



**Alaska Nature Tours**  
Guiding Alaska's inquisitive visitors since 1985

Haines Borough Assembly

12-4-23

Subject: CUP 23-87

Dear Assembly Members,

As a tour business owner and resident, I'm concerned about the previous Planning Commission's issuance of a Conditional Use Permit to allow a rock crushing pit on Lutak Road directly across from the Ferry Terminal Parking Lot. Earlier this summer during one of our more typical rainstorms that regularly cause flooding on Lutak Road, the existing new excavation pit just past the Borough's Lutak Dock caused sand and gravel to slide across the road. Our tour bus was the first to encounter the slide and were able to stop in time and pick our way through the debris without damaging the bus. Over the years our drivers know to look out for slide rocks in that roadway.

We weren't notified of this project, and it would affect our excursions with blasting and rock trucks turning on and off the road. The safety of the public regularly coming and going to the ferry terminal should also be a big Borough concern. It appears that some of the previous Planning Commission members may have rushed this CUP through in the last hour of their terms without weighing all the impacts.

One of the first views one gets when visiting Ketchikan is their unsightly rock pits. We are always being told that Haines is one of the more beautiful and scenic communities in Alaska and our Administration should build on that reputation. I don't believe it's to the Borough's best interest to introduce our arriving travelers to a similar view.

I realize that this area is a waterfront industrial zone, but that doesn't mean public safety, potential environmental degradation, and esthetic issues should be ignored.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Dan Egolf, President  
Alaska Nature Tours

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HAINES BOROUGH  
CLERK'S OFFICE