

Native Village of Nuiqsut

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Nuiqsut, Alaska 99789



Date: October 1, 2025

Tyler J. Marye
USACE Alaska District
Regulatory Division
P.O. Box 6898
JBER, AK 99506-0898

Re: Comments on the Draft EIS for the Colville Delta 8 (CD8) Project

Dear Mr. Marye,

On behalf of the Native Village of Nuiqsut, we submit this letter to express our strong opposition to the proposed Colville Delta 8 (CD8) Project. The proposed site lies far too close to our community, and the risks it poses to our health, subsistence, environment, and overall wellbeing are far too great.

1. Proximity to Nuiqsut

No other community will live with the direct, day-to-day impacts of this project the way Nuiqsut will. The CD8 site is only a few miles from our homes and directly within the areas our people use for hunting, fishing, and travel. This closeness magnifies every risk — from air emissions and noise to habitat disruption and safety concerns.

2. Subsistence and Cultural Impacts

Because of its location, CD8 would interfere with caribou migration routes, fish habitat, and access to traditional hunting areas. Subsistence is not only our food source, but also the foundation of our culture and identity. Proximity matters here: a project this close directly threatens our ability to continue living our way of life.

3. Water and Environmental Quality

The proposed roads, pads, and pipelines would cross sensitive waterways in the Colville River Unit. Any construction in these areas risks degrading fish habitat, altering water flows, and accelerating erosion and permafrost melt. Elders have also raised concern that the project would impose on Nuiqsut's secondary freshwater lake source — a vital backup for community drinking water — further threatening the safety and sustainability of our water supply. These impacts will be felt first and most severely by Nuiqsut residents due to our location.

4. Human Health and Community Wellbeing

Nuiqsut already lives with the burden of nearby development. Dust, noise, flaring, air pollution, and stress from industrial expansion have taken a toll on our people. Adding CD8, so close to our community, only increases these health risks and makes our living conditions worse.

5. Cumulative Impacts

CD8 is not an isolated project. Nuiqsut bears the cumulative impacts of decades of oil and gas development in our homelands. The proximity of CD8 means the burden on Nuiqsut will be heavier than ever before, and these cumulative impacts must be addressed honestly in the EIS.

Council Position

After review and discussion, the Native Village of Nuiqsut Tribal Council is firmly opposed to the CD8 Project. Its location is too close to our community, and the impacts — on subsistence, health, and our future — are too great. We urge the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and cooperating agencies to reject this proposal.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. We request that our opposition and concerns be fully reflected in the record of this EIS process.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vernon Bennett".

Vernon Bennett

Council President

Native Village of Nuiqsut