

Dear Legislative Candidate,

Advocates for Safe Alaska Highways (ASAH) is a group of Alaskans committed to increasing public awareness of the safety issues and cost to the state of the Kinross ore haul plan.

ASAH has created the following questionnaire to better understand your position on the current Kinross ore haul as well as your willingness to work with the community to address some of the concerns expressed by the public since the ore haul began. We plan to share your responses to this questionnaire with our extensive email list and post to our Facebook page of concerned voters who live within the Fairbanks North Star Borough and along the current Kinross ore haul route. Please respond with your answers no later than **October 11** by 5 pm.

A brief background of the issue:

Kinross and partner Contango ORE have contracted 162,000-pound industrial ore haulers to drive up to 120 transits per day 240 miles over the Alaska, Richardson, and Steese Highways to and from the Manh Choh mine near Tok to the Fort Knox mill. Over the last 9 months of full-scale operations, Alaskans, and tourists to Alaska, have had many dangerous encounters with these industrial vehicles operating on public roadways. Drivers have noticed major degradation of our road system and significantly increased maintenance and financial output by our Department of Transportation. The *pending [independent study](#)*, funded by the Alaska Department of Transportation, [estimates an increase of 10 severe crashes](#) per year due solely to the addition of these industrial ore haulers. It is only a matter of time before a deadly crash occurs. Is it wise for these ore haulers to share the road with school buses, tourists, emergency vehicles, military convoys, and regular Alaskans traveling from their homes to work, medical appointments, recreational areas, and family visits?

Kinross and Contango ORE have publicly shared their long-range plans to utilize Alaska's public road system for [Direct Shipment of Ore \(DSO\) to maximize profits](#). Current plans call for increased use of the Alaska, Richardson, and Steese highways, and expansion to the Elliott and Parks highways as well as some primary and secondary roads in the next 5-10 years. Their plan will effectively turn Alaskan roads into Industrial Haul Roads on a scale not seen before anywhere in the US, Canada or other first-world countries. ASAH is concerned about the safety of our citizens sharing the roads with these vehicles and the cost to the state DOT to support foreign mining companies at the expense of maintaining and upgrading roads needed by Alaskans for their daily living and recreation.

**Please respond to our questionnaire linked here:**

*[link has been deactivated]*

Thank you for taking the time to answer this questionnaire. Please reply to this email if you have any questions. We look forward to hearing from you by **October 11!**

Advocates for Safe Alaska Highways