CITY OF COLUMBIA FALLS

130 6TH STREET WEST
ROOM A
COLUMBIA FALLS, MT 59912

PHONE (406) 892-4391

FAX (406) 892-4413

February 8, 2016

Cynthia Peterson
Community Involvement Coordinator
US EPA – Region 8
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202

RE: National Priorities Listing – Columbia Falls Aluminum Company Site

Dear Ms. Peterson:

The Columbia Falls City Council voted unanimously to "stay the course" and continue the process of listing the Columbia Falls Aluminum Company Plant (CFAC) on the National Priorities List at their regular meeting on February 1, 2016. The Council came to this decision after much discussion and debate. The decision was not made lightly and was based on a thorough review of the actions and information to date. While the Council is appreciative of the progress made to date, obtaining an Administrative order and bonding for the testing phase, the Council would like to ensure there is no delay in getting through the actual clean up phase of the site.

The City Council, on behalf of the community, continues to express their desire to see the site cleaned up, preventing the spread of groundwater contaminants. Providing clean, safe drinking water is important to the Council and to that end, the City has made significant investments in providing safe drinking water to the citizens of Columbia Falls. While testing of the City's wells have not revealed that the known contaminants from the CFAC site have made their way into the City's drinking water supply as of now, the City would not like to see cleanup and remedial action delayed until the City is faced with costly emergency measures to protect the City's water supply.

Please note the City Council's unanimous support of the listing of the CFAC site on the National Priorities List.

Sincerely,

Donald W. Barnhart, Mayor

Darin Fisher, Councilman

Doug Karper, Councilman

Jenny Lovering, Councilman

John Piper, Councilman

David Petersen, Councilman

Michael Shepard, Councilman