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FAX MEMO

To:	Randy Bates	From:	Don Stevens, Ph. D., CPG
Co:	Div. of Government Coordination	Date:	December 13, 2001
Fax #:	907.465.3075	No. of Pages:	1
Re:	Comments on the draft Proposed ACMP Implementaton Regulations		

I am a consulting geologist working for a variety of clients consisting of Native Corporations, individuals, and mining companies of all sizes.

The second draft of Proposed Alaska Coastal Management Program Implementation Regulations appears to have been drafted with the objective of slowing down project timelines, and increasing project costs in the coastal zone. More than ever, people in the bush need real jobs, close to home, with insignificant environmental impact. These proposed regs will effectively increase the economic chasm between rural and urban Alaskans by further burdening rural coastal development.

At a time in the history of Alaska when a huge deficit looms, no one in State Government seems to connect the fact that the state has adopted many regulations that make Alaska a poor place in which to invest money for projects that would add to the tax base. The cumulative impact of all these projects that go unfunded because of the adverse business climate is insufficient tax revenue to the state. This is basic economics. We live in a world where companies have competing investment opportunities on a global basis. More and more, Alaska cannot compete. Your draft proposed regulations are just one more argument that Alaska is not open for business.