

February 15, 2011

Local Boundary Commission staff
550 West Seventh Avenue, Suite 1770
Anchorage, AK 99501-3510

Dear Sirs:

The purpose of this letter is to comment on the Preliminary Report to the Local Boundary Commission Regarding the proposal to annex by local option, approximately 396 square miles of water and 3 square miles of land to the City of Dillingham. The undersigned are officers of the New Koliganek Village Council a federally recognized tribe. Holders of limited entry permits who reside in Koliganek and fish in Nushagak Bay have also signed this letter.

Koliganek is located on the left bank of the Nushagak River and lies 65 miles northeast of Dillingham. Koliganek has about 10 fishermen who actively fish their drift permits. Two People actively fish their set net permits. There are other members of the village who serve as crew for these fishermen. All of their fishing occurs in Nushagak Bay. Most people in the village store drift boats in Dillingham and use the facilities there for launching. One person stores his boat in New Stuyahok. The people of Koliganek have a close connection to other communities of the Western Bristol Bay region. We serve with them on boards of tribal, corporate, regional, federal, and state entities. We fish with our neighbors in Nushagak Bay. Our children's schools compete at sports and other activities. We are even related to people who live in other communities of the region.

The City of Dillingham is proposing to make Nushagak Bay a part of their city. The Village of Koliganek believes that Nushagak Bay is also connected to their village just as much as to Dillingham.

After the annexation, Dillingham would then have a 2.5% fish tax on gross income of all fishermen who sell fish caught from Nushagak Bay. If a fisherman makes \$70,000 a season and the City of Dillingham takes 2.5% on their gross that would be about \$1,750, for someone who makes \$50,000 it would take \$1,250 out of the income of a family.

We want you to know that this fish tax would be in addition to the following annual expenses that a fisherman must pay:

Dillingham Boat Harbor Fees	\$ 265.00
Dillingham Property tax (boat)	\$ 360.00

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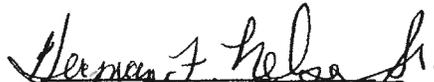
PAF Storage	\$1590.00
Locker Rental	\$ 450.00
Boat Haul out (each time)	\$ 265.00
Boat Insurance	\$2,742.00
Sales tax on purchases in Dillingham	\$
Maintenance and gear start-up cost	\$

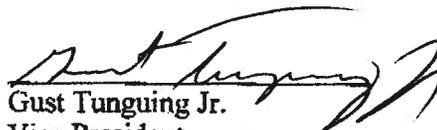
Every Fisherman or woman knows what we have to deal with before fishing and when the season is over. Catch a lot of fish and hope the price is good and have a good season. We don't need another expensel added to what we are already required to pay. After all expenses, depending on fish and price, what we take home goes for fuel, electricity and grub mainly, other than bills. Most of the fishermen and women of our village don't have other employment after the season ends. Not much money is left over after all is said and done.

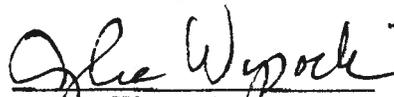
The people in Dillingham know how hard it is for the people in the villages to make ends meet. We know the people in Dillingham are also having a hard time and this extra cost will affect their lives too. We disagree with the staff of the Local Boundary Commission that this proposed tax is going to benefit the villages that surround Dillingham. Dillingham and the villages must rely on each other and make certain that what we each do is not harmful to the other. That is the way for good neighbors to act. If there is going to be a tax on all fisherman, the proceeds should be shared among the communities of the region fairly.

Koliganek Village Council and the undcrsigned fishermen of Koliganek do not support the pctition of City of Dillingham to annex the Nushagak Bay Commercial Salmon District or the Wood River Sockeye Salmon Special Harvest Area and the plan to have a fish tax. A copy of this letter has been sent to the City of Dillingham.

Koliganek Village Council


Herman Nelson
President


Gust Tunguing Jr.
Vice President


Anuska Wysocki
Secretary

Bobby Larson
Bobby Larson
Council member

Nick Johnson Sr.
Nick Johnson Sr.
Council Member

Koliganek Bristol Bay Permit Holders

Nick Johnson
Natalia Johnson
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at Johnson's request
Tom F. Nelson
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