



Opinion Research  
Strategic Communication

## National/Alaska Survey on Pebble Mine

Conducted via landline and cell phone August 18-25; n=600 adults nationwide and 201 adults in Alaska. Margin of sampling error is ±4.0 percentage points nationwide and ± 6.9 percentage points in Alaska at the 95% confidence level; data have been weighted by age, education and race nationally and age and race in Alaska. Percents may add to 99% or 101% due to rounding; \* indicates less than 1% and -- indicates zero.

LANDLINE INTRO: Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I am an interviewer with BRS – an opinion research firm. We are conducting a public opinion survey and your telephone number was selected at random. We are not selling anything. May I speak with the person in your household who is 18 years or older who had the most recent birthday?

Cell Intro: Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am an interviewer with BRS – an opinion research firm. We are conducting a public opinion survey and your telephone number was selected at random. We are not selling anything.

First, please tell me if you have very positive, somewhat positive, neutral, somewhat negative, or very negative views of each of the following people and organizations. If you don't know enough to have an opinion, just say so. (RANDOMIZE Q1-7)

		Very pos	Smwht pos	Neutral	Smwht neg	Very neg	DK/ No opinion	REF
1. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency or EPA	<b>U.S.</b>	12%	26	27	12	10	12	--
	<b>Alaska</b>	10%	22	29	17	13	8	1
2. President Barack Obama	<b>U.S.</b>	20%	18	18	13	28	3	*
	<b>Alaska</b>	13%	19	16	16	35	2	--
3. The United States Congress	<b>U.S.</b>	3%	15	21	25	31	5	--
	<b>Alaska</b>	2%	14	23	24	32	5	1
4. International corporations involved in mining for gold, copper and other metals	<b>U.S.</b>	6%	15	30	12	8	29	--
	<b>Alaska</b>	8%	19	30	15	11	16	1
5. Oil companies	<b>U.S.</b>	5%	17	20	23	28	7	--
	<b>Alaska</b>	13%	21	34	18	7	6	1
6. The natural gas industry	<b>U.S.</b>	11%	26	28	12	6	17	*
	<b>Alaska</b>	13%	30	29	13	3	11	1
7. Governor Sean Parnell	<b>Alaska</b>	13%	27	24	12	7	17	1

8. Would you favor or oppose allowing more mining on public lands such as national forests in the U.S.? WAIT FOR RESPONSE. Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?		<b>U.S.</b>	<b>Alaska</b>
	Strongly favor	11%	21%
	Somewhat favor	22	26
	Somewhat oppose	25	18
	Strongly oppose	35	26
	DK/REF	8	9
9. Would you favor or oppose the federal government acting to protect the wild salmon population across the U.S.? WAIT FOR RESPONSE. Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?		<b>U.S.</b>	<b>Alaska</b>
	Strongly favor	34%	50%
	Somewhat favor	32	19
	Somewhat oppose	17	9
	Strongly oppose	9	18
	DK/REF	8	3
10. There is a proposal to build a large copper and gold mine called Pebble Mine on state-owned land near waters that flow into Bristol Bay in Alaska. Have you heard anything about this before or not?			<b>Alaska</b>
	Yes		92%
	No		8
	DK/REF		
11. Are you more inclined to favor or oppose building the mine? WAIT FOR RESPONSE. Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?			<b>Alaska</b>
	Strongly favor		13%
	Somewhat favor		22
	Somewhat oppose		16
	Strongly oppose		43
	DK/REF		6
12. TELL NATIONAL SAMPLE: There is a proposal to build a large copper and gold mine called Pebble Mine on state-owned land near waters that flow into Bristol Bay in Alaska. ASK ALL: Supporters of Pebble Mine say that building the mine will create several thousand jobs, help the local economy, and provide a large new domestic source for metals the United States needs for its security. Opponents say that Pebble Mine will produce billions of tons of toxic waste and endanger the largest wild sockeye salmon fish population in the world, which is key to the area's economy, culture, wildlife, and ecosystem. [ROTATE ARGUMENTS]. After hearing both sides, are you more inclined to favor or oppose building the mine? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?		<b>U.S.</b>	<b>Alaska</b>
	Strongly favor	11%	11%
	Somewhat favor	20	18
	Somewhat oppose	26	18
	Strongly oppose	40	48
	DK/REF	2	5

		<b>U.S.</b>	<b>Alaska</b>
13. Scientists at the Environmental Protection Agency are conducting research into the possible pollution from development near Bristol Bay. If the research shows that Pebble Mine would permanently pollute the land and water, ROTATE: should the EPA stop the mine from being built, or should the EPA allow the state of Alaska to decide whether the mine should be built? WAIT FOR RESPONSE. Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?	EPA stop mine strongly	47%	42%
	EPA stop mine somewhat	12	12
	Allow Alaska to decide somewhat	13	4
	Allow Alaska to decide strongly	25	37
	DK/REF	3	4

		<b>U.S.</b>	<b>Alaska</b>
14. How much confidence do you have that mining companies will be responsible about preventing pollution and cleaning up any pollution the mine does produce: a great deal, some, not very much, or none at all?	A great deal	12%	18%
	Some	25	29
	Not very much	31	22
	None at all	30	31
	DK/REF	2	1

Here are some reasons that people give for supporting Pebble Mine. For each, please tell me if it is a very good reason, a somewhat good reason, not a very good reason, or a poor reason for supporting Pebble Mine. RANDOMIZE Q15-21

		<b>Very good</b>	<b>Smwht good</b>	<b>Not vy good</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>DK/REF</b>
15. Pebble Mine will create 2,000 temporary good-paying jobs in construction and another 1,000 permanent mining jobs in the area.	<b>U.S.</b>	34%	39	12	13	1
	<b>Alaska</b>	33%	35	13	19	1
16. To become more self-sufficient and protect our national security, we need to produce metals such as gold and copper in the U.S. rather than relying on other countries.	<b>U.S.</b>	40%	32	14	12	1
	<b>Alaska</b>	38%	28	14	20	--
17. Copper is an essential part of computers and electronics, and U.S. high tech companies need a reliable supply to compete in the global market.	<b>U.S.</b>	29%	36	16	16	2
	<b>Alaska</b>	20%	45	13	22	*
18. The mine will provide much-needed transportation, communication, and energy infrastructure to a region that does not have much.	<b>U.S.</b>	23%	37	20	18	2
	<b>Alaska</b>	21%	33	16	29	*
19. This is a perfect location for a mine because it will be in a remote area where very few people live.	<b>U.S.</b>	21%	30	23	24	2
	<b>Alaska</b>	12%	25	22	41	--
20. Opposition to the proposal is driven by extreme environmentalists who side against all development, no matter how responsible.	<b>U.S.</b>	9%	28	29	29	4
	<b>Alaska</b>	9%	20	23	43	6
21. The U.S. would be foolish not to allow the development of Pebble Mine, which holds the largest deposit of copper in the world and one of the largest gold deposits.	<b>U.S.</b>	23%	40	19	15	2
	<b>Alaska</b>	19%	35	18	28	*

Now here are some reasons that people give for opposing Pebble Mine. For each, please tell me if it is a very good reason, a somewhat good reason, not a very good reason, or a poor reason for opposing Pebble Mine. RANDOMIZE Q23-34.

		Very good	Smwht good	Not vy good	Poor	DK/REF
22. (KEEP FIRST) Bristol Bay is home to the largest wild salmon population in the world, that produces almost half of the sockeye salmon used for food in the world, and if even small amounts of copper leak from the mine into the water it will destroy the salmon's ability to reproduce.	U.S.	54%	24	12	8	2
	Alaska	63%	22	7	8	--
23. Salmon fishing in Bristol Bay is a five hundred million dollar a year renewable industry, and provides thousands of jobs. Pebble Mine would not have enough economic benefit to make up for the damage it will cause.	U.S.	58%	20	11	9	2
	Alaska	58%	21	9	10	2
24. Damaging the salmon population will take away the main source of food for Alaska Native people who live near Bristol Bay.	U.S.	57%	24	10	7	1
	Alaska	56%	22	11	9	2
25. Salmon in Bristol Bay sustains a diverse ecosystem and a wide array of wildlife from grizzlies and wolves to whales and seals, all of which will be badly damaged if the salmon population is destroyed.	U.S.	61%	19	10	8	2
	Alaska	59%	23	8	9	1
26. An overwhelming majority of people who live in the Bristol Bay area oppose building Pebble Mine.	U.S.	56%	25	12	7	1
	Alaska	49%	26	13	11	2
27. The mining company is breaking a promise made by the CEO that they would not build the mine if the local people said no.	U.S.	56%	22	10	9	3
	Alaska	49%	21	12	12	5
28. Pebble Mine would be one of the largest mines in the world, so big that all of the other mines in Alaska would fit within its open pit.	U.S.	32%	23	25	17	3
	Alaska	28%	23	19	27	3
29. The Bristol Bay region is one of the last pristine wild areas left in the U.S. and if it is destroyed it will be gone forever.	U.S.	59%	20	10	10	1
	Alaska	54%	20	14	12	1
30. Pebble Mine would produce ten billion tons of hazardous waste – three thousand pounds for every man, woman, and child on the planet – which will be stored in huge lakes behind earthen dams in an active earthquake zone.	U.S.	64%	14	11	9	2
	Alaska	63%	17	9	10	2
31. Mining companies have a poor environmental track record, and every year, taxpayers spend millions of dollars to clean up water and land pollution these companies leave behind.	U.S.	60%	21	9	8	1
	Alaska	55%	22	11	10	1

		Very good	Smwht good	Not vy good	Poor	DK/REF
<b>continued</b>						
32. The companies who own the rights to the mine are British and Canadian, and most of the economic benefits of the mine will go to these companies, not to Americans.	<b>U.S.</b>	52%	17	16	13	2
	<b>Alaska</b>	45%	21	16	16	2
33. More than 50 major jewelers, including Tiffany's, say they will not buy gold from Pebble Mine because of the mine's environmental impact.	<b>U.S.</b>	41%	22	18	17	2
	<b>Alaska</b>	31%	18	24	27	--
34. Many Alaskans who typically support mining, including commercial and sport fishermen and tribes and native corporations, are opposed to Pebble Mine because of the potential damage to the salmon industry.	<b>Alaska</b>	52%	27	8	12	*
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35. After hearing these statements, do you favor or oppose building the mine? WAIT FOR RESPONSE. Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?					<b>U.S.</b>	<b>Alaska</b>
	Strongly favor				7%	15%
	Somewhat favor				12	12
	Somewhat oppose				22	13
	Strongly oppose				55	55
	DK/REF				4	6
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36. When you think about Alaska, which is more important to you personally: (ROTATE) Protecting Alaska's special places, which are some of the last unspoiled wilderness areas in the world? OR Using Alaska's large deposits of resources such as oil and precious metals that are important to our economy? WAIT FOR RESPONSE. Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?					<b>U.S.</b>	<b>Alaska</b>
	Special places/wilderness strongly				51%	43%
	Special places/wilderness smwht				16	14
	Resources/oil/metals smwhat				12	12
	Resources/oil/metals strongly				16	24
	DK/REF				6	7