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From: Crome, Cora J (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=CJCROME]

Sent: Tuesday, October 30, 2007 5:32 PM

To: 'fek9wnr@yahoo.com'

Subject: Processing follow-up

Todd,

I spoke with both the Office of International Trade and ASMI trying to determine whether foreign companies have an interest in coming to Alaska to process fish. Patricia from the Office of International Trade said she gets very few inquiries, mostly from companies that are small, not very organized, and don't have any significant capital or resources to invest. They are generally interested in buying finished products, not purchasing directly from fishermen and doing the primary processing. In general, her feeling was that companies that could really pull off such an operation already have existing contracts and connections with companies in Alaska. It was also noted that the interest that existed a few years ago when prices were so low doesn't exist now that shoreside processors are paying a bit more for salmon. I have our fisheries development specialist working on sorting out whether a foreign processor would have to comply with Alaska's labor and safety laws. He is also looking at some market and economic impacts of bringing in foreign processors. When I get something from him, I'll send it to you.

Cora

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