



Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives

Peter A. DeFazio
Chairman

Washington, DC 20515

Sam Graves
Ranking Member

Katherine W. Dedrick, Staff Director

Jack Ruddy, Republican Staff Director

October 28, 2022

The Honorable Merrick Garland
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Attorney General Garland:

I write to respectfully request that the Department of Justice open a criminal investigation into the conduct of former Pebble Limited Partnership (LP) Chief Executive Officer Tom Collier, who, on October 23, 2019, made statements at a hearing before a subcommittee of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure in potential violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

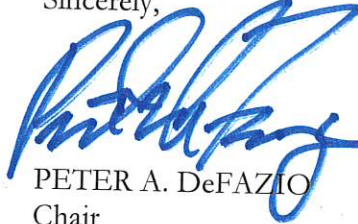
On that date, Mr. Collier testified at a hearing before the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure's Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment. The subject of the hearing was the Alaskan Pebble Mine project, which was then in a contentious and divisive permitting process. In December 2017, Pebble LP had submitted a federal permit application for a much smaller mine than it had originally publicly proposed. In fact, the mine's scope was so reduced that committee members and other witnesses questioned whether it would be economically viable considering the resources required to build it.

In written testimony provided to the subcommittee, Mr. Collier stated that: "Pebble has no current plans, in this application or in any other way, for expansion." He repeated that point in his oral testimony and again in direct response to questions from committee members. In contrast, email communications and other internal Pebble LP documents show that Mr. Collier and his colleagues were contemporaneously discussing plans for an expanded mine that would operate for over 80 years and could cover more than 34.3 square miles, including tailing storage and waste rock infrastructure. The committee has issued a report which fully details the improper actions of Pebble LP and Mr. Collier to mislead the federal government into issuing permits based on incomplete and false information about the scope of the planned project.

Section 1001 of title 18, United States Code, makes it a crime to knowingly and willfully make any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation in any matter within

the jurisdiction of the executive, legislative, or judicial branch of the United States. Because the committee has uncovered evidence that Mr. Collier knowingly and willfully made false statements in his written statement and during his October 2019 oral testimony, I refer the matter to the Department of Justice for further investigation. I have attached our report and other supporting documents and am ready to assist with any investigation.

Sincerely,



PETER A. DeFAZIO
Chair

Attachments: Pebble LP Report with Appendices, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment Hearing Record from October 23, 2019.