



CENTRAL COUNCIL

*Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Supreme Court Decision on Kensington Permits**

The Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (central Council) is pleased with the Supreme Court decision to uphold the permits for the Kensington Gold Mine and the Goldbelt Cascade Point Marine Terminal. This is an important decision that secures economic and employment security for the Native people of Southeast Alaska, and will help to reverse the population decline of the rural villages by providing family wage employment and career opportunities for our tribal citizens in the years to come.

The decision is also important for all Alaska Native people because it allows Goldbelt to proceed with the Cascade Point Marine Terminal Facility and it upholds the beneficial use of Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act lands to meet the socio-economic wellbeing of shareholders as Congress intended.

Central Council urges environmental groups to accept the decision and honor their pledge to help open the mine, without asking for reconsideration which will only delay the inevitable and cause further harm to the economic and employment security of the Native people of Southeast Alaska.

We compel all parties, including the regulatory agencies, to work to ensure that the permits are completed and returned expeditiously so that this vital project may open as soon as possible, and pledge our assistance to help facilitate discussions and find solutions to avoid any unnecessary delays.

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**For More Information Contact:**

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