

SEABRIDGE GOLD

July 6, 2016

Via Email

Editor of the Juneau Empire Newspaper
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Editor:

Re: **Clarifications to the article “*Rhetoric Ratchets Up In Transboundary Mining Battle*”, written by Kevin Gullufsen**

Seabridge Gold wishes to take this opportunity to provide clarifications of some incorrect facts contained in the above referenced story published on Sunday, July 3, 2016.

Mr. Gullufsen, in his article, quoted Southeast Alaska’s Conservation Council representative Guy Archibald saying; “*The KSM (Kerr, Sulphurets, Mitchell) mine’s (owned by Seabridge Gold) own environmental impact statement states that its going to have a pretty significant effect on the woodland caribou and grizzly bear populations.*” This statement is factually incorrect.

Firstly, there are no Woodland Cariboo in the KSM area and over the past nine years of baseline studies, no occurrences have been recorded. We continue to do baseline studies and continue to have no indication of Woodland Cariboo in the project area.

Second, Mr. Archibald is selectively disclosing only part of the the KSM environmental statement. His selective disclosure does not mention that as a result of the proposed mitigation measures proposed by the Company for valued ecosystems, including Grizzly bears, all three levels of government regulators (Alaska, Canada and British Columbia) agreed the project is not likely to cause adverse environmental affects. The Canadian Minister of Environment, went further and said “*The project is not likely to cause environmental effects as defined by the Act taking into account the mitigation measures in the report*”, and “*the mitigation measures and follow up programs described in the Report are appropriate for the project.*”

Further, the involvement of Alaskan regulators was documented in an April 11, 2014 *Juneau Empire* article which summarized the conclusions of these regulators, “*Four of the same resource managers and specialists who reviewed Alaskan mines have examined KSM’s plan. They found no significant issues with the application.*”

Further, the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency in their scientific report which the Minister relied upon to make her decision stated, “*the agency has concluded that no significant adverse impacts on water quality, water quantity, fish, or human health are expected on the Alaskan side of the Unuk River.*”

I feel it is important to reiterate that, for Seabridge Gold, protection of the environment, in both Canada and in the US, is a guiding principle behind the design of the KSM Project. Our company has put the KSM project through extensive environmental and technical evaluations by independent experts to ensure its operation will not cause harm to the surrounding environment, including waterways and fish, and has worked closely with Alaskans to ensure that your concerns were acknowledged and addressed.

It is unfortunate that those opposed to the KSM project continue to perpetrate misinformation but we remain confident the Juneau Empire, as an independent news organization, will be more thorough in their fact checking and reporting in the future.

We look forward to continuing to provide timely and factual information on the KSM as the development of KSM proceeds.

Thank you for correcting the record.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Brent Murphy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and a long, sweeping underline.

R. Brent Murphy
Vice President, Environmental Affairs
Seabridge Gold

RBM/...