Testimony of Becky Knight for the Petersburg, Alaska Borough Assembly Meeting February 8, 2021

Hello Mayor and Assembly Members.

On Nov. 2, 2020 you approved a resolution opposing "the expenditure of further funds on the **Kake Access Project** at this time," asserted the need for an Environmental Impact Statement, and requested a public hearing in Petersburg with representatives of the Alaska Department of Transportation, the US Army Corps of Engineers, representatives of the directly impacted communities of Petersburg, Kake, and Kupreanof, the federally recognized Organized Village of Kake, and Senator Stedman prior to any further activities on the Kake Access Project.

To my knowledge DoT and the Army Corps have been totally unresponsive to the resolution. Although Senator Stedman wrote a lackluster "response" about a month ago, it was entirely unresponsive to the topics cited in the resolution and simply recycled the same old debunked arguments in favor of the road. For instance, it will not connect Petersburg and Kake, and will require many more millions of dollars to complete, not to mention that there are simply NO public funds to maintain the roadway—estimated a few years ago by the Federal Highway Administration/AK DOT & PF to be in about a half million dollars annually.

I just shake my head how the \$40 million dollars for this road to nowhere, ending on the remote windswept shore of Kupreanof, could be used for legitimate purposes instead of propping up a multinational construction company like Kiewit Inc.

I ask that you write a letter to the agency officials and Senator Stedman again and remind them of the resolution and ask them for a specific reply to the resolution.

It is highly unprofessional of these agencies and/or public officials to fail to reply or fail to address the pertinent issues to a resolution from anyone, especially a municipality. If the Borough does not followup, how can you expect that your resolutions will be taken seriously?

Sincerely,

Becky (Rebecca) Knight

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