

**From:** [Fritz Johnson](#)  
**To:** [Commission, Boundary \(CED sponsored\)](#); [panilkuk@yahoo.com](mailto:panilkuk@yahoo.com); [cityclerk@dillinghamak.us](mailto:cityclerk@dillinghamak.us)  
**Cc:** [Courtenay Carty](#)  
**Subject:** Comments on Concerning the RE: Consolidated Annexation Petitions from the City of Dillingham and City of Manokotak  
**Date:** Monday, September 19, 2016 9:57:02 AM

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I'm addressing these comments, as per the direction of the state Local Boundary Cpmmission, to the parties listed regarding the Consolidated Annexation Petitions from the City of Dillingham and City of Manokotak.

I support the annexation with the understanding that the annexation be structured to allow the petitioners to share fairly in any revenues that may eventually be generated by future fish tax levies. With regard to those tax levies, I also believe that fishers whose income is below federally established poverty levels need to be provided relief from that taxation..

Addressing tax issues may seem premature, but revenue generation is the objective of the petitioners. That revenue is sorely needed for support and maintenance of community services and infrastructure, and will be needed more in the future in the face of declining state funding.

It's important to realize that seasonal non-resident fishermen extract a far greater share of the wealth of the fishery do residents. Non-local fishers outnumber residents by a ratio of approximately four to one, and information provided by the state Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission documents that non-resident fishers historically harvest more fish and earn more from the fishery than do residents. See [https://www.cfec.state.ak.us/bit/X\\_S03T.htm](https://www.cfec.state.ak.us/bit/X_S03T.htm).

As the only Bristol Bay salmon fishing district without a local fish tax, the Nushagak district attracts a disproportionate number of non-resident fishers compared to other districts, effectively taxing local fishers by their participation in the Nushagak fishery. As non-residents, the dollars they own are effectively worth relatively more in buying power since non-residents are not burdened by the extraordinarily high cost of living in the Bristol Bay region.

I urge the LBC to approve an annexation mechanism acknowledging the intent of the petitioning communities for the reasons I've described. Sincerely,

Fritz Johnson  
Dillingham

I'm fully aware that any annexation must precede the establishment of taxation. My reasons for supporting the annexation are related to the