

Honorable Secretary Deborah Haaland
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C.

Dear Secretary Haaland

As a member of the Huslia Native tribe and a Doyon shareholder, I care deeply about creating a better future for Alaska's Native People and our communities.

That's why I support the Ambler Access Project.

Alaska's Native Villages have many customs, proud traditions, and a subsistence lifestyle that has endured for thousands of years. However, in modern times there are many challenges to our way of life. Our villages face chronic high unemployment, outmigration, inadequate funding for schools, and poor access to mental health and healthcare resources.

An ever-increasing cost of living makes it difficult for people to have the income they need to provide for their families. Subsistence depends on access to tools like fishing nets and sno-gos (snowmachines) for transportation, but limited means and high prices make these tools difficult to attain.

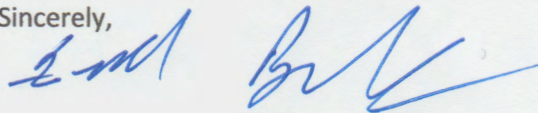
We know that good jobs can help increase the resiliency of our villages, contributing to higher self-esteem and better health for our people. I believe the Ambler Access Project will create new economic opportunity where it is greatly needed.

According to a report by the University of Alaska Center for Economic Development, the project will generate more than 3,000 total jobs during construction and an estimated 1,800 total jobs supporting Alaskan families during operation of the road and associated mines.

In the underserved communities along the proposed route, there will be new possibilities for education and healthcare investment. An expected \$193 million in direct payments will allow local and tribal governments to invest in the services their communities need most.

I urge you to help create a better future for Alaska's Native Villages by honoring the Ambler Access Project's Final Environmental Impact Statement, which was developed in extensive collaboration with communities throughout Northwest Alaska. I also urge you to reinstate the right-of-way permits issued to the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority for this project.

Sincerely,



Fred Bifelt
Huslia Tribal Member
Yukon-Koyukuk School Board Member
Ambler Access Project Subsistence Advisory Co-Chair