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Matthew Van Daele
Kodiak Island Borough
710 Mill Bay Road
Kodiak, AK 99615-6398

Dear Matthew,

Hello, my name is Sandra M. Katelnikoff-Lester, Aleut from Kodiak Island. I am married to Gary Lester Sr. of Kodiak. I was born in Karluk but was raised in Karluk, Ouzinkie, Kodiak and Larsen Bay. I have immediate family in Port Lions, Ouzinkie, Kodiak, Larsen Bay and Karluk, along with numerous relatives in every community on the island. Gary and I own Lester Brother's Inc., a vending business here in Kodiak. Our business is highly impacted by the fishing industry.

We sat in and observed the Borough/City Joint meeting last evening and I attended the Kodiak Fisheries work group meeting this morning.

I would like to submit my following comments regarding the subject of the DNA testing results as points of issue for the letter you have volunteered to formulate. I feel my comments are rather straight forward and possibly simplistic, but here they are anyway.

In my opinion the DNA testing on fish is now a reality. As a fishing community we are going to have to realize that DNA testing is considered a matter of truth in the world of law. I would have to say irrefutable truth of the existence that specific fish come from very specific areas. Fish spawn, hatch, leave then return to their river of hatching.

As a fishing community we all have to realize that DNA testing *is not* necessarily about the fish itself, but rather *it is* about communities protecting their select area of revenue that sport fishing or commercial fishing provides. Not necessarily substance fishing, but subsistence fishing is extremely important. Every costal community generates money or income or revenue off the fishing industry.

I have a feeling others will attempt to use the DNA test result to determine how fish are caught, where fish are caught, and who will be allowed to catch DNA identified fish.

With this in mind, that is where my simplistic thought for a working solution comes in.

When it comes to fishing on the waters around Kodiak Island we have to consider the same, but keep in mind from our island point of view, the season and type of fishing is not the question. We must consider how fish are caught, where fish are caught, and who will be allowed to catch DNA identified fish.

To break this down further, we have to know who catches our fish and it does not matter if they are sport fishermen or commercial fishermen. We have to answer the questions of: Are they local fisherman? Are they Residents of the State of Alaska? Are they fisherman from outside of Alaska? The reason we ask this is about revenue. Who is making the revenue? Where is the fishing revenue being spent? Does the revenue stay in Kodiak or within the State of Alaska? If not, we have to consider the economic impact that the migrant fisherman has on the Kodiak economy and on the State of Alaska economy as a whole.

We the people of the island who live within the Kodiak Island Borough, include the City of Kodiak, the five second class cities of Larsen Bay, Ouzinkie, Port Lions, Old Harbor, and Akhiok along with our 11 federally recognized Tribes which include the Sunaq Tribe of Kodiak, Native Village of Afognak, Tangirnaq Native Village (aka Woody Island), Native Village of Ouzinkie, Native Village of Akhiok, Native Village of Port Lions, Old Harbor Tribal Council, Larsen Bay Tribal Council, Karluk IRA Tribal Council, Native Village of Akhiok, and Kaguyak Village have a very vested interest in the fishing industry, for both income and revenue along with subsistence fishing. We have to be instrumental and involved in the development of any and all guidelines for sport and commercial fishing. Because these guidelines will insure that Kodiak Island fisherman come first, State fisherman come second and then all other migrant fishermen come next in the hierarchy of regulation and order for all fishing activities.

This is so because we have a responsibility to each other to protect the Native Rights to catch fish, whether it is for subsistence or revenue. We must protect our local non-native fisherman and we must protect the rights of all Alaska fishermen as a whole, for generations to come.

This is as short and as sweet as I can make my ideas come alive on paper in this short amount of time. I know you are on a time crunch.

Please use what you can from this letter or the letter itself and let me know if I can be of assistance or if clarification is needed for anything I have said.

Good Luck at your meeting.

Best Regards,

Sandra M. Katelnikoff-Lester