

4/15/06  
To The Local Boundary Commission

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Dear Staff, or Folks in Charge,

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Local Boundary Commission

My husband and I have lived in Ketchikan for over 40 years. We raised six children (all College students & now productive people in Alaska) and were involved in many aspects of that community.

When my husband retired, we looked for and found a place of peace, nature and best of all -- no government. We had become steadily disenfranchised with Ketchikan's petty and pathetic politics and a lonely village grown into an unrelenting Fouist trap.

It isn't easy living near Moyer Chuck (we are on an Island). We get our own wood, haul our own fuel, hunt and gather and grow our own food. Nothing is given to us!

But we are not afraid of hard work and we prefer our wilderness life style to one of ease (even in our 70's!) and noise. We are at the daily mercy of tides and weather but the trade off is independence! And independence is what ~~the~~ is being taken away from us!

At a meeting in Ketch., we were told nothing would be given to us in services. That is what the Colonists went to war for; Taxation without representation! And that is not only reprehensible but immoral.

We desire to be left alone. We have more than earned our independence.

Further more, there are only six of us year round residents. And the mine is not going in. So what more does the Commission want here?

Mayer Chuck is one of the last pockets of true isolated wilderness in Alaska - clean and of great beauty. It should remain that way. This is what folks picture when they hear - The Last Frontier! It certainly is not gift shops of T-shirts + Caribean gems!! Help us preserve this sacred space intact.

If we must be included in a Town, we all prefer to be included with Wargull. We have much more in common with those folks.

At the Ketch meeting, we asked that a vote of the people be taken, at least. They said yes + when we left, they rescinded! How dare they not listen and hear the people who live here.

We respectfully ask that you consider Ketch. Petition to annex us and find in our favor.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jerry and Terry Ducker

P.O. BOX 13

Mayer Chuck, Alaska

99903

# Annexation comments open

By KELLY ZIENTEK  
Daily News Staff Writer

The Ketchikan Gateway Borough has filed its petition with the Alaska Local Boundary Commission to annex about 4,701 square miles, including Meyers Chuck.

Written comments and briefs on the annexation must be filed with the Local Boundary Commission by 4:30 p.m. on April 28. "Responsive briefs" must be filed according to code. As opposed to written comments, those filing responsive briefs gain certain procedural rights and duties during the annexation proceedings, according to the LBC.

The proposed annexation includes all land to the south and east of the existing borough to the Canadian border, and most of the Cleveland Peninsula, ending at the boundary between the U.S. Forest Service's Ketchikan and Wrangell ranger districts. The proposed annexation would not include the Annette Island reserve, land west of Clarence Strait or Hyder.

Hyder was excluded because,

according to the petition, "the current cultural, social, economic and other ties between this area and the borough does not justify inclusion at this time," although the borough indicated in October it anticipates annexing Hyder in the future.

According to the petition, Hyder should be annexed when Hyder residents decide they want more government services, when economic development in the Hyder area expands, or when Hyder becomes less isolated through increased ferry service and direct telecommunication links, thus tying the community more closely with Ketchikan.

[REDACTED]

After the borough has an opportunity to answer any responsive briefs

and comments, the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development will prepare a preliminary report on the proposal. Following comment on the preliminary report, the department will issue its final report. The LBC then will hold at least one local public hearing. If the LBC approves the petition, the annexation will be subject to legislative review.

The petition and related information are available for review at the Ketchikan Gateway Borough Clerk's office; the Ketchikan Public Library; the Meyers Chuck Post Office; and the Hyder Community Association library. The petition also is posted on the borough's Web site at [www.borough.ketchikan.ak.us](http://www.borough.ketchikan.ak.us).

Responsive briefs and written comments can be mailed to: Local Boundary Commission Staff, 550 West Seventh Ave., Suite 1770, Anchorage, AK, 99501-3510; e-mailed to [LBC@commerce.state.ak.us](mailto:LBC@commerce.state.ak.us); or faxed.

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