome. Thank you for your time and have a great day.

William J. Frishe Sales Represenative Construction Machinery Industrial, LLC 5400 Homer Drive Anchorage, AK 99518 Office: 907-563-3822

Fax: 907-563-1381 Mobile: 907-240-3501

Sivuqaq Inc. PO Box 101 Gambell, AK 99742

RECEIVED

JUN 2 9 2006

Alaska Department of Natural Resources ATTN: Tom Crafford, Project Manager 550 West 7th Avenue - Suite 900D Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Sirs,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Sivuqaq Inc. I fully support the Bering Strait Native Corporation Rock Creek Project. They are following compliance rules in environmental issues. It will generate much needed employment for our region. Thank you for understanding.

Aaron Iworrigan

Sivuqaq Inc. President



## RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

### Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

Founded 1975 Executive Director Thaddeus J. Owens 2006-2007 Executive Committee John Shively, President Rick Rogers, Sr. Vice President Wendy Lindskoog, Vice President Thomas Maloney, Secretary Stephanie Madsen, Treasurer

Patty Bielawski Allen Bingham Marilyn Crockett Steve Denton leffrey Y. Foley Carol Fraser Paul S. Glavinovich Mark Hanley Joe Marushack Ron McPheters Richard J. Owen Thomas Panamaroff Lisa M. Parker Keith Sanders Robert B. Stiles Scott L. Thorson Andrew Van Chau Directors Tim Arnold John A. Barnes Mark Begich Jason Bergerson Bruce Botelho Frank M. Brown Al Burch Patrick Carter Richard Cattanach James L. Cloud Stephen M. Connelly Jeffry J. Cook Bert Cottle Robert Cox Paula Easley Ella Ede Stanley T. Foo Charles Greene John K. Handeland Karl Hanneman Rick Harris Larry Hartig Teresa Imm Anthony M. Izzo Diane Keller Frank V. Kelty Kip Knudson Thomas G. Krzewinski Francis LaChapelle Jim Laiti Thomas Lovas David L. Matthews

Judy Patrick Debbie Reinwand Elizabeth Rensch Thyes J. Shaub Lorna Shaw Kenneth H. Sheffield, Jr. Keith N. Silver Joseph Sprague Jeanine St. John John L. Sturgeon Jim Taro Greg Thies Cam Toohey

Karen Matthias William Harry McDonald

James Mery Denise Michels Lance Miller

Iim Palmer

Ex-Officio Members Senator Ted Stevens Senator Lisa Murkowski Congressman Don Young Governor Frank Murkowski

Mr. Jim Wolfe, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Mr. Tom Crafford, Alaska DNR

Mr. Luke Boles, Alaska DEC

Mr. William Ashton, Alaska DEC

RE: Rock Creek Project

July 6, 2006

Dear Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Crafford, Mr. Boles, and Mr. Ashton:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments regarding the Rock Creek Project.

The Resource Development Council (RDC) is a statewide private economic development organization with the mission to grow Alaska's economy through responsible resource development. RDC's membership encompasses all of Alaska's basic industries - oil and gas, tourism, fisheries, mining and timber. Our membership also includes construction companies, labor organizations, Native corporations, local communities and a wide variety of industry support firms.

The Rock Creek project is good for Alaska, especially for the Seward Peninsula where it will boost economic activity and generate many new jobs. Pending receipt of necessary permits, Alaska Gold Company's project will bring new opportunities for Alaska businesses and residents and will help sustain a healthy and growing mining industry in the state.

Alaska Gold Company has demonstrated a commitment to maintaining and improving the environment by its voluntary cleanup of historic mining activity in Nome and its commitment to mitigate the impacts of the proposed operations by working with the State of Alaska Division of Natural Resources Habitat Division to improve salmon habitat.

RDC urges the State of Alaska and Corps of Engineers to issue permits for the Rock Creek Project in a timely manner to allow this project to proceed. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments regarding this important project.

Sincerely,

Resource Development Council for Alaska, Inc.

Jason Brune

Projects Coordinator



## ALASKA MINERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

3305 Arctic Blvd., #105, Anchorage, Alaska 99503 • (907) 563-9229 • FAX: (907) 563-9225 • www.alaskaminers.org

July 6, 2006

Mr. Jim Wolfe U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District Regulatory Branch, CEPOA-CO-R P.O. Box 6898 Elmendorf AFB, AK 99506-0898

FAX 907-269-8930

FAX 907-753-5567

Mr. Tom Crafford
Office of Project Management & Permitting
550 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Ave, Suite 900D
Anchorage, AK 99501

Mr. Luke Boles ADEC 610 University Ave Fairbanks, AK 99709-3643 FAX 907-451-2187

RE: Rock Creek Mine Project

Dear Sirs,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Rock Creek Mine Project. The Alaska Miners Association is a non-profit membership organization established in 1939 to represent the mining industry. The AMA is composed of individual prospectors, geologists and engineers, vendors, suction dredge miners, small family mines, junior mining companies, and major mining companies. Our members look for and produce gold, silver, platinum, diamonds, lead, zinc, copper, coal, limestone, sand and gravel, crushed stone, armor rock, etc. Our members live and work throughout the state including Nome and the Seward Peninsula.

The Alaska Miners Association supports development of the Rock Creek Mine Project. This mine will be a tremendous benefit to the economy of Nome and the entire Seward Peninsula, as well as other parts of Alaska which provide the supplies and services that are not available in Nome.

The Rock Creek project is technically sound and will allow development of the Rock Creek deposit as well as the Big Hurrah deposit. By combining these projects under one company and one processing operation they will be developed in an efficient and very practical manner. Various companies have sought to develop Big Hurrah in the past but its limited size could not support the mill and other facilities required to build the mine. However, by treating Big Hurrah as basically a remote rock quarry, Alaska Gold Company will be able to mine the ore and haul it to the Rock Creek mill.

Nome was founded on gold mining and has more than 100 years of mining history. It is exciting to see the Rock Creek Mine being developed and provide many more years of benefit to Alaska.

Sincerely,

Steven C. Borell, P.E. Executive Director

Jul. 5. 2006 8:18AM NOVAGOLD RESOURCES INC.

No. 2227 P. 2/3

July 4, 2006

ATTN: Jim Wolfe, Project Manager

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District

Regulatory Branch, CEPOA-CO-R

Post Office Box 6898

Elmendorf AFB, AK 99506-0898

Fax: (907) 753-5567

Email: james.wolfe@poa02.usace.army.mil:

ATTN: Tom Crafford, Project Manager

ADNR / Office of Project Management and Permitting

550 West Seventh Ave., Suite 900D

Anchorage, AK 99501 Fax: (907) 269-8930

Email: tom\_crafford@dnr.state.ak.us

ATTN: Luke Boles

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

610 University Avenue Fairbanks, AK 99709-3643

Telephone: (907) 451-2142

Fax: (907) 451-2187

Email: luke\_boles@dec.state.ak.us.

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of Alaska Gold Company's Rock Creek Mine Project. Alaska Gold is an Alaskan-based company promoting economic development for Alaskans.

The Rock Creek project is an opportunity to boost Nome's economy through the first major mining project on the Seward Peninsula for over a decade. The project will have approximately \$31 million in operating costs per year. \$10.4 million of that amount is anticipated to be spent on salaries and wages while \$20.6 million is anticipated to be spent on goods and services.

Alaska Gold has a strong policy for giving preference for jobs, services and purchasing to local and Alaskan-owned businesses as has been exemplified throughout the exploration and planning phases for the mine. The Rock Creek project enjoys strong support from the business and Native communities in the Nome area.

Alaska Gold has demonstrated a commitment to maintaining and improving the environment by its voluntary cleanup of historic mining activity in Nome and its commitment to mitigate the impacts of the proposed operations by working with the State of Alaska Division of Natural Resources, Habitat Division to improve salmon habitat.

Alaska Rubbert Rigging Is an Alaskan-based company located in Fairbants Alaska with 15 employees.

This is one example of 25 form letter faxes received from vendors and contractors voicing support for this project

From: Alaska Rubber & Rigging

907 451 8480

07/05/2006 07:42

#890 P. 002/002

Jul. 5. 2006 8:18AM

NOVAGOLD RESOURCES INC.

No. 2227 P. 3/3

As a selected vendor/contractor for the Rock Creek Mine Project, I am concerned that the permitting process for the project has been extended. The potential loss of this construction season could greatly delay the economic benefits associated with this project. I urge the State/Corps to issue permits for the Rock Creek Project in a timely manner to allow this project to proceed.

Sincerely,

Signature

Title