Izembek EIS public scoping meeting Cold Bay, AK

April 27, 2010 7pm Community Center ~ 39 attendees plus FWS

Gary Hennigh – stated that King Cove also had the Belkofski tribe; King Cove airport had lights and the road would be used primarily for access and quality of life for the people of King Cove.

John Maxwell – submitted comments in writing. See attachment.

Chuck Neering – 33 yrs in Alaska, 21 yrs in Cold Bay – guided for 17 yrs on Lagoon. Decrease in population on CB. Hovercraft a prototype – totally unreliable – breaks down. Put this together for 800 people with largest seafood plant. Don’t care if population decreases or increases. People are in jeopardy – caribou in floodlights. Birds do not use the area. Bears are transient to the area. Do not transient the isthmus. May get scared and run for bear guide. Road will not hurt anything. There are four special agents to five hunters. Will not hurt refuge – help KC- medevacs. Front end loader and impact to medevac. How many years this has been going on. We need that road, need more hunters, need more people. Mr. Sekanic only allowed six birds to be taken. Impact to Cold Bay by connecting the two communities. Economic use over the road is the main goal of this road.

Jorge Lopez – presented survey of Cold Bay residents – hard copy to file. 52 respondents – 8 for road and 25 against the road. See attachment.

Paul Schaack – Road would have an effect on Izembek Lagoon. May affect Kinzarof lagoon. He is a Nelson Lagoon guide, commercial pilot, guide, salmon fisher, on the school board and assembly. In favor of road. Outside interest groups that have never been here. Need jobs here – snow is good, it will create jobs (clearing the snow from the road). Transient community. Don’t want an influx of people but want to see someone here. Boat harbor at CB – this would help with patients from KC. Medevac patients. ACOE said no to the boat harbor – not enough boat owners in CB therefore, ACOE would not permit the harbor. The CB dock is very hazardous – ice. Hovercraft now – no money to run the hovercraft. Hovercraft hard to use and AEB is running out of money (trying to fund hovercraft). Fish tax runs this borough. Kenai, connecting roads – EIS states that the road will have pull-offs – use these pull-offs to see snow geese. Kinzarof lagoon – USFWS uses boats and tears up eel grass.

Connie Newton – letter read by Gary Hennigh. See attachment.

Gary Hennigh – 20 yrs speaking on behalf of KC. Health and safety but the road is more than that. Alleviate our friends in CB. CB has life line to outside world. More safe – predictable way to get to …Know it (road) will not work all of the time. The road may never be built - Who will maintain – who will build the road – where is the money – who will operate the road?
Ty Devault – CB was never asked to participate in the process – CB not a cooperator. The quality of life will improve in KC. CB – improve the quality of life for commercial uses. Izembek is sitting on gravel that no one can use. CB needs gravel. Quality of life could be improved.

Happy Kremer – Moved to CB in 1975. Wrote KC a letter - Road between two communities would be great. He was Mayor. More for a road – recreational use – visit friends. See where KC people would need/use the road. Vacation – stand by at airport. Land exchange is raping us. 43,000 for 206. They should kick in blue gravel pit.

Joe Carr – KC needs something – a road would be good. Snow drifting use a large snow blower. Boat harbor so boats can get in here. Better alternative would be a dock repair.

Gary Henningh – KC – can get here somehow. PenAir pushes the envelope (referring to the crash on Monday). Boat was on the way to CB – the Raven. Pen Air crashed in KC – this is a transportation issue that can be resolved in rural AK.

Daley Shack for Pen Air – Pen Air made it across to KC once. Della did not get on that early plane. Weather came down – pilots do not push the envelope. Pen Air is proud of its safety record.