

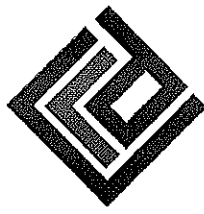
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RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

BREAKFAST MEETING

Thursday, April 21, 2016

1. Call to order – Ralph Samuels, President
2. Self Introductions
3. Head Table Introductions
4. Staff Report – Marleanna Hall, Executive Director
5. Program and Keynote Speaker:

National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska Update

Nick Olds, Vice President of North Slope Operations and Development,
ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc.

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 5th:

Point Thomson Update

Cory Quarles, Production Manager, ExxonMobil

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This breakfast packet and presentation may be found online at:

akrdc.org



TOURISM



FISHERIES



OIL & GAS



MINING



FORESTRY

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Marleanna Hall

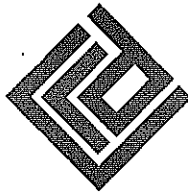
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RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

April 15, 2016

Governor Bill Walker
State of Alaska
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: Committee Substitutes for SB 128 and HB 245

Dear Governor Walker:

The Resource Development Council for Alaska, Inc. (RDC) applauds the legislature with putting forward the new versions of SB 128 and HB 245, which represent the important foundation for a much-needed long-term fiscal plan for the State. At the same time, RDC strongly opposes any linkage of this important step forward with the major step backwards contained in the oil tax bills (SB 130/HB 247).

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.

For more than 20 years, RDC has advocated for a long-term fiscal plan for the State of Alaska.

RDC appreciates and supports the efforts of the respective House and Senate Finance Committees and the Administration to reach consensus around one of the most important aspects of such a long-range plan; prudent use of our state's savings and investment assets to address the budget deficit and provide a long-term, sustainable revenue source. The Committee Substitutes for SB 128 and HB 245 are an important step in this direction.

Unfortunately, the Committee Substitutes for SB 128 and HB 245 are being tied to extracting more revenue from the private sector when they are linked to oil tax credit bills. It is the private sector who has "skin in the game," and which drives our state's resource-based economy. The idea and timing of taking more money from the investors who drive our economy could not be worse as many production, exploration, and service companies have laid off thousands of Alaskans, and as many are in negative cash flow. Yet State government has maintained essentially flat staffing levels during this current downturn in both energy and commodity prices.

Now is the time to stimulate the private sector. The oil tax bills will extract billions of dollars from the private sector, and will send Alaska's revenue generating sector into a steeper tailspin. We continue to hear that increasing government's take from the private sector is politically tied to taking the prudent step of utilizing our State's savings at this time.

121 West Fireweed Lane, Suite 250, Anchorage, Alaska 99503
Phone: 907-276-0700 • Fax: 907-276-3887 • Email: resources@akrdc.org • Website: akrdc.org

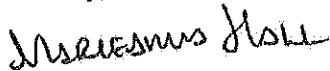
Increasing taxes is not a wise course of action in these tough economic times. To protect Alaska's economy, policy makers must restructure Alaska's savings, as the models show, so that plenty of revenue is provided in the future to fund government, and keep up with inflation.

According to the legislative finance analysis of the new versions of SB 128 and HB 245, the government take line from the private economy resulting from changing the investment tax credits simply increases the projected extra cash reserves that state government would have in year 2025 from \$10 billion to as much as \$13 billion. Alternatively, with no increases in state tax take from the private economy, the Legislative Finance models show that state government will continue to have a \$10 billion cash reserve in ten years.

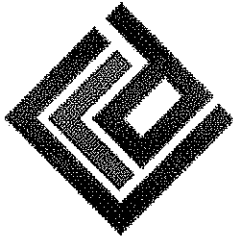
Thus, RDC believes that the new versions of the savings restructuring bills are a vital step in the right direction, and should be considered on their merits without being tied to increasing the tax take from the sector that drives our state's economy. While it may be politically challenging to fix the budget this session, Alaska must realize a path to sustainability.

RDC appreciates your time and efforts this session, and thanks you for your consideration of our perspective. We look forward to working with the Administration and Legislature to find solutions for Alaska's future.

Sincerely,



Marleanna Hall
Executive Director



RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

Testimony on HB 249: Motor fuel, mining and fishing taxes April 15, 2016 • Before House Finance Committee

Good evening. My name is Marleanna Hall, and I am the Executive Director for the Resource Development Council for Alaska. I represent 100s of members in the private sector, including mining, fishing, tourism, oil and gas, and forestry companies.

My members are the life-blood of Alaska's economy. We believe the best approach to expand the economy and generate new revenues for the state is to harvest more seafood, mine more minerals, produce more oil, and attract more tourists.

With regard to House Bill 249, raising taxes on companies that are experiencing low commodity prices and reduced investments is a terrible idea.

Increasing taxes on our natural resource industries will not encourage the development of new mines in Alaska, it will not boost investment in the fishing industry, it will not attract more tourists, and it will not increase throughput for the Trans Alaska Pipeline System. Higher taxes in this low-priced commodity environment will likely deter investment and lead to lower state revenues and a weaker private sector over the long run.

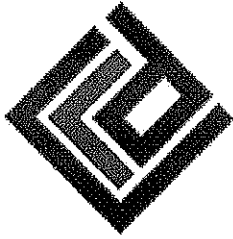
A major concern RDC has with HB 249 is that the administration has not conducted a risk analysis on the bill's impact on the resource sectors. The effect of this tax proposal must be fully reviewed and unintended consequences, including potential impact on future investment, must be considered.

As an example, in the mining industry, exploration activities are sharply down. This bill will not help return Alaska to a place that companies will want to invest millions of dollars in exploration and development of new mines.

In the fishing industry, my members are being asked to pay more taxes with the potential of decreased capacity in the management of the fishery resources, a resource that is currently one of the best managed in the world.

When you incentivize something, you get more of it. We need to incentivize the private sector to invest more in Alaska to create more wealth, provide more jobs, and ultimately provide more revenue to the State of Alaska.

Co-chairs and members of the House Finance Committee, I thank you for the opportunity to offer RDC's opposition to HB 249 today and urge you to reject this legislation.



RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

Testimony on SB 130: Oil tax bill **April 14, 2016 • Before Senate Finance Committee**

Good morning. My name is Marleanna Hall, and I am the Executive Director for the Resource Development Council, otherwise known as RDC.

RDC is a statewide trade association comprised of individuals and companies from Alaska's oil and gas, mining, forest products, fisheries and tourism industries. RDC members are the life-blood of Alaska's economy. We believe the best approach to expand the economy and generate new revenues for the state is to produce more oil, attract more tourists, harvest more fish, and mine more minerals.

With regard to the Committee Substitute SB 130, raising taxes on companies that are reporting record losses and are in negative cash flow is not sound fiscal policy.

Increasing taxes on our natural resource industries will not increase production for the Trans Alaska Pipeline System, it will not encourage the development of new mines in Alaska, it will not attract more tourists, and it will not boost investment in the fishing industry. Higher taxes in this low-priced commodity environment will likely deter investment and lead to lower state revenues and a weaker private sector over the long run.

The oil industry is struggling with low oil prices and tight capital markets. Companies are cutting budgets and making tough investment decisions. Increasing taxes on the industry at this time will jeopardize new investment, further damaging our private sector economy.

Changing the tax regime now will make a bad situation worse. But some good news: Several news outlets recently announced an increase of year-over-year oil production during the past 12 months. This is the first increase in throughput since 2002. More proof of the current tax regime working.

When you incentivize something, you get more of it. We need to incentivize the industry to drill more, create more wealth, create more activity, and aim for next year's production to be even higher than this year's.

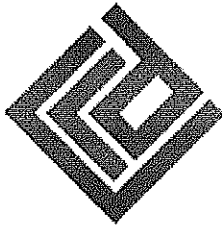
The current tax policy brought new exploration, jobs, and continued investment to the state. It has stabilized North Slope production and has somewhat shielded Alaska from the massive cut backs that have occurred elsewhere.

The oil industry is truly the foundation of Alaska's economy and keeping it strong is the key to sustaining the private sector, Alaskan jobs, state government, and the overall economy.

Conversely, this bill moves us in the wrong direction. It represents the sixth major tax change in Alaska in the last 11 years.

RDC's members are not asking for a tax decrease during this time of low commodity prices like other states and countries are considering, but we do request that as the state considers changes to tax policy, it do no harm to the state's largest industry.

Co-chairs and members of the Senate Finance Committee, I thank you for the opportunity to offer RDC's perspective on CS SB 130 today and urge you to reject this legislation.



RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

Action Alert: Donlin Gold Project

Comment Deadline is April 30, 2016

Overview:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers released the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Donlin Gold project. The Corps will accept comments, questions, and suggestions to the DEIS through April 30, 2016. In addition, a series of Public Meetings were previously held in region communities and in Anchorage.

The project is located in Southwest Alaska, approximately 277 miles west of Anchorage, nearest to the community of Crooked Creek. In addition to an open pit, hard rock gold mine, the project proposal includes 313 miles of buried, natural gas pipeline; a power plant; and a road, airstrip and barge landings.

The Donlin Gold project could produce gold for 27.5 years, while providing well-paying jobs. The region experiences some of the highest unemployment rates and has few other economic opportunities. Through the exploration stages, Donlin has shown a strong commitment to local hire as well as showing support to communities and cultures in the region. The Donlin Gold project is a rare opportunity to improve the local economy where few other opportunities exist.

The project will be scrutinized under a rigorous permitting process that reviews and analyzes all potential impacts, and should include the positive economic ones. Alaska has six existing large producing mines that were permitted under a rigorous review required by the National Environmental Policy Act and a scientifically based permitting process that would require as many as 100 State and Federal permits and authorizations.

The project is on surface land owned by The Kuskokwim Corporation (TKC), and Calista Corporation subsurface estate. These lands were selected under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) specifically for their mineral development potential. Royalties paid to Calista will in part be redistributed to other regional and village corporations, pursuant to the 7(i) and 7(j) provisions of ANCSA. Donlin Gold is proposing to develop this land in partnership with Calista Corporation and TKC.

Additional project information can be found at: <http://www.DonlinGoldEIS.com>

Action requested:

Please submit written comments in support of Alternative 2. Lack of development will have a negative social and economic impact on the Yukon Kuskokwim (YK) region, particularly as the Alaska economy is in a downturn.

Email: POA.donlingoldeis@usace.army.mil

Online: www.donlingoldeis.com/Comment.aspx

Fax: 907-753-5567

Mail comments to:

Keith Gordon, Project Manager

U.S. Army Corps of Engineer

Alaska District CEPOA-RD-Gordon

P.O. Box 6898

JBER, AK, 99506-0898

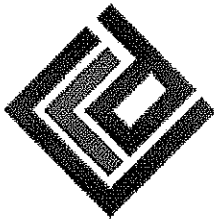
RDC encourages its members to support Alternative 2, highlighting:

- The social and economic benefits of this project to the region, state, and to the nation;
 - Through ANCSA 7(i) and 7(j) revenue sharing provisions, the Donlin Gold project will provide revenue to all Alaska Native regional and village corporations.
 - The jobs and the economic stimulus provided by Donlin Gold would help sustain communities in the YK region and help residents with costs associated with subsistence activities.
 - Rural Alaska is being impacted most by the reduction of state and federal dollars. Alternative 1 (the no project alternative) will likely have a negative impact on the YK region.
- The potential for lower cost energy options to the region such as the proposed natural gas pipeline which will have excess capacity should there be an interest in accessing natural gas to address the energy needs of the YK region.
- Job opportunities which will likely lead to reduced out-migration, helping to maintain rural schools and culture, including traditional ways of life.

Additional points to consider in your comments:

- The Donlin Gold project could produce gold for 27.5 years, while providing well paying jobs in a region where few other opportunities exist.
- The State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources enforces stringent regulations overseeing mining activities statewide that effectively protect the environment, wildlife, and human health.
- New mining operations in the area, should they come to fruition, can be of great economic benefit to Alaska and local communities, as well as Alaska Native corporations and shareholders.
- This project will likely provide responsible economic prospects for this region and for Alaska, while protecting the subsistence resources.
- The proposed pipeline in Alternative 2 is designed to minimize impacts on the Iditarod National Historic Trail. There would be insignificant impacts to the trail and no impacts to the Iditarod Sled Dog race.
- Construction of the gas pipeline would be sensitive to the timing of the Iditarod and Iron Dog races as well as hunting season.
- The EIS process gives Alaskans and other stakeholders adequate time to fully review the project documents, and to provide input on the plans.
- The project will offer long-term opportunities for rural Alaskans to develop skills and to enable them to not only continue living in rural Alaska, but to prosper.
- An estimated 3,000 jobs will be created during the approximate four-year construction phase, and between 600 to 1,200 jobs for the estimated mine life of 27.5 years. These jobs will have a significant and positive impact on the economy of the region and the state.
- Donlin Gold's project description demonstrates an understanding of environmental concerns, and features vigorous environmental management principles.
- Alaska's existing mines are operating to the highest standards and in harmony with our renewable resources.

Comment Deadline is April 30, 2016



RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

ACTION ALERT

Comment on the Nanushuk Project
Comment Deadline: May 1, 2016

Overview:

Armstrong and Repsol E&P USA, Inc. are proposing to develop the Nanushuk project, located approximately 52 miles west of Deadhorse and seven miles northeast of Nuiqsut. The conventional onshore field, utilizing proven arctic technology, is east of the main channel of the Colville River. The field could ultimately prove to be one of the largest on the North Slope.

Up to 76 production and injection wells would be drilled in multiple phases from three drill sites. Construction would include the Nanushuk Pad, which would include a central processing facility; additional drill sites and an operations center pad. A tie-in pad would be constructed adjacent to an existing Kuparuk facility. The project would include 11 miles of gravel infield roads and a 14-mile gravel access road to provide all-season ground transportation between the Nanushuk Pad and the existing road system at Kuparuk.

During construction, up to 600 employees will be housed in temporary camps. Construction is expected to take four years with a minimum of five years of development drilling. First oil is expected three to four years following issuance of all permits, and the project could produce up to 120,000 barrels per day. Assuming timely regulatory approval, the Nanushuk project could bring in \$5 billion in new investment activity over six years.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to identify and analyze the potential impacts associated with the development of the Alpine C and Nanushuk reservoirs, including construction and operation of the proposed project. The Corps will be evaluating a permit application for work under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act and section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The EIS will be used to support the permit decision in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Part of the EIS process will be to identify reasonable alternatives and document potential positive or negative environmental effects of the proposed project.

Additional information on the project is available at:
<http://www.nanushukeis.com/projects/nanushukeis/index.html>

Requested Action:

Submit written comments in support of the project to Ms. Janet Post, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Division CEPOA-RD, P.O. Box 6898, JBER, AK 99506-0898; by email: janet.l.post@usace.army.mil, or online: NanushukEIS.com.

Deadline for submittal of written comments is May 1st.

Points to consider for your testimony:

- The \$5 billion Nanushuk prospect is an important and positive development for Alaska and could be one of the most significant discoveries on the North Slope since the discovery of the Alpine oil field.
- Alaska's economic lifeline, the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS), is now running at three-quarters empty. The Nanushuk project has the potential to produce up to 120,000 barrels of oil per day, significantly increasing TAPS throughput and revenues to the State of Alaska.

- 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 and up to 600 North Slope construction jobs for Alaskans. In addition, 60 direct jobs would be created in Anchorage and two rigs supporting development for five years each would generate 120 to 150 jobs per rig, and more through fabrication, logistics, and indirect jobs. For each direct oil industry job, 20 additional jobs are generated in the Alaska economy.
- The Nanushuk project is located near existing industry infrastructure, minimizing potential environmental impact.
- Thanks to continuing improvements in technology, practices, and oversight, the oil industry has demonstrated that North Slope energy development and environmental stewardship can and do coexist.
- Industry has a proven track record of responsible development in environmentally-sensitive areas, protecting the environment, wildlife and subsistence needs of local residents.

Deadline: May 1, 2016

Oil and gas, trans-Alaska pipeline still vital to state's future

By Tom Barrett

Published on *Alaska Dispatch News* • April 19, 2016

In recent weeks, pronouncements about Alaska's oil and gas industry are made daily, often loudly, by people, some of whom appear guided by misplaced passions rather than logic or fact. The truth is, Alaska's oil industry is struggling just like Alaska's economy. Industry companies are collectively cutting back, laying off hundreds of hardworking Alaskans, and halting some operations due to frighteningly low oil prices and political hurdles. A truth remains: The long-term health of Alaska's oil and gas industry is as connected and vital as ever to the health of our state. Another truth is that the trans-Alaska oil pipeline system throughput matters a lot.

Oil throughput is a lifeblood of Alaska's economy, North Slope production is a beating heart and TAPS is an 800-mile-long artery. Alaska's oil is transported, as it has been for nearly 40 years, from Prudhoe Bay to Valdez via TAPS by Alyeska Pipeline Service Company employees and TAPS contractors.

The TAPS workforce of 2,500 men and women operates TAPS more safely, more reliably and more efficiently than ever. Nearly 95 percent of Alyeska employees live in Alaska and carry a deep satisfaction knowing that their work is essential to their state and communities. They have a passion for their fellow pipeline workers and TAPS. We call it "TAPS pride" and it is felt in good and tough times.

The industry employs thousands of Alaskans across the state -- engineers and surveyors, pipeline technicians, welders and laborers, accountants and safety and environmental professionals. They are mothers and fathers of families that bolster Alaska's retail industry, schools and nonprofit agencies. They are coaches and consumers, volunteers and neighbors.

TAPS throughput matters to Alaska's residents, economy and communities. It matters to those working in the industry. And it matters to the TAPS infrastructure and the science of operating a pipeline that travels through some of the world's most spectacular and challenging landscapes.

Last week, Alaska's oil and gas industry received positive news. The state of Alaska Department of Revenue data showed that yearlong North Slope oil production had increased for the first time since 2002 and for only the second time since 1991. From April 1, 2015, to March 31, 2016, the daily production average rose .87 percent over the previous 12 months (512,456 barrels per day compared to 508,047). And for fiscal year 2016, the state predicts that production will reach an average of 520,200 barrels daily, up from 500,700 barrels in fiscal year 2015.

Throughput is vital to TAPS sustainability. People often say that TAPS is only a quarter-full, down from its peak of 2.03 million barrels in 1988. This is not technically accurate since the pipeline is always "full" of oil. Lower throughput means that the oil moves in the pipe more slowly and in winter at lower temperatures.

Colder, slower moving oil amplifies the risk of increased wax buildup and ice inside the pipeline. That is a reality of current throughput and a battle that TAPS employees face every winter. If TAPS operations shut down in winter, cold oil will make it difficult to restart the system and Alaska's economy and the families that ultimately depend on that economy would take a substantial hit.

Current state oil production forecasts end in 2025, when predicted daily TAPS throughput will drop to around 300,000 barrels. TAPS faces a significant operational obstacle at that throughput level. Despite some of the best and most innovative people in the industry focused on this scenario, an operational solution has not yet been identified to sustain TAPS operations below 300,000 barrels per day.

Much like how the recent production numbers beat previous forecasts, political and public support can help Alaska's oil and gas industry continue an increased throughput trend. There are still billions of barrels of oil on the North Slope ready to be developed by large and small companies. Fiscal policy that better supports the industry and its exploration and production work will increase throughput in TAPS and yield economic benefits for Alaska and the people who live here.

Adm. Tom Barrett, U.S. Coast Guard (ret.) is the president of Alyeska Pipeline Service Company. He previously served as deputy secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation and as the first administrator of the U.S. Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration. Prior to that, he served 35 years in the United States Coast Guard, including as vice commandant.

Publication: Alaska Dispatch News; Date: Apr 18, 2016; Section: Opinion; Page: B4

COMMENTARY

Fossil fuels have a great future in Alaska, despite the wishes of some

Marleanna Hall

Recently, Charles Wohlforth wrote a commentary purporting the “twilight” of fossil fuels. On behalf of my members, I offer an alternate prediction: Fossil fuels aren’t going away any time soon. While he does not come out and say it in his recent column, it appears Mr. Wohlforth may have written it from a position of wishful thinking. So, let’s add a few more facts to the discussion, because even as renewable energies become popular, they cannot replace the importance of fossil fuels, especially in Alaska.

In his commentary, Wohlforth is misguided about the significant role of fossil fuels in Alaska, the United States and the globe. We believe our modern society is enhanced by smartphones, flat-panel televisions, tablets, and SUVs — in addition to running water and flushing toilets. For example, for those of you reading this on a smartphone or tablet, it took more than 40 mined minerals, including copper, silver, gold and tin, to make that technology possible. If we can agree on that, then we can also agree on the importance of adequate and reliable energy to power all of these gadgets and necessities.

Why does that matter? Electricity doesn’t just come from the outlet on the wall; it comes from generators that rely primarily on fossil fuels. While renewable energies, such as wind and solar, are increasing in use, they have been around for decades and are still much more expensive than fossil fuels, and often unreliable. Renewable energies cannot currently provide “base load” — which is what we rely on for the ability to turn on the lights whenever we want (or charge our gadgets and toys). Until renewables become widely available, economically feasible and more reliable in Alaska, our utilities will continue to rely on fossil fuels produced by the proud employees at Usibelli Coal Mine, the Cook Inlet platforms and the steadfast employees in the oil and gas industry on the North Slope and across the state.

Even the federal government acknowledges that fossil fuels will dominate the United States’ energy use for decades to come. The Energy Information Administration is a nonpartisan research arm of the federal government that provides energy statistics and analyzes all kinds of energy sources, from coal to wind and everything in between. The EIA says the U.S. will use fossil fuels for 80 percent of its energy needs until at least 2040. In other words, there’s no need to fear that Alaska’s oil, gas, and mineral resources will go “out of style” in a world that runs off solar-powered cars anytime soon.

Wohlforth’s claim that Alaska’s fossil fuels are “entering their twilight” is just not realistic. With some of the richest deposits of oil, gas, and mineral reserves in the world, our future of developing these natural resources remains bright. According to the 2015 BP Statistical Review of World Energy, Alaska’s oil and gas reserves represent a full one-third of the reserves in the U.S., and according to a 1986 report to the Alaska Division of Geological and Geographical surveys, Alaska is home to about 19 percent of the world’s known coal reserves. As we can see from government estimates, these resources will eventually be tapped to keep the lights and heat on, and the economy moving, in the United States and around the world. In a true “all of the above” energy strategy, it is imperative that we invest in all energy sources so we have as diverse an energy mix as possible.

As we continue to invest in renewables and alternative sources of energy, we need a bridge to take us to a cleaner tomorrow. For example, renewables’ low emissions offset the CO2 from fossil fuels, and the affordability of fossil fuels offsets the high price of renewables. With respect to both fossil fuels and renewables, it is not an either-or option; both should and will be part of our energy future. They’re not adversaries — they’re partners working together for a common good. They complement each other’s weaknesses so we can meet our nation’s growing energy needs in a smart and responsible way. Far from being at “the beginning of its end,” as Wohlforth said, we are just beginning to write fossil fuels’ story in this state.

Marleanna Hall is executive director of the Resource Development Council for Alaska, a statewide trade association made up of individuals and companies connected to Alaska’s oil and gas, mining, forest products, tourism and fisheries industries.

Founded 1976

Executive Director
Marleanna Hall

2015-2016

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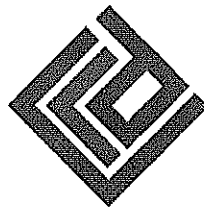
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RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

April 11, 2016

Representative Mark Neuman, Co-Chair
Representative Steve Thompson, Co-Chair
House Finance Committee
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: CSSB 32, State Timber Sales

Dear Co-chairs Neuman and Thompson:

I am writing on behalf of the Resource Development Council of Alaska for Alaska, Inc. (RDC) to support passage of CSSB 32, an Act relating to the sale of timber on state land.

RDC is a statewide business association representing forestry, oil and gas, mining, tourism, and fishing industries. Our mission is to grow Alaska through responsible resource development. RDC supports policies aimed at ensuring a reliable and economical long-term State and federal timber supply.

In the decades since the State's timber sale authorizing statutes were last amended, the demand for wood fiber from State lands for energy purposes has increased significantly. As a result, wood fiber for biomass energy has grown into an important component of forest products from State timber sales.

What has also changed over the past decades is the dependence of our remaining Southeast Alaska mills on timber sales from State lands. In some circumstances negotiated State timber sales have been absolutely essential in keeping what is left of our remaining manufacturing capacity operating.

RDC agrees with the administration that competitive timber sales are the preferred means of selling timber under most conditions. However, some circumstances warrant the flexibility of offering negotiated sales in order to ensure a reliable supply of raw material to mills. The State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has a good track record of limiting its negotiated sales to those circumstances where it is clearly in the State's best interest, and the added flexibility afforded to the DNR Commissioner by this surgical statutory revision will provide needed flexibility required by today's realities of timber supply and markets.

By giving the DNR Commissioner added flexibility in offering negotiated sales and clarifying that users of wood fiber are also eligible for negotiated sales, the State will have tools appropriate to conditions that frankly were not part of the timber supply landscape when State's timber sale statutes were last revised.

121 West Fireweed Lane, Suite 250, Anchorage, Alaska 99503

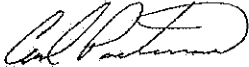
Phone: 907-276-0700 • Fax: 907-276-3887 • Email: resources@akrdc.org • Website: akrdc.org

These amendments support recommendations of the 2012 Alaska Timber Jobs Task Force. The task force recommendations were developed with input from leaders in the timber industry and have been endorsed by the Alaska Board of Forestry.

In conclusion, the basic premise of the bill is to remove the constraints on negotiated timber sales and to allow longer-term timber sales where it is appropriate. Passage of this bill will help keep our members in the forest products industry in business. The current restrictions limit the DNR to negotiating only with certain sawmills.

RDC urges you to pass CSSB 32 from the committee, and thanks you for the opportunity to provide comments.

Respectfully,

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

Carl Portman
Deputy Director

Founded 1975

Executive Director
Marleanna Hall

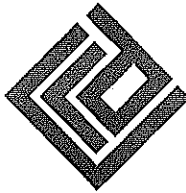
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RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

April 6, 2016

Public Comments Processing, Attn: [FWS-R7-NWRS-2014-0005]
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, MS: BPHC
5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

Re: Proposed Rule on Non-Subsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska

To Whom It May Concern,

The Resource Development Council for Alaska, Inc. (RDC) is writing to express our concerns with the proposed rule and draft environmental assessment on Non-Subsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska.

RDC is a statewide, non-profit, membership-funded organization founded in 1975. The RDC membership is comprised of individuals and companies from Alaska's oil and gas, mining, timber, tourism, and fisheries industries, as well as Alaska Native corporations, local communities, organized labor, and industry support firms. RDC's purpose is to link these diverse interests together to encourage a strong, diversified private sector in Alaska and expand the state's economic base through the responsible development of our natural resources.

It is a position of RDC to support efforts to reduce federal interference and devolve more authority to the states. The proposed rule not only fails to recognize that states, not the federal government, have primary authority over wildlife management, it completely ignores the intent of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA). Unless a federal agency is given authority by Congress to manage wildlife through specific statutory delegation, ANILCA states that federal policy should be consistent with state policy.

Further, it is also a position of RDC to support fisheries policies that ensure a reasonable and stable regulatory environment. In Alaska, regulatory bodies for fish management have a very well defined and highly regarded public process, which includes consideration of regulatory changes to policies, regulations, and management plans. The management authority is vested to the State unless specifically designated by Congress, such as with subsistence through ANILCA (as noted above) or federal waters fisheries management through the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

Alaska has some of the best-managed fisheries in the world, and is a leader maintaining the sustainability of our fisheries as a renewable resource through scientific and transparent regulations and rules.

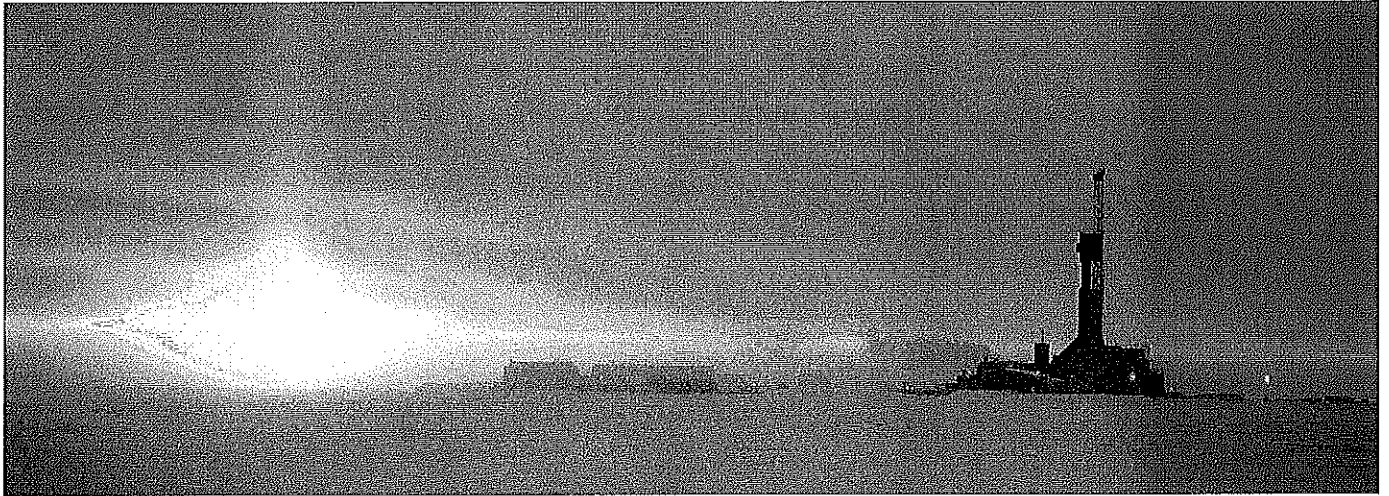
The proposed rule raises a serious concern that it will set the precedence for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to act independently of these established regulatory bodies to create regulations for fishing, adding unnecessary bureaucracy, creating the potential for serious negative impacts to not only the fishing and tourism industries, but for Alaskans throughout the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment, we appreciate your consideration of our concerns.

Sincerely,

Kati Capozzi
Communications & Projects Manager

121 West Fireweed Lane, Suite 250, Anchorage, Alaska 99503
Phone: 907-276-0700 • Fax: 907-276-3887 • Email: resources@akrdc.org • Website: akrdc.org



AOGA 50th Anniversary Celebration & Conference

CONFIRMED SPEAKERS

Alex Epstein, author of the best-selling book *The Moral Case for Fossil Fuels*

Jim Musselman, President/CEO of Caelus Energy

Andy Hopwood, Chief Operation Officer of Upstream Region and Strategy for BP

Atul Arya, Senior Vice President, Energy Insight, IHS

Ed Goetas, President/CEO of The Tarrance Group

Celinda Lake, President of Lake Research Partners

Gail Schubert, President/CEO of Bering Straits Native Corporation

Hugh Short, President/CEO of Pt Capital

Jeff Leppo, Managing Partner for Stoel Rives

Matt Larkin, Owner of Dittman Research

Members of the UAA Debate Team

To commemorate a half-century of fostering the viability of the oil and gas industry, AOGA will host a one-day conference focused on industry trends, legal and scientific issues surrounding development, and national and state-level energy policies and politics. In addition to top-tier speakers, AOGA will host an exhibit hall, honor industry excellence through four distinguished awards, and award a scholarship to the University of Alaska to an Alaskan high school student.

May 25, 2016

7 am – 5:30 pm

Dena'ina Civic & Convention Center
Anchorage, AK

Register today!

<http://aoga.org/events/aoga-50th-anniversary-celebration-conference>

Sponsorship & Exhibit Opportunities still available!

EVENT SPONSORSHIP & EXHIBIT OPPORTUNITIES

Swanson River Sponsor \$5,000 **Limited number available**

In honor of the oil field that led to Alaska's statehood, we offer the Swanson River sponsorship at \$5,000. Like its oilfield namesake, this sponsorship is the headliner for an event dedicated to the past, present, and future of our oil and gas industry.

- Ten individual registrations to the conference (\$2,500 value)
- Full-page ad in the conference program
 - Due April 29, 2016. Ads are full page, 5.5"x 8". Send ad and logo to AOGA at info@aoga.org
- Sponsor recognition in all conference communications
- Display of your company logo throughout conference
- Opportunity to give remarks at event
- Options include:
 - Luncheon Sponsor (2 available), featuring Atul Arya as guest speaker
 - Reception Sponsor (2 available)
 - Break Out Sponsor (2 available)
 - ~~Breakfast Sponsor (2 available), featuring Industry Leaders as guest speakers-SOLD OUT!~~
 - ~~Coffee Cart (1 available)-SOLD OUT!~~
 - Conference Agenda (1 available)

Prudhoe Bay Sponsor \$2,500

This sponsorship acknowledges the huge economic benefit the legendary Prudhoe Bay field has provided to Alaska for decades. By anyone's definition, Prudhoe Bay has exceeded expectations in terms of oil production and longevity. This sponsorship levels promises the same: results and exposure.

- Five individual registrations to the conference (\$1,250 value)
- Half-page ad in the conference program
 - Due April 29, 2016. Ads are half-page, 5.5" x 4". Send ad and logo to AOGA at info@aoga.org
- Sponsor Recognition in all conference communications
- Display of your company logo throughout conference

Pipeline Sponsor \$1,000

Just like the Trans Alaska Pipeline has been a source of pride and wonder for generations of Alaskans, this sponsorship level provides visibility for companies and organizations that share the pride of Alaska's oil and gas industry.

- Two individual registrations to the conference (\$500 value)
- Quarter-page ad in the conference program
 - Due April 29, 2016. Ads are quarter page, 2.75" x 2". Send ad and logo to AOGA at info@aoga.org
- Sponsor Recognition in all conference communications
- Display of your company logo throughout conference

Exhibitor \$1000

- Exhibit booth at conference
- Two individual registrations to the conference (\$500 value)
- Recognition of your company in the conference program

Alaska Resource Education

Presents the 24th Annual

Coal Classic Golf Tournament



sponsored by the Alaska Coal Association

Wednesday, June 8, 2016 at Anchorage Golf Course

Breakfast, Registration & Hosted Driving Range 6:00 am, Shotgun Start 7:00 am

Alaska Resource Education's mission is to educate students about Alaska's natural resources.

Alaska Resource Education is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, tax ID #92-0117527

REGISTRATION FORM

Great prizes and lunch included!

_____ \$1,100 Team (four golfers)

_____ \$300 Individual Golfer

Team Name _____

Golfers _____

Contact person _____

Address _____ City/State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

I would like to pay by: Check Visa Invoice
VISA/MC _____ Expiration _____ 3 Digit Code _____

Return this form with your check payable to Alaska Resource Education
601 E. 57th Place, Suite 104 Anchorage, AK 99518 • Fax 907-276-5488 • golf@akresource.org

Please register by Friday May 30, 2016

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

_____ \$400 Breakfast Sponsor

_____ \$200 Driving Range Sponsor

_____ \$500 Beverage Cart Sponsor

_____ \$300 Hole Sponsor

_____ \$600 Lunch Sponsor

_____ \$1,200 Par 3 Poker Sponsor

_____ Door Prize Donation

_____ Goodie bag items donation

Item description: _____

(160 of each)



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 view a list of current members, please visit <http://www.akrdc.org/links/>

Name: _____ Title: _____

Company: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Mobile: _____

Email: _____ Website: _____

(corporate members only)

Referred by (if applicable): _____

Membership Levels

	Corporate	Individual
Platinum	\$3000 and up	\$500 and up
Gold	\$1500	\$300
Silver	\$750	\$150
Basic	\$500	\$75

Please select the category in which your organization should be classified:

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications/Technology | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal/Consulting | <input type="checkbox"/> Timber |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communities | <input type="checkbox"/> Media | <input type="checkbox"/> Tourism |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Construction | <input type="checkbox"/> Mining | <input type="checkbox"/> Trade/Business Organization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering/Environmental | <input type="checkbox"/> Native Corporations | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance/Insurance | <input type="checkbox"/> Oil and Gas | <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities/Energy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Industry Services | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Government | <input type="checkbox"/> Support Services | |

Membership Amount \$ _____ Please Invoice Me Check Enclosed

Charge my card: _____ Exp. Date: _____

RDC is classified as a 501(c)(6) non-profit trade association. Membership dues and other financial support may be tax deductible as an ordinary business expense, but not as a charitable contribution. 15.9% of RDC support is non-deductible.



Oil & Gas



Forestry



Fisheries



Mining



Tourism

121 West Fireweed Lane Suite 250 · Anchorage, AK 99503
resources@akrdc.org · www.akrdc.org · (907) 276-0700