

**From: Mike Satre <3satres@gmail.com>**  
**Date: September 18, 2017 at 11:38:58 AM AKDT**  
**To: BoroughAssembly@juneau.org**  
**Cc: Rorie.Watt@juneau.org**  
**Subject: Resolution 2807: Transboundary Mining**

Mayor Koelsch and members of the City and Borough of Juneau Assembly,  
I respectfully ask that you remove Resolution 2807 from tonight's consent agenda and refer it to a committee for further review. (I am travelling on business today and cannot be there at the meeting to ask for this in person.)

The CBJ has previously passed a resolution on transboundary mining concerns that was rife with inaccuracies and this new resolution does nothing to fix them. Passing this resolution tonight simply perpetuates anti-mining sentiment without doing anything to address any real or perceived issues related to industrial development in British Columbia.

By way of background, I have over twenty years of experience in the mining industry and have been involved in transboundary mining discussions for a number of years. I have been a member of Lt. Governor Mallott's ad-hoc citizens working group on transboundary issues and involved in the review and implementation of the Statement of Cooperation and Memorandum of Understanding with British Columbia.

I believe that Alaskans have every right to raise concerns regarding upstream development, especially when "upstream" is located in another country and can certainly appreciate the public sentiment that has led to this resolution.

Unfortunately this resolution disregards the significant efforts made by the Walker/Mallott administration to foster collaboration and encourage responsible development balanced with protections for the water and habitat in the transboundary. This is the only realistic manner by which our regulatory agencies can have meaningful engagement in the permitting process of a foreign country.

I would encourage the Assembly, by referring this resolution to a committee, to add language to the resolution that supports the MOU and SOC that are currently in place. By not supporting the administration in their efforts, the City and Borough of Juneau would be sending a clear message to British Columbia that we do not want to engage on this issue.

I would also like to address the fallacy of asking the federal government to engage. Not only is federal intervention not needed here, but, quite frankly the proponents of this resolution are barking up the wrong tree by invoking the Boundary Waters treaty and the International Joint Commission. The Boundary waters treaty specifically excludes from its authority those waters that cross borders...the treaty is meant for waters that lay parallel to borders such as the Great Lakes. There is a caveat that neither country shall pollute waters flowing into the other so there is already a legal mechanism for an aggrieved party on either side of the border to seek compensation should a problem occur. That being said, even if the Boundary Waters treaty is invoked, and an IJC reference from both countries proceeds, it will take years, even decades for any recommendation to be made. And the recommendation is just that...a non-binding recommendation that would still require approval and implementation by both countries. So, Alaska would potentially have to wait for decades for resolution, while in the meantime industrial development in BC would proceed without our State

having any meaningful input into the process. This makes no sense. This is why we have to support the Lt. Governor and the process outlined in the MOU/SOC.

It is important that the Assembly make its opinion known on issues like transboundary development. It is important that legacy problems like Tulsequah Chief are dealt with immediately. However, the proposed transboundary resolution has multiple problems and needs significant amendments before it moves forward.

Please remove this from the consent agenda and refer it to committee where subject matter experts, including those from the State of Alaska resource agencies, can testify as to what is actually happening in British Columbia.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mike Satre  
9356 Turn St  
Juneau, AK