



Representative Ashley Carrick

Alaska State House ~ District 35, West Fairbanks

Chair, House State Affairs ~ Chair, House Transportation
Member, House Labor, and Commerce ~ Member, Tribal Affairs

June 3, 2025

Michael LaDouceur
Division of Mining Land and Water
Alaska Department of Natural Resources
3700 Airport Way
Fairbanks, AK 99709

<<Delivered electronically>>

Re. Opposition to APMA F20252955 – A Hardrock Exploration Permit Application Within the Fairbanks Mining District – Ester Antimony Project

Dear Mr. LaDouceur,

I am writing you today to respectfully oppose the permits for hard rock mining exploration on Ester Dome in the Fairbanks Mining District. Ester Dome is not just the heart of House District 35; it is a gem of Alaska's Golden Heart City. As the Representative for the thousands of Fairbanksans that call Ester Dome and its surrounding area home, and as a resident of Ester Dome myself, I am deeply concerned about the wellbeing of our community if industrial hard-rock mining were to begin in earnest on Ester Dome.

Mining has important historical roots in Fairbanks and Ester, both of which started as mining towns. Additionally, my grandfather spent his career as a Teamster at Usibelli Coal Mine, so I know firsthand the importance of mining for working families and our economy. However, it is essential to strike a balance between the economic benefits of mining and the wellbeing of our communities. Therefore, my opposition to this specific exploratory mining effort should not be construed as wholesale opposition to all mining in Alaska.

I recall the widespread community opposition to previous exploratory mining efforts on Ester Dome in 2021. With little advance notice, the residents of Ester Dome organized a strong and dedicated platform of opposition, emphasizing the value of the lands we live on for their recreational and residential uses today. I stand with our community to respectfully oppose this new mining effort. Please feel free to reach out to my office if I can provide any more information.

Best Wishes,

Representative Ashley Carrick

All In For Alaska

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