

Alaska State Legislature
REPRESENTATIVE BRYCE EDGMON
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE



The Honorable Bill Walker
Governor of Alaska
State Capitol
P.O. Box 110001

June 29, 2017

Dear Governor Walker,

On June 21st several colleagues of mine in the House sent you a letter concerning the protection of Southeast Alaska watersheds through enforceable transboundary agreements with the Canadian government and British Columbia (B.C.). I write now to add my support for their call for stronger agreements to be developed between the United States and Canada regarding these matters.

I commend the substantial accomplishments of Lieutenant Governor Byron Mallott in negotiating the Statement of Cooperation between Alaska and B.C. to safeguard Alaskan waters at risk or already affected by up-river Canadian mining. However, the provincial government's failure to commit to a clean-up of the Tulsequah Chief Mine site, followed by the recent news that Tulsequah Chief Mine may change hands once again, convince me that a stronger and binding agreement between Canada and the United States is necessary.

As my colleagues stated on June 21st, I urge you to join with the nearly 10,000 individual Alaskans, numerous commercial and sport fishing groups, tourism businesses, Tribes, mayors, legislators, and Alaska's Congressional Delegation to make an explicit request of the U.S. federal government to develop binding and enforceable measures to defend threatened U.S. interests in the Alaska-B.C. transboundary situation. I ask you to do this by August 4, 2017, in honor of the third anniversary of B.C.'s Mount Polley mine disaster.

I thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bryce Edgmon".

Representative Bryce Edgmon