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I am writing in support of Peak Gold's Closure and Reclamation Plan and Waste Management Plan for Manh Choh. The plan they developed is economically and environmentally responsible and will return the land looking very similar to how it looks today.

As a born and raised Alaskan, I am extremely proud to call Fairbanks my home. Fairbanks is a town that was built off of mining and the economy today is still supported by it. The proposed Manh Choh projects is another major opportunity for the State of Alaska to boost its natural resource industry in an environmentally sustainable way.

Good paying jobs will help us build a stronger community, enhance our tax base, improve our schools, and generally make our way of life better. With the 100 – 200 construction jobs and 400 – 600 mine operation jobs come training, internships and scholarships for our young people.

I am encouraged by Kinross's plan to maintain use of the current Mill here in Fairbanks for processing Manh Choh ore. This plan not only salvages jobs in Fairbanks at the Fort Knox site, but also creates jobs outside of Fairbanks. The decision to not build a mill on Tetlin land is the environmental conscious decision. Why create new potential for environmental hazards when there is a current Mill and tailings set up in Fairbanks? – One that has been proven successful for many years.

This project is exactly what we need to get Alaska and our young people trained for careers in transportation, construction and mining. I encourage you to approve this plan so we can put our folks to work.

Thank you,

Allison Hebard