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> Media contact: Leila Kimbrell, Executive Director 907-406-5198 or leila@akrdc.org

RDC SUPPORTS DECISION TO BAN RUSSIAN OIL IMPORTS

Anchorage, AK – Today, **Leila Kimbrell**, Executive Director for the Resource Development Council of Alaska, Inc., released the following statement in response to the news the United States will ban future Russian energy imports.

"RDC welcomes today's announcement by President Biden to stop importing Russian energy. The U.S. should not be financing Russia's war against Ukraine by continuing to import Russian oil. Instead, we should encourage more responsible domestic production that we know is held to a higher environmental standard rather than importing energy from authoritarians like President Putin. While it is unfortunate that the events in Ukraine are finally what it took to make this decision, Alaska stands ready to support the increase of domestic production of our vast reserves we know can be responsibly developed. Projects like Willow and Pikka should move forward to lessen our dependence on foreign oil. RDC is thankful to our Alaska Congressional Delegation for their hard work and effort that pressured the Administration to take this action today."

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RDC is a statewide trade association comprised of individuals and companies from Alaska's fishing, forestry, mining, oil and gas, and tourism 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.