

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

**OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
DIVISION OF GOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION**

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May 6, 1992

Ms. Joan Darnell
Chief, Division of Environmental Quality
National Park Service
2525 Gambell Street, Room 107
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Dear Ms.  Darnell:

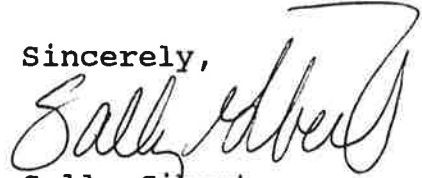
The State of Alaska is aware of the Katmai Research Drilling project being considered for the Novarupta area of the Katmai National Park and Preserve. Allan Sattler of the Sandia National Laboratories in New Mexico has regularly updated this office on the status of the proposal. The drilling location is not in the coastal zone, and therefore the State's Division of Governmental Coordination will not be coordinating the issuance of the various permits that will be required if the project proceeds.

The State would like to take this opportunity, however, to express conceptual support for the research drilling program. The State would benefit from the increased knowledge of large volcanic systems, which will help us to better understand and therefore better anticipate hazards associated with large silicic eruptions. In addition, the increased understanding of metal transport in cooling silicic systems will augment our knowledge of ore-generation processes.

The group proposing this work has previously undertaken two years of preliminary geological and geophysical field studies in the Novarupta area. They have demonstrated a commitment to proceeding in a fashion which will leave no lasting environmental damage.

State agencies will continue to monitor the progress of this project and are prepared to work with the project leaders on permitting requests when needed. Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sally Gibert".

Sally Gibert
State CSU Coordinator

cc:

Harold Heinze, Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources
Carl Rosier, Commissioner, Department of Fish and Game
John Sandor, Commissioner, Department of Environmental
Conservation
Allan R. Sattler, Sandia National Laboratories