

Brenna Schaake

Re: Manh Choh Comments on draft Reclamation Plan Approval (F20232626RPA) and draft Waste Management Permit No. 2023DB0001

I am writing to voice my support for the Manh Choh project and to encourage the State to finalize the mine's Reclamation Plan and issue a Waste Management Permit.

Manh Choh is a prime example of mining done right, and I know this based on my experience at Fort Knox. By negating the need for a mill and tailings storage facility at the mine, it will leave a minimal impact on the land, which has sustained its owners for thousands of years. I appreciate that the plan will ensure minimal impact on Tetlin's sacred lands. The suggested reclamation bond is high enough to fully protect the state and its residents.

Manh Choh will create hundreds of good-paying jobs in an area with limited employment opportunities. Through my interactions in the Tok and Tetlin area, I have observed the excitement that community members have about this opportunity for themselves and their children. This doesn't apply only to Tok/ Tetlin but to the Fairbanks area too.

It will breathe new life into the mill at Fort Knox, which is an economic pillar in the greater Fairbanks area. As one of the 700 miners that work for Kinross, I can say that the team has done its due diligence and has created waste and reclamation plans that are thorough and take into account how to best manage and restore the land. Kinross Alaska has a long, track record of responsible mining in Alaska and has proved to be a caring member of Interior Alaska and a strong supporter of environmental stewardship, and this is proven through their partnership with Trout Unlimited and the many awards they have received throughout their 25 years. I encourage you to approve this plan and permit.

Thank you for your time.