To: Frithsen, Jeff[Frithsen.Jeff@epa.gov]
From: Alan S Boraas
Sent: Fri 4/5/2013 12:25:41 AM
Subject: RE: Trailer for new movie "Villages" developed by Nuna Resources focuses on dying villages in BB

Jeff,

The data do not support "dying villages." NUNA resources was formed to counteract Nunumta Alexsi (I think I spelled that incorrectly) and the board member include at least two people who are employees of Pebble. The person featured in the trailer is Glen Alsworth, who is part Yup'ik and whose family moved from Yup'ik territory into Dena'ina territory and founded Port Alsworth on Lake Clark. He is the pro-development mayor of the Lake and Peninsula Borough and owns an air service (I've flown with him numerous times) that benefits greatly from Pebble development. He is allied with Franklin Graham's Samaritan's Purse religious mission which in turn is closely allied with high level Republican political operatives. F. Graham has a very large house in Port Alsworth next to Glen Alsworth's air taxi operation.

The abandoned village the trailer shows was occupied sporadically and for the last 10 years or so apparently occupied by one family that moved out. The rest of the villages show a steady population after a large growth in the 1980s. That's from U.S. census data. Borough data shows a decline mostly from coastal villages far beyond the "study area" where a lot have made a lot of money in the near-ocean commercial fishery and are moving out to Anchorage or Seattle to spend it.

If the movie is anything like the trailer, it will be a pro-Pebble propaganda piece that will likely be very effective. Pebble knows that the "soft underbelly" of their public relations effort is the healthy indigenous peoples of the villages of the Nushagak and Kvichak, especially the former and the threat to their way of life that has been sustained for 4000 by healthy, wild salmon runs. Sadly a video like this will shape public opinion far more than facts, data, or written reports.

Alan

From: Frithsen, Jeff [mailto:Frithsen.Jeff@epa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, April 04, 2013 3:50 PM
To: Alan S Boraas
Subject: FW: Trailer for new movie "Villages" developed by Nuna Resources focuses on dying villages in BB

Alan:

Have you seen this one yet? Interesting take. Do data support the information in the trailer?

Jeff

Jeff Frithsen

USEPA-ORD-NCEA

703-347-8623 (office phone); 410-336-8535 (cell phone)

Subject: Trailer for new movie "Villages" develped by Nuna Resources focuses on dying villages in BB

Folks:

It appears that Nuna Resources is preparing to release a movie called "Villages" that paints a bleak picture of the state of villages in SW AK and argues for the need to diversify the local economy.

Here is a link to the movie trailer: http://vimeo.com/62530771

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