



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Department of Natural Resources

DIVISION OF MINING, LAND AND WATER/
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

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rcv 5/9/2018⁵⁶

April 27, 2018

Steve Giesbrecht, Borough Manager
Petersburg Borough
P.O.Box 329
Petersburg, AK 99833

Liz Cabrera, Community and Economic Development
Petersburg Borough
P.O.Box 329
Petersburg, AK 99833

Liz and Steve,

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss the path forward for completing the legislatively approved land entitlement for the Petersburg Borough. Hopefully our conversation clears up some of the questions regarding timing and the process the DNR will take to approve land selections.

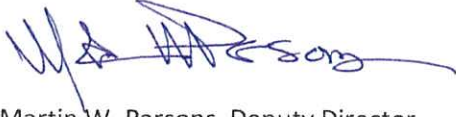
First let me assure you that the Borough has provided the necessary selection information required to meet the deadline for submittal. Since we have sufficient selected lands identified from the Borough to complete its legislatively approved entitlement, no further action is necessary at this time. The Resource Assessment and Development Section (RADS) has begun the process of adjudicating those selections and will keep you apprised of their progress. Mary Hermon should be your primary point of contact.

Completion of the Borough's entitlement will be an iterative process. Through the decision process the State will adjudicate your selections and approve or potentially reject certain selected lands for various reasons. When a preliminary decision is issued, it serves to inform the borough of DNR's initial intent to approve or reject selections and provides the opportunity for the borough to comment. Once the comment period is over, DNR works to address the issues raised and may modify the final decision as appropriate. There is an opportunity to work with the borough before the final decision is released and the appeal period begins. During the adjudication process, there may be areas that the state finds that were originally determined to be unavailable to the Borough, as we find these our staff will keep the borough informed.

The DNR has an online mapping platform that can assist the Borough in identifying lands available for selection. That platform is Alaska Mapper and I have provided a link. This platform will provide the borough with updated information and will be more helpful than static maps. You can access Alaska Mapper through the following link; <http://dnr.alaska.gov/mapper/controller>. If you use the "Surface Classification" map view, the SE State Forest and other Legislatively Designated Areas will be stippled.

Thanks again for taking the time to discuss the upcoming process. Please contact Mary with questions and I'm available for further conversations if necessary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. W. Parsons", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Martin W. Parsons, Deputy Director
Division of Mining, Land and Water

cc: Andy Mack, Commissioner, Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Honorable Governor Bill Walker
Honorable Senator Bert Stedman
Honorable Representative Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins