

- I have a different position regarding the mine than does my Democratic opponent and the independent candidate also running.
- The mine, if built, will create some 2000 jobs, paying in the neighborhood of \$100,000/year. This, in an area where there are really no other opportunities for economic development.
- Withdrawing the Pebble “Proposed Determination” will be helpful to me in taking the possibility that the mine will be killed without due process off the table as an election issue.
- Environmentalists believe that the decision by Scott Pruitt to leave the veto in place is the best environmental decision made by this administration, because it will be used by future Democratic administrations to stop development projects they oppose across the country.
- The EPA’s authority to stop this project is in no way impacted even if they withdraw the current preemptive veto. EPA can still veto the project at the end of the process if the Corps decides to grant the permit.
- Further, this veto runs directly counter to President Trump’s proposal in his infrastructure initiative to completely remove EPA’s veto authority from the Clean Water Act.
- It also runs counter to former Administrator Scott Pruitt’s directive to the Agency to develop a new rule that would take away EPA’s authority to use preemptive vetoes of the sort they are trying to use against Pebble.
- It makes no sense to allow this veto to move forward in the face of these two Administration policy initiatives.
- It will be a significant help to me in my race if the Administration withdraws this veto. It will remove this matter as an election issue, and do so in a way that shows that the Administration respects state decisions about how to develop their natural resources.

CALL LOGISTICS

- The call should be placed first to the Vice President’s Chief of Staff, Nick Ayers. Nick is the former Executive Director of the Republican Governors’ Association.
- The only number we have available is the main switchboard – 202-456-1414.
- Senator Dunleavy can contact Nick ahead of the call with an email – james.n.ayers@ovp.eop.gov. He should make clear, however, that his call is to the Veep, and that his interest in contact Nick first is to give a courtesy heads up.
- He could also contact beforehand Doug Hoelscher, the Deputy Director for Intergovernmental Affairs, who is the liaison for the White House to governors. His email is douglas.l.hoelscher@who.eop.gov.