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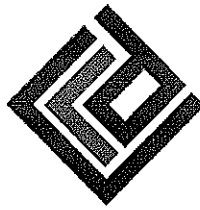
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# RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

## BREAKFAST MEETING

Thursday, December 7, 2017

1. Call to order – Eric Fjelstad, RDC President
2. Self Introductions
3. Head Table Introductions
4. Staff Report – Marleanna Hall, Executive Director
5. Program

**Quintillion: Building New Opportunities for Alaska's Economy**

Kristina Woolston, Vice President External Relations, Quintillion

Next Meeting: Thursday, January 4, 2018  
Dena'ina Convention Center

Sign up for RDC e-news online!  
This breakfast packet and presentation may be found online at:

[akrdc.org](http://akrdc.org)



TOURISM



FISHERIES



OIL & GAS



MINING



FORESTRY



## PRESS RELEASE

October 24, 2017

CONTACT:

Tim Woolston

(907) 317-9454

[tim@akmediastrat.com](mailto:tim@akmediastrat.com)

### **QUINTILLION COMPLETES INSTALLATION OF HISTORIC ALASKA SUBSEA FIBER OPTIC CABLE SYSTEM**

*System brings high speed internet capacity to five northern Alaska communities*

Crews aboard the Alcatel Submarine Networks C/V Ile de Batz installed the last segment of cable beneath the ocean floor, completing physical installation of the Alaska portion of the international Quintillion Subsea Cable System. The system is on schedule to be in service this December, enabling 21<sup>st</sup> Century communications in the North American Arctic for the first time.

The Alaska portion will deliver gigabit and higher bandwidth services on a 1,400 mile subsea and terrestrial fiber optic network, including a subsea trunk line from Prudhoe Bay to Nome with branching lines to Utqiagvik, Wainwright, Point Hope, and Kotzebue. Most of the installation occurred last year. Crews were back on the water this summer adding resiliency to the system and installing the last 40 miles of cable.

The portion of the system installed in 2016 has been operating in test mode since last November and was closely monitored over the winter and during the critical spring ice break season. The installation has operated perfectly through this test period and we look forward to completing system testing activities prior to commercial launch this December.

In addition, Quintillion's new terrestrial fiber has been installed between Fairbanks and Prudhoe Bay that connect these northern Alaska communities to the Pacific Northwest, as well as serve the Prudhoe Bay oil fields. This terrestrial system was launched and has been providing commercial service since last spring. The three phase Quintillion Subsea Cable System is ultimately intended to connect Asia to Western Europe via the southern portion of the Northwest Passage through the Alaska and Canadian Arctic.

"Completing the Alaska phase is a significant step for our groundbreaking project," said George M Tronsrue III, Quintillion's Interim CEO. "Our team overcame considerable challenges, including operating in a short, harsh and unpredictable Arctic construction season. We're proud of our work and what it will mean to these Alaska communities."

1-800-673-4394

201 East 56<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 300  
Anchorage, Alaska 99518

[www.Qexpressnet.com](http://www.Qexpressnet.com)



The Quintillion system will provide access to high speed broadband capacity for telecommunication service providers at lower wholesale cost and improved quality of service than existing satellite and microwave options. Introduction of high-speed internet to Quintillion's markets will enable improved health and education services, help spur economic development, empower local businesses, and allow consumers access to video and other high-speed applications.

"Our mission is to deliver the same capacity to our Alaska markets the rest of the US has enjoyed for the past two decades," said Tronsrue. "We believe this will drive new growth and innovation, and enhance education, medicine and other essential services."

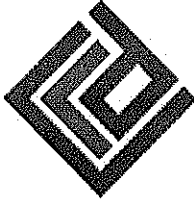
#### **About Quintillion**

Quintillion is headquartered in Anchorage and is the company that is building and will operate the Quintillion Subsea Cable System, bringing affordable high-speed Internet access to the North American Arctic for the first time. Quintillion is a private operator that contracts to sell capacity on a wholesale basis on its network. Quintillion's system provides access to substantially improved service quality for telecommunications providers while reducing the cost of backhaul infrastructure compared to existing satellite and microwave technologies. Route maps and other information are available at [Qexpressnet.com](http://Qexpressnet.com).

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# RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

## ACTION ALERT

Call for comments for the Liberty Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement  
**Comment Deadline: December 8, 2017**

### Overview

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Liberty Project, proposed by Hilcorp Alaska, LLC. Liberty is a light-oil reservoir in nearshore federal waters with an estimated 150-330 million

barrels of oil in place. Peak production of between 60,000 and 70,000 barrels per day is projected within two years of initial production. The field is located 15 miles east of Prudhoe Bay.

Hilcorp proposes constructing an artificial gravel island about six miles offshore in 19 feet of water that is optimally located to minimize drilling and production risks. The outer perimeter of the 9-acre island would be armored with concrete blocks and steel sheetpile, using proven technology to protect it from ice pressure and storm surges. The island would be similar to the four oil and gas producing islands currently in operation in state waters of the Beaufort Sea – Spy Island, Northstar Island, Endicott Island, and Oooguruk Island. The island will be used for wells, production facilities, a camp, utilities, and a dedicated area for a relief-well. To minimize its environmental footprint, no permanent road or causeway would connect it to the mainland.

Oil would be transported to shore via a subsea pipeline, then through a newly constructed 1.5-mile onshore pipeline connecting to the Badami pipeline and eventually to the trans-Alaska pipeline. The subsea pipeline would be a pipe-within-a-pipe with a 12-inch diameter inner pipe and a 16-inch diameter outer pipeline similar to installations at the offshore Oooguruk and Nikaitchuq fields. The marine segment would be 5.6 miles in length, installed during winter and buried deeply in the subsea floor, safe from ice.

The rigorous multi-year permitting process for Liberty has addressed concerns raised during previous comment periods. Approximately 60 federal, state, and local permits and authorizations are required before the project can move forward. The latest DEIS at 1,270 pages is the result of decades of study and research.

Hilcorp has majority ownership in Liberty with BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc., and AEX ASRC Exploration as partners. Hilcorp would be the operator.

The comment deadline is December 8. For additional information: [boem.gov/hilcorp-liberty/](http://boem.gov/hilcorp-liberty/)

### Action Requested:

Please submit comments urging BOEM to approve the Proposed Action in the DEIS and allow the Liberty project to move forward.

Online: [boem.gov/hilcorp-liberty/](http://boem.gov/hilcorp-liberty/) or Post to [regulations.gov](http://regulations.gov)  
Search field: BOEM-2015-0068

**Points to consider in your comments:**

- BOEM should approve the Proposed Action in the DEIS and allow the Liberty project to move forward. Liberty is an important project for Alaska as it will produce an estimated 60,000 to 70,000 barrels of oil per day, creating hundreds of new jobs, and providing royalty payments to the State of Alaska, as well as tax revenue to the North Slope Borough.
- Alaska's economic lifeline, TAPS, is now running at three-quarters empty. Liberty will increase TAPS throughput, helping to keep it operating longer and more efficiently.
- State and local spending of taxes and royalties paid by the oil and gas industry directly creates jobs in the public sector and indirectly creates jobs throughout the private sector. The project would generate significant long-term business and economic activity. For each direct oil industry job, 20 additional jobs are generated in the Alaska economy.
- The Liberty production island will be well-protected from the polar ice pack, sheltered by a belt of offshore barrier islands.
- The Liberty project builds upon more than 30 years of proven technology and safe operation in the shallow waters of the Beaufort Sea. Artificial islands in the Beaufort Sea date back to the mid-1970s. In the last 40 years, 18 islands have been responsibly constructed for exploration and development of oil and gas.
- The offshore Liberty pipeline will be buried in the subsea floor. It will include automatic leak detection and temperature-monitoring technology, proven technology utilized on existing production islands in the region.
- The rigorous multi-year permitting process for Liberty has addressed the concerns that were raised during the previous comment period. Approximately 60 federal, state, and local permits and authorizations are required before the project can move forward.
- Hilcorp has committed to signing a Conflict Avoidance Agreement with local whaling groups to engage with the whalers to protect subsistence activities.

**Deadline December 8, 2017**

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**Executive Director**  
Maieanna Hall

2017-2018

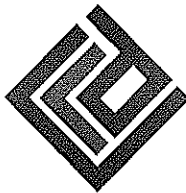
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# RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

November 14, 2017

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management  
BLM Public Information Center  
222 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, #13  
Anchorage, AK 99513

Re: Liberty Draft Environmental Impact Statement comments

To Whom It May Concern:

The Resource Development Council for Alaska, Inc. (RDC) is writing to express its strong support for the Liberty project and urge the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) to approve the Proposed Action in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS).

RDC is an Alaskan business association comprised of individuals and companies from Alaska's oil and gas, mining, forest products, tourism and fisheries industries. RDC's membership includes Alaska Native Corporations, local communities, organized labor, and industry support firms. RDC's purpose is to encourage a strong, diversified private sector in Alaska and expand the state's economic base through the responsible development of our natural resources.

With the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System now running at three-quarters empty, projects like Liberty need to move forward. Liberty has the potential to increase throughput in the pipeline by up to 70,000 barrels per day. Development and production of this oil will provide economic benefits across Alaska, including tax revenue to the North Slope Borough, jobs for Alaskans, and new opportunities for Alaska businesses.

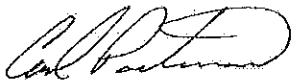
While Alaska remains in the grip of a prolonged recession, it is still a state rich in oil with billions of barrels yet to be developed and produced. In fact, there is more conventional oil remaining in place in the Alaska Arctic than what has been produced in the 40 years since production began on the North Slope. Liberty and other potential North Slope projects combined can refill TAPS and help grow Alaska's economy out of recession.

RDC is confident the Liberty reservoir can be developed in an environmentally-responsible manner. Hilcorp will utilize technology that has been safely used in other Arctic offshore development over the past 30 years. The Liberty Development and Production Plan incorporates key elements of the previous EIS and uses concepts approved in the prior EIS, including the location of the proposed gravel island, island construction, on-island drilling and processing facilities, and pipeline routing to the coast.

Artificial gravel islands are not new to Alaska's Arctic and have a long track record of safe operations. These islands have proven to be a responsible means for oil and gas development in the Beaufort Sea. The Endicott oil field uses man-made islands for its operations, which were constructed nearly 30 years ago. Moreover, the Oooguruk, Northstar, and Nikaitchuk fields currently produce oil from artificial islands. The initial discovery of Liberty itself occurred in the 1980s from islands constructed in 1981-82. Overall, 18 gravel islands have been constructed for exploration and/or development of oil and gas off the coast of Alaska in the last 40 years.

RDC encourages BOEM to approve Alternative One, the Proposed Action in the DEIS and move forward with permitting in a timely manner. RDC appreciates the opportunity to comment on this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carl Portman', written in a cursive style.

Carl Portman  
Deputy Director

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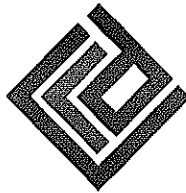
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# RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

December 1, 2017

Ms. Judith Bittner  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Office of History and Archaeology  
Alaska Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation  
550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 1310  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Re: Ch'u'itnu Traditional Cultural Landscape Nomination

Dear Ms. Bittner:

The Resource Development Council for Alaska, Inc. (RDC) is writing to express its opposition to the listing of the proposed Ch'u'itnu Traditional Cultural Landscape (CTCL) in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). RDC has serious concerns regarding the nomination and believes the listing would set a troubling precedent across Alaska and America. It could be used to hinder and potentially block community, village, and resource development projects, including needed infrastructure in Alaska and elsewhere.

RDC is an Alaskan business association comprised of individuals and companies from Alaska's oil and gas, mining, forest products, tourism and fisheries industries. RDC's membership includes Alaska Native Corporations, local communities, organized labor, and industry support firms. RDC's purpose is to encourage a strong, diversified private sector in Alaska and expand the state's economic base through the responsible development of our natural resources.

Although proponents of a listing claim it would not mean limitations would be placed on a property, landowners and project sponsors elsewhere have reported serious impacts, including costly delays, increased uncertainty in the permitting process, and litigation – all of which severely complicate and hinder projects from moving forward.

At a time when Alaska needs to grow and diversify its economy, the Ch'u'itnu nomination could ultimately result in the lock-up of an entire Alaska watershed of private and State land, potentially blocking future infrastructure, oil and gas, and mineral development. RDC and many of its members are concerned the Ch'u'itnu proposal could be used as a model across the nation to further extend the National Environmental Policy Act process and put broad swaths of land under a designation which could jeopardize community and resource development.

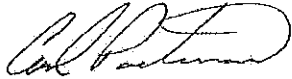
121 West Fireweed Lane, Suite 250, Anchorage, Alaska 99503  
907-276-0700 • resources@akrdc.org • akrdc.org



In conclusion, RDC is opposed to listing the CTCL on the NRHP. The proposed CTCL is not a "property" or "district" which meets the criteria justifying listing under the National Historic Preservation Act.

RDC appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the Ch'u'itnu nomination, which we believe poses significant ramifications for community infrastructure projects and responsible resource development in Alaska and other states.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carl Portman', written in a cursive style.

Carl Portman  
Deputy Director

# Alaska Dispatch News

Opinions

## RDC does stand for salmon – and jobs and communities

✍ Author: Marleanna Hall | Opinion ⌚ Updated: November 21

📅 Published November 21

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The Resource Development Council for Alaska Inc. is proud to support all responsible resource development across the state, including tourism, fishing, mining, forestry, and oil and gas, and have been since we were founded in 1975.

This last week, RDC hosted over 30 speakers at our annual conference, many with optimistic news from all resource sectors, as well as Alaska Native executives, labor leaders and elected officials.

The message of optimism, moving forward, and responsibly developing Alaska's natural resources was at the forefront for the hundreds of Alaskans who attended.

But on the first day of the conference, a fellow Alaskan, Art Bloom, wrote an opinion piece that, in short, said "RDC should stand for salmon." To be clear, RDC does stand for salmon, as well as jobs, communities and the Alaskan way of life.

I agree with Mr. Bloom. Salmon and all fish and marine species are vital to Alaska and the people who live here.

I also agree with Mr. Bloom that the Alaska seafood industry is one of the best-managed in the world, a fact we often tout.





*Red salmon spawn in the Wood River, which flows into the Nushagak River north of Dillingham. (Thomas Quinn / University of Washington)*

What Mr. Bloom failed to do in his opinion piece is provide an example of why he thinks RDC isn't standing for salmon. Instead of pointing to facts, he points to our support for Stand for Alaska, a diverse group of Alaskans that came together in October to inform fellow Alaskans about the negative consequences of the deeply flawed, proposed fish habitat initiative.

*[Judge overrules Mallott, sides with ballot group on salmon initiative]*

The initiative, 17FSH2, is a response to a problem that simply does not exist.

Mr. Bloom neglected to give an example of how, or when, a fish habitat permit in Alaska has failed. Given the drastic impacts the proposed initiative will have on community and resource development projects across the state, Alaskans are right to be concerned.

Mr. Bloom did state that the Board of Fish requested updates to the habitat permitting law in January 2017. What he omitted was the actual ask by the board, which was to add a public comment opportunity and a method of accountability in the fish habitat permit process. The proposed initiative goes way beyond that simple request, and represents extreme overreach that could put Alaska's resource-extraction based economy in the deep freeze and kill future opportunities for Alaska and its residents while providing no added benefits to fish habitat

providing no added benefits to fish habitat.

As Alaskans, we brag about responsibly developing our natural resources, building and expanding our communities, and living in Alaska while protecting wildlife and the environment.

*[Bristol Bay Native Corp. takes stand against Stand for Salmon initiative]*

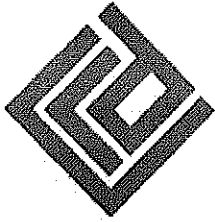
Let us celebrate the sustainable seafood industry, the growing tourism industry, the year over year increase in oil production, the increases in mining exploration investment, and the optimism in reviving a healthy timber industry. All of these industries have coexisted for decades.

After all, RDC and its thousands of members spanning all of Alaska's resource sectors DO stand for salmon, jobs and communities. Insinuating otherwise is offensive. It is possible to support healthy fish habitat in our state while simultaneously fighting against a job-killing initiative that is opposed by a broad coalition of businesses, labor unions, Alaska Native corporations and many other Alaska-based organizations.

When the time comes, Alaskans who want to see a future filled with jobs, opportunities and salmon protections should Stand for Alaska, and vote no on the flawed fish habitat initiative.

*Marleanna Hall is executive director for the Resource Development Council for Alaska Inc., an Alaskan nonprofit, membership-funded organization composed of individuals and companies from Alaska's oil and gas, mining, timber, tourism and fisheries industries, as well as the 12 Alaska Native corporations. An Inupiat Eskimo and lifelong Alaskan, Hall also serves as chair for Stand for Alaska, a group formed in October 2017 to defeat the proposed fish habitat initiative in 2018.*

*The views expressed here are the writer's and are not necessarily endorsed by the Anchorage Daily News, which welcomes a broad range of viewpoints. To submit a piece for consideration, email [commentary@adn.com](mailto:commentary@adn.com). Send submissions shorter than 200 words to [letters@adn.com](mailto:letters@adn.com) or click [here](#) to submit via any web browser.*



# RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

## Testimony before the BLM • Anchorage, Alaska • November 20, 2017 Ambler Mining District Industrial Access Project

Good evening, my name is Marleanna Hall, I am the executive director for the Resource Development Council for Alaska, Inc. RDC is an Alaskan trade association with members in tourism, oil and gas, forestry, fishing, and mining, as well as the 12 regional Native corporations, labor, individuals, and others supporting the responsible development of Alaska's natural resources.

RDC supports the permitting process for projects in and around Alaska, and today wishes to express support for the Ambler Mining District Industrial Access Project to go through the Environmental and Economic Impact Analysis. The process gives Alaskans time to review a project's documents, and to provide input on the plans.

While the road has not been formally proposed, and no mine plan has been submitted for permitting, RDC urges stakeholders to allow this and any potential project to go through the process.

In addition, RDC urges the BLM to apply the proper section, Title 2 from the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act to this project, and allow it to go through the permitting process, which is based on sound science and includes opportunities for stakeholder input. The EEA, through ANILCA, will determine the best route, as well as the best terms and conditions for the permit.

My understanding too, is that the road will be modeled after the DeLong Mountain Transportation System, a successful, example of a Public-Private-Partnership.

Lastly, I would be remiss not to point out the potential benefits that could come with this project: jobs, including training and lifelong skills, economic diversification, and other opportunities.

We look forward to participating in the public process for this potential project, and look forward to reviewing a timely, thorough analysis in the EIS.

RDC will submit formal comments before the January 31 deadline. Thank you for the opportunity to comment today.

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**Executive Director**  
Marleanna Hall

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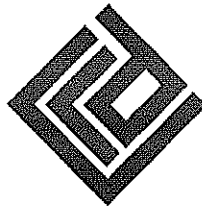
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# RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

November 14, 2017

Ms. Ellen Lyons  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, CEPOA-RD  
2175 University Avenue, Suite 201E  
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Re: Nanushuk Project Environmental Impact Statement

Dear Ms. Lyons:

The Resource Development Council for Alaska, Inc. (RDC) is writing to express its strong support for the Nanushuk project, which could ultimately prove to be one of the largest fields discovered on the North Slope.

RDC is an Alaskan business association comprised of individuals and companies from Alaska's oil and gas, mining, forest products, tourism and fisheries industries. RDC's membership includes Alaska Native Corporations, local communities, organized labor, and industry support firms. RDC's purpose is to encourage a strong, diversified private sector in Alaska and expand the state's economic base through the responsible development of our natural resources.

New oil production from Nanushuk could add up to 120,000 barrels of oil per day into the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System, Alaska's economic life-line that is now running at three-quarters empty. Alaska desperately needs more oil production and Nanushuk has the potential to deliver significant new volumes.

Nanushuk could be one of the most significant discoveries on the North Slope since the discovery of Kuparuk and Alpine fields. The project would generate significant long-term economic activity with up to 600 North Slope construction jobs and additional direct jobs in Anchorage. For each direct oil industry job, 20 additional jobs are generated across the Alaska economy.

Given the Nanushuk project is located near existing infrastructure, environmental impacts are likely to be minimal. With evolving improvements in technology, best practices, and oversight, the industry has demonstrated that North Slope energy development and environmental stewardship can and do coexist.

In conclusion, RDC is confident the Nanushuk project can be developed in a responsible and safe manner. We support Alternative 2, the Applicant's Proposed Action and encourage the Corps to move forward in a timely manner.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our support for this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carl Portman', written in a cursive style.

Carl Portman  
Deputy Director

## **Senate Passes Legislation to Open Alaska's 1002 Area**

*Reconciliation Bill Will Create Jobs, Generate Revenues, Refill TAPS*

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – U.S. Sens. Lisa Murkowski, Dan Sullivan, and Rep. Don Young, all R-Alaska, today released the following statements after the Senate passed H.R. 1, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which includes Murkowski's title opening a small portion of the non-wilderness 1002 Area of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) for responsible energy development.

"Tonight is a critical milestone in our efforts to secure Alaska's future," **Murkowski said**. "Opening the 1002 Area and tax reform both stand on their own, but combining them into the same bill, and then successfully passing that bill, makes this a great day to be an Alaskan. I thank all of the Senators who spent time learning about our opportunities and needs, and who joined us tonight in voting for Alaska. We are grateful for their support and eager to take the next steps for this pro-jobs, pro-growth, and pro-energy legislation."

"Today's historic vote is yet another milestone in bringing us that much closer to realizing a decades-long dream of opening the 1002 area of ANWR," **Sullivan said**. "Although there is still work to be done, I'm optimistic we will succeed on the merits of our policy and the passion of our people. Allowing development in the coastal plain, an area specifically set aside for exploration and development, is a win for Alaska and a win for the nation. It will create thousands of good paying jobs, restore faith in our economy and drive investments in our communities. It will also help protect the global environment by producing energy at home using the most stringent of environmental standards, and will help strengthen our national security and foreign policy. Going forward, I will continue to work with Senator Murkowski and Congressman Young as a strong team for Alaska to at long last make this a reality for Alaska and the nation."

"I applaud the Senate for passing this much-needed legislation to reform our tax code and unlock more of Alaska's energy potential," **Young said**. "Alaska is home to a vast amount of natural resources, and through the development of ANWR, we will strengthen our economy by creating new jobs and generating new revenue. I am proud of the work that has been done by our Senators to overcome complex parliamentary hurdles and retain this important language in the bill. As we move forward, particularly through the Conference Committee process, I will work with my House colleagues to ensure Alaska's interests are protected and our energy sector continues to be a global leader. This is crucial for the economic growth of our state and nation, but also for countless families, communities and small businesses."

Murkowski is chairman of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Title II of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which was written by Murkowski, establishes an environmentally protective oil and gas development program in the non-wilderness 1002 Area, with two lease sales required over the next ten years. It was reported out of committee on a bipartisan basis on November 15, 2017. Murkowski and Sullivan both voted in support of the reconciliation bill.





# RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

## Membership Form

RDC is a statewide business association comprised of individuals and companies from Alaska's oil and gas, mining, forest products, tourism and fisheries industries. RDC's membership includes Alaska Native Corporations, local communities, organized labor, and industry support firms. RDC's purpose is to encourage a strong, diversified private sector in Alaska and expand the state's economic base through the responsible development of our natural resources.

To join or to view a list of current RDC members, visit [akrdc.org/membership](http://akrdc.org/membership)

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Basic	\$75
Silver	\$150
Gold	\$300
Platinum	\$500 and up

#### Corporate:

Basic	\$500
Silver	\$750
Gold	\$1,500
Platinum	\$3,000 and up

\*Corporate members receive a listing on [akrdc.org](http://akrdc.org)

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