

## Erin Tilly

This plan is patently ridiculous. For starters it's DANGEROUS. Putting hundreds of fully loaded big rigs on the highway between Tok & Fairbanks, all day, every day, summer and winter is going to kill people. This isn't a mining road, this is a public highway, paid for and maintained with public funds. There's passenger cars, bicycles, motorcycles, motorhomes, and pedestrians. Packing the road with a dozen tractor trailers an hour is *\*going\** to cause accidents, and nasty ones. And then if an ambulance needs to get to the scene? Oh look, they have to wend their way through another two dozen big rigs.

That doesn't even begin to touch on the wear and tear on the roadways, and the pollution that will be pumped out by this nonstop cavalcade of enormous vehicles. Part of their trip takes them directly through one of the busiest (and most accident prone) roads in Fairbanks. Not to mention, we already have incredible trouble with air quality, summer and winter. With fuel at \$5 a gallon, citizens are being asked *\*not\** to use their woodstoves, because of air quality concerns. And yet it's ok to pour hundreds more highly polluting vehicles through town, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year? Absolutely not.

If Kinross wants this ore, fine. Build a refining site in Tok. But to ask Alaskans to foot the bill, pay for and fix the road, dodge hundreds of trucks on the highway, deal with a massive increase in air pollution, and sit quietly and Kinross makes millions of dollars *\*per day\** is totally unacceptable. Figure out another way. This ain't it.