

## **Native Village of Eklutna**

## Statement from Aaron Leggett, President of the Native Village of Eklutna

The Native Village of Eklutna (NVE) is aware of the Department of Interior's recent action regarding the "M-Opinion," and we are reviewing it now. NVE understands this to be a step in the process of clarifying certain questions of legal jurisdiction important to the State.

The Chin'an Gaming Hall remains open for our guests and continues to provide meaningful benefits to our Tribe, the surrounding community, and our state. Since opening earlier this year, the Chin'an Gaming Hall has enabled NVE to provide jobs to Tribal and community members, while also supporting numerous charitable causes and boosting Alaska's economy.

We have been honored and humbled by the overwhelming support we have received from Alaskans and outside visitors as well, and we continue to work with state and federal officials to assure the benefits provided by the Chin'an Gaming Hall endure for many years to come.