STATE OF ALASKA

FRANK H MURKOWSKI GOVERNOR

ANILCA IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM

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September 8, 2006

Vicki Snitzler, Park Planner Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve P.O. Box 439 Copper Center, AK 99573

Dear Ms. Snitzler:

The State of Alaska reviewed the Support Facility Plan Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Kennecott Mines National Historic Landmark and nearby McCarthy area in Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve. The following comments represent the consolidated views of state agencies.

The State appreciates the Service's effort to plan for needed facilities that support park operations and improve visitor services while protecting important historic, cultural, natural and community resources. We specifically appreciate the Service's efforts to strike a balance between meeting the needs of the community and providing Service housing for employees.

Please continue to work with the appropriate divisions within the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation and the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities for required facility development authorizations as identified in the EA.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely

Susan E. Magee ANILCA Project Coordinator

cc: Sally Gibert, ANILCA Program Coordinator