From: Samuel Naujokas
To: Campellone, Estrella F CIV USARMY CEPOA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comment on proposed Ward Cove dock project ref #POA-2019-00313
Date: Monday, September 16, 2019 11:54:04 AM

Hello,
I am writing to you today to provide comment on the proposed Ward Cove dock that the Corps is soliciting comments on. The proposal is listed with reference number POA-2019-00313. I am a resident of Ketchikan and an environmental policy development specialist working for a tribal government. I strongly believe that before any development is done on the project, there should be a series of rigorous, extensive, and in-depth public hearings held in Ketchikan with the US Army Corps district commander and all regulatory staff present. This issue will have a major impact on our community economically, socially, and environmentally, and all Ketchikan residents deserve to have a say in the permitting process.

Many residents are more used to providing comment in the hearing format, and will provide substantive comment, but only in hearing form, not in letter comment form. By holding a public hearing, you can ensure that all perspectives on the project from the community are heard equally. I understand that conducting such hearings would bear a heavy additional workload on Corps staff, but this proposed project will have such a big impact on our community that hearings are absolutely necessary. They are also necessary because of the complication, intricacy, diversity, and size of the potential impacts of the proposed project. The dock would have major implications for our community's tax structure, marine health, tourism traffic, infrastructure, and social makeup, and all of these implications absolutely need to be discussed and addressed in a public forum before any work is permitted to occur. This is in line with the mission and directive of the Corps, and is also in line with the request for public comment that was outlined in the public notice for the project issued on July 19, 2019.

Please hold public hearings on this important project. Our community deserves to have their opinions on a project that will impact their lives heard by the government officials responsible for permitting the project.

I also want to comment that I am adamantly opposed to the project because of the threat the project poses to the stability of the Ward Cove sediment cap, which prevents a cocktail of hazardous waste chemicals present at the bottom of Ward Cove from being released to the environment. I am also opposed because of the unnecessary additional strain the project will place on our road, water, and power infrastructure. Finally, I am also opposed because of how the project has the potential to severely reduce the tax base of the City of Ketchikan, which could be disastrous for the effective management of our municipal government resources.

Thank you for your time and attention, and feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns.

Best,
Samuel Naujokas
707-583-5079

P.S: I am an employee of Ketchikan Indian Community, and have been heavily engaged with the details of the proposed project as part of my job. However, my opinion expressed in this email DOES NOT represent the views of Ketchikan Indian Community or any other KIC employees or council members and should not be interpreted as such. The opinions in this email are my own individually and mine alone.