



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

**Department of Law**

Office of the Attorney General  
1031 West 4th Avenue, Suite 200  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-5903  
Main: 907-269-5100  
Fax: 907-269-5110

August 31, 2016

Keja Whiteman  
Director  
Alaska Native Village Corporation Association  
4300 B Street, Suite 207  
Anchorage, AK 99503

Re: Land into Trust Comments

Dear Ms. Whiteman:

I hope this letter finds you well. As you may know, Governor Bill Walker and Lieutenant Governor Byron Mallott have tasked me with seeking input from the various stakeholders on the issue of the federal government taking lands into trust for Tribes in Alaska. While I welcome input from each Alaska Native Village Corporation separately, I thought it might be useful to seek input from the Alaska Native Village Corporation Association, especially where there is consensus among your constituent corporations. Would your group be willing to provide written comments on this issue? Specifically, I'd appreciate the Association's input on whether Village Corporations believe split estates may be taken into trust, including surface estates currently owned by a Village Corporation. Of course, the group should not feel constrained on commenting on the issue of split estates alone. If the group believes there are other benefits or concerns raised by the federal government taking lands into trust for Tribes, I'm happy to hear from your group.

In addition to receiving written comments, I would be happy to make myself available to attend one of the Association's upcoming meetings to discuss land into trust and the State's process of engaging on this issue. I look forward to working with you and the Alaska Native Village Corporation Association on this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jahna".

Jahna Lindemuth  
Attorney General

**RECEIVED**

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