From:	Richard Parkin
To:	Dennis McLerran; Bob Sussman; Denise Keehner
Cc:	Phil North; Judy Smith
Subject:	Bristol Bay Update
Date:	03/31/2011 01:23 PM

Contract issues:

Apparently resolved. The first smaller contract is in place and the technical team members are all working. The expanded work assignment for approximately $300K (ToTal) will be in place in 2 weeks.

Project Manager:

This week we announced that Sheila Eckman will join us as the Project Manager on May 9. She will transition to 1/2 time with us on April 18. Sheila is an experienced and accomplish Unit Manager from our Superfund Program.

Correspondence and meetings:

1. Pebble response was signed by Dennis.
2. Western Division of the American Fisheries Society due April 4
3. Institute for Energy Research Due April 5.
4. FOIA from Trout Unlimited - Alaska: requesting correspondence with AK Cong delegation since Oct 31, 2011 and correspondence with Pebble or Anglo or Northern Dynasty since Feb 7, 2011.
5. Dennis met with John Shively of Pebble and atty Thurs, 2/24
    - Shively said we will get their Environmental Baseline Data sometime in April. It won't be in digital format. It is over 20,000 pages.
    - He was interested in how we would collect TEK. We explained that we have an anthropologist on our contract team who will send questions to the tribe and follow that up with village visits. John was a bit concerned that our anthropologist has been on record as against the Pebble Mine in the past.
    - He asked who our mining specialist on the team is and when told it is Bob Seal from USGS he knew him.
    - He seemed to be interested in a cooperative relationship with EPA.
6. The Iliamna group that met with Bob has set up a meeting with Dennis for April 13.
7. The Bristol Bay Native Corporation and others met with OW on Tuesday 3. They voiced a mild concern that they were not getting enough updates. I provided one at that meeting and the team will populate the web page with update information.
8. New CMS from AK State Senators Gary Stevens and Lyman Hoffman and Reps Alan Austerman and Bryce Edgmon due April 11. They express support for the watershed assessment.
9. New Email message from Reo Edgmon staff asking 5 questions. I will coordinate response with team.
    1. Who will carry out the peer review of the assessment?
    2. Will the assessment include any examination of Alaska statutes and regulations relating to large-mine permitting and water quality/quantity protection?
    3. Is it safe to say that EPA's assessment, rather than originating research from whole cloth, will rely on existing literature and the existing expertise of

agency staff and other experts to be interviewed?

4. Are we correct in our understanding that the risks EPA will evaluate—risks to wildlife, fish spawning and rearing habitat, and the Bristol Bay fishery—will be assessed exclusively in relation to water? Or will EPA look at a wider range risks to the environment as a consequence of large-scale development?

5. In the first set of public meetings planned, will the "preliminary findings of the scientific analysis" presented constitute a draft assessment, or will those findings be more evolving in nature?

Media

1. Parkin interviewed by KIRO Radio in Seattle, aired today 3/31.
2. Sussman, Mclerran and Parkin telephone conference with 60 minutes reporter today. For background only, not attribution.

Trip to Iliamna and Dillingham:

- Have a call into Pebble (John Shively) and have contacted local Pebble and Tribal entities to begin detailed plans.

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