

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

## **BREAKFAST MEETING**

### **Thursday, October 4, 2007**

- 1) Call to order – John Shively, President
- 2) Self Introductions
- 3) Headtable Introductions
- 4) Staff Report – Jason Brune, Executive Director
- 5) Program and Keynote Speaker:

#### **TeckCominco In Alaska**

Karl Hanneman, Manager, Public &  
Environmental Affairs, TeckCominco

Next Meeting: October 18: What Does The Future Hold For Oil & Gas In Alaska? Marilyn Crockett, Executive Director, Alaska Oil and Gas Association

Please add my name to RDC's mailing list

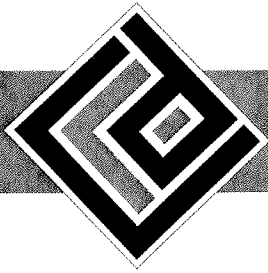
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# RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

## Staff Report – October 4, 2007

- RDC Executive Director Brune attended the joint House Resources/Fisheries committee hearings in Iliamna and King Salmon on Sept. 24-25. The purpose of these hearings was to hear local input on HB 134, a bill that would have significant impacts on all future development in the Bristol Bay region, including Pebble. RDC testified in opposition to this bill during the last legislative session.
- Governor Palin's plan for yet another tax increase on the oil industry -- ACES (Alaska's Clear and Equitable Share) -- will be front and center in the special session that is scheduled to begin October 18 in Juneau. RDC members are deeply concerned that this proposed third increase in taxes in three years sends the wrong message to current and prospective investors in Alaska, especially as production continues to decline. During the session, RDC will send out daily updates to its members and will be actively engaged throughout the process. Copies of the draft bill are included at your tables.
- RDC staff and Board members attended the North Slope Borough's Oil and Gas Forum in Barrow September 20-21. RDC assisted the borough in developing portions of the program and Executive Director Brune served as a moderator for one of the sessions.
- RDC Board members traveled to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough last week for the RDC 2007 Community Outreach Tour. The tour included Port MacKenzie, local dairy and vegetable farms, the Wilder Construction gravel operations, the Historic Independence Mine State Park, the West Coast Tsunami Warning Center, the Musk-Ox Farm and other sites in Wasilla. The Board received briefings from the borough, as well as other public and private entities.
- TeckCominco's request to extend mining of zinc and other minerals near the Red Dog Mine has initiated the review of the 1984 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and a Supplemental EIS (SEIS) is being prepared. The SEIS will include review and/or modification of EPA and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permits. According to the scoping process, mining of the Aqqaluk Deposit would begin approximately in 2010, using the same facilities and much of the same waste stockpile areas as the current mine. There are no proposed changes to the water treatment systems in place, nor to the discharge locations. The Aqqaluk Deposit would extend the mine site life to 2031. RDC staff attended a scoping meeting this week in Anchorage. **Comments are due October 15.**
- Usibelli Coal Mine has applied to DNR to expand its operations west from its existing Two Bull Ridge Mine northeast of Healy. Staff is compiling a letter of support for the expansion. **Comments are due October 17.**
- Comments are being accepted on the recent U.S. Geological Survey and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service reports predicting polar bears will be gone from Alaska within 50 years. The newly-released information, presented to the Service in the form of nine administrative reports, will be considered within the context of the Service's one-year review of listing the polar bear under the Endangered Species Act. **Comments are due October 22.**
- The Bureau of Land Management is accepting comments on its Northeast National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (NPR-A) Draft Supplemental Integrated Activity Plan/Environmental Impact Statement. RDC has released an action alert on this important issue which is included in the packet. **The comment deadline has been extended to November 6.**
- RDC's 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, *Alaska Resources 2008*, will take place on November 14-15 at the Sheraton Anchorage Hotel. Please contact staff to help support this event and the mission of RDC to *Grow Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development*. A draft agenda and an updated list of sponsors are included in the packet.

### Upcoming Events of Note:

- October 11 Alaska Journal of Commerce/Alaska State Chamber Forum on Oil Production Decline and Alaska Tax Policy
- October 15-18 Institute of the North's Arctic Energy Summit, Anchorage (info in packet)
- October 17-19 Alaska Forest Association 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Ketchikan (info in packet)
- October 18-November 16 Special Legislative Session to discuss oil and gas taxes, Juneau
- October 22-27 Alaska Federation of Natives Convention, Fairbanks
- November 7-9 Alaska Miners Association Convention, Anchorage (info in packet)
- November 14-15 RDC's Annual Conference, *Alaska Resources 2008*, Anchorage (info in packet)

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## EPA pulls Red Dog water permit

**APPROVED EARLIER: Agency decides on more review before mine can expand.**

By ELIZABETH BLUEMINK  
ebluemink@adn.com

(Published: October 3, 2007)

The state's largest mine is pursuing an expansion that could keep the economy of Northwest Alaska buzzing for two more decades.

But first, the Red Dog zinc mine expansion must pass a gantlet of scrutiny from environmental regulators and nearby village residents, who want the company to resolve their water pollution concerns first.

The project is facing more hurdles than Teck Cominco, the mine's operator, expected. Last week, federal regulators withdrew their approval of a controversial item -- Red Dog's permit for water pollution discharges -- adding it to the lengthy review they will conduct before allowing the expansion.

A thorough review is good, but the delay means greater uncertainty about the mine's future, said Red Dog environmental superintendent Jim Kulas.

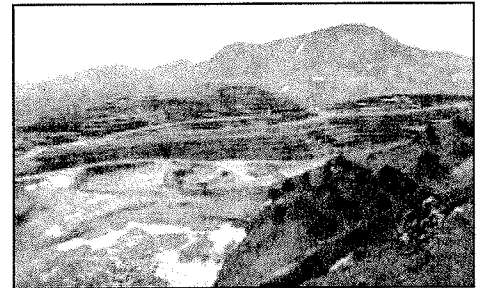
The largest private employer in the Northwest Arctic borough, Red Dog is a mainstay of the region's economy. The mine's payments to the borough helped build schools throughout the region.

Red Dog's zinc is used to galvanize steel. One of its biggest customers is the auto industry. Teck also extracts lead and silver from the mine. Due to recent high prices for minerals, the value of Red Dog's output last year topped \$1 billion -- dwarfing the combined output of all Alaska gold mines.

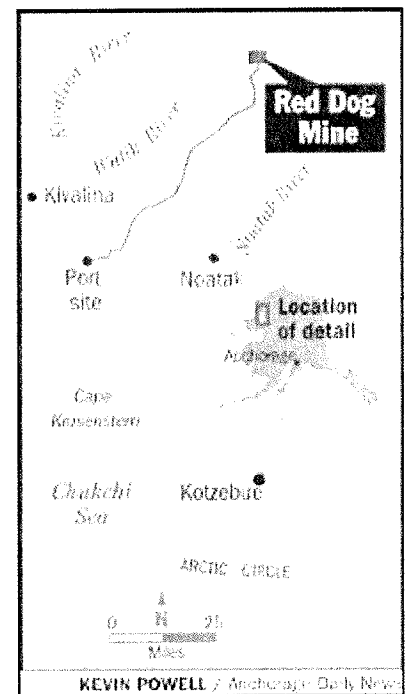
But the main ore body for the 18-year-old mine will be exhausted in 2012. If the expansion into a new ore deposit -- just a stone's throw from the current one -- is approved, the mine could continue operating until 2031, according to Teck and federal regulators.

The best-case scenario for the mine: The water-quality dispute with Kivalina and permitting problems that have bedeviled Red Dog for years will get resolved before the remote mine, located above the Arctic Circle, runs out of ore.

The worst-case scenario: The dispute doesn't get resolved before the ore runs out, possibly causing the mine to suspend operations, lay off workers and cut off millions of dollars in royalties to the Kotzebue-based NANA Regional Corp. Inc. and other Native corporations that



Red Dog's main pit is where zinc and lead are mined by cutting "benches" in the rock. (DARON DEAN / Daily News archive)



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### World's largest zinc mine

The Red Dog mine near Kotzebue produced nearly \$2 billion worth of zinc last year.



get a cut of Red Dog's profits.

The EPA is holding a series of educational meetings and public hearings this week around Alaska to discuss the mine expansion.

Kulas wouldn't speculate on what the future holds for Red Dog, but a state official said last week the mine could be in a tough spot.

## WORLD'S LARGEST ZINC MINE

Red Dog is an open-pit mine carved out of NANA-owned land in the western foothills of the Brooks Range, about 59 miles inland from the Chukchi Sea and 82 miles north of Kotzebue.

A joint venture of Teck and NANA, Red Dog is the largest lead and zinc mine in the world.

The new ore deposit Teck is eyeing contains an estimated 56 million metric tons of lead and zinc. About 16 million tons remain to be mined from Red Dog's main ore deposit.

While the mine expansion hasn't been a focal point for controversy so far, Red Dog has faced plenty of other environmental troubles:

- Studies show that dust from mine operations has deposited zinc and other heavy metals on plants near the mine road and the port, and the company has had to make some significant changes to reduce the dust hazard.
- The massive amount of heavy metals mined from Red Dog each year makes it the biggest source of toxic releases in the country, according to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency statistics.
- Kivalina residents have sued Red Dog over repeated violations of its water-discharge permit over the last five years. The violations total in the hundreds. The Kivalina village government and several environmental groups have protested recent plans to bring Red Dog into compliance.

## PERMIT DELAYS

The groups' efforts seem to have been successful.

Last Friday, the EPA made a rare decision: It pulled the water-pollution discharge permit it recently had decided to reissue to Red Dog.

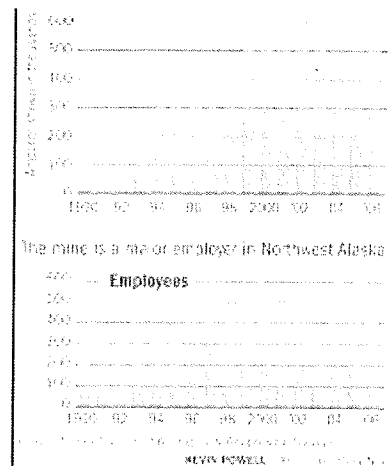
The permit was designed to bring Red Dog into compliance with federal water quality requirements for the first time in years.

Kivalina leaders and environmental groups had appealed the permit to an EPA review board, arguing it violated federal law.

The permit would have relaxed Red Dog's pollution discharge limit for dissolved solids, created by adding lime to treat acidity. EPA officials withdrew it before the board took any action.

The agency said its analysis for the permit was partially flawed because it used historical assumptions rather than current data on water use and dust emissions at the mine, an EPA official said Monday.

"This was a very difficult decision for us because we feel the permit itself is a strong permit and is based on strong science," said Patricia McGrath, an EPA project manager based in Seattle.



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The agency will merge its review of the water permit with an environmental-impact analysis for the mine expansion, resulting in a large new study detailing alternatives of how to proceed with the expansion. The study could be ready for public scrutiny in a couple of years.

The decision to withdraw the permit pleased Kivalina's attorneys.

"I think the main problem is that Teck Cominco has refused to follow the law, and that scofflaws should not be granted new permits," said Luke Cole, a San Francisco-based attorney with the Center for Race, Poverty and the Environment, who is handling the suit.

#### DRINKING WATER CONCERNS

The permit delay has created some concern about whether Red Dog can extend its operations in a "timely manner," said Tom Crafford, the large mines permit coordinator for the state Department of Natural Resources.

That's less of a concern to Kivalina leaders and some environmental groups worried about pollution.

Kivalina is on a barrier island north of the mine's port and gets its subsistence fish and drinking water from the Wulik River. The mine discharges treated wastewater into Red Dog Creek, a Wulik tributary.

For years, water tests have shown the Wulik meets drinking water standards.

But as long as the mine discharges its treated waste into the village drinking water supply, Kivalina residents will fear for their health, said Enoch Adams, deputy mayor. "It's a huge sticking point in a lot of people's minds," Adams said.

There is no proof so far of harm from the mine's water discharges, and according to state officials, the company's water treatment has allowed fish to flourish where natural levels of toxic metals previously killed them off.

One possible remedy sought by Kivalina -- piping the wastewater to the Chukchi Sea -- might have merit, Kulas said.

But the remedy may turn out to be equally controversial, he said. To get to the ocean, the pipe would have to cross through the Cape Krusenstern National Monument, he said.

Find Elizabeth Bluemink online at [adn.com/contact/ebluemink](http://adn.com/contact/ebluemink) or call 257-4317.

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For more information on the Red Dog expansion plan and public meetings scheduled in Northwest Alaska villages this week, visit [www.reddogseis.com](http://www.reddogseis.com)

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## Seawall fails, but Kivalina residents go home

**EROSION: Storm ate away about 10 feet of beach.**

By BETH BRAGG  
bbragg@adn.com

(Published: September 14, 2007)

Kivalina residents chased away by flood warnings began trickling back home Friday morning after the season's first storm died down, ending its assault on a frail seawall guarding the northwest coastal village.

"We've already received the first planeload and receiving another here shortly," Mayor Austin Swan said. "I just talked to my brother-in-law, one of the evacuees. He's home."

About 85 percent of the town's 330 residents fled late Wednesday and early Thursday as high winds whipped the Chukchi Sea and sent waves crashing onto the narrow barrier reef island where Kivalina is located. Only 46 people were in town Thursday night.

The seawall was breached Thursday night, Swan said, and the storm ate about 10 feet of beach in a place that's been hit hard by erosion in recent years. About 100 to 110 feet of the town's 600-foot beachfront have disappeared into the ocean in the last four or five years, making Kivalina one of coastal Alaska's most imperiled villages due to erosion.

Vice mayor Enoch Adams Jr. said representative from Homeland Security were expected to visit the village sometime Friday to assess damage to the seawall. He estimated that about 500 supersacks fortifying the wall were lost to the sea. About the same number of the 3,600-pound sandbags were added to the wall. "Some were replacing lost bags, about half, and the other half were to stabilize parts where we saw a weakening of the wall," Adams said.

Residents who stayed behind had a sleepless night Wednesday as more than 250 residents escaped on plane to Kotzebue, on four-wheelers and buses to the Red Dog Mine, and on riverboats to inland hunting and fishing camps. By Thursday night, when sustained winds of 30 to 40 mph came from the south, sending waves against the seawall, the village was a quiet, empty place.

"When we would see a person walking, we noticed them right away," Adams said. "Hey -- someone's in town!"

Planes were expected to bring more than 100 residents home from Kotzebue through the day. Another 130 were at the Red Dog Mine, where officials hoped to get the oldest and youngest out on a plane; others were expected to return on four-wheelers. "The hustle and bustle will finally come back," Adams said.

Find Beth Bragg at [adn.com/contact/bbragg](http://adn.com/contact/bbragg).

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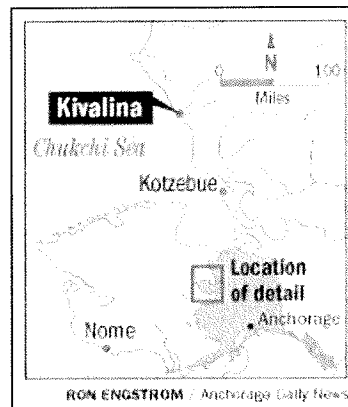
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The Coast Guard is monitoring fuel facilities in Kivalina near the Red Dog Mine on the Chukchi Sea, about 80 miles northwest of Kotzebue. On Sept. 13, 2007, fall storms were eroding the shoreline, creating the potential for an oil spill from the Alaska Village Electrical Cooperative tank farm. (Photo courtesy of Rural Alaska Fuel Services)



The Coast Guard is monitoring fuel facilities in Kivalina near the Red Dog Mine on the Chukchi Sea, about 80 miles northwest of Kotzebue. On Sept. 13, 2007, fall storms were eroding the shoreline, creating the potential for an oil spill from the Alaska Village Electrical Cooperative tank farm. (Photo courtesy of Rural Alaska Fuel Services)



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# Alaska politicians create dissonance in Bristol Bay

Alaskans should feel proud of our current high environmental standards for natural resource development.

There isn't a state in the United States that compares; so it is sad to have politicians such as Jay Ramras, Bryce Edgmon, Nancy Dahlstrom, Les Gara, Beth Kerttula and others politicize natural resource development in our state.

In addition, sportsman's groups, lodge owners, numerous conservation groups and fish-processing companies are all part of this concerted effort. These politicians' actions and proposed legislation to halt development doesn't make any sense when considering our current high standards.

It makes one wonder what other purpose drives their quest to stop any and all natural resource development in Bristol Bay. *Lacking any proof of any environmental damages, is this*



their form of a preemptive strike?

By their actions, they have driven a wedge between family members, villages and ethnic groups. They have instilled warrantless fear without any proof that development will destroy any renewable resources or devastate the water ways, land and air.

They have also instilled fear in many local village people, making them afraid that their traditional lifestyle, hunting and fishing will totally disappear as a result.

Generally, prudent politicians wait for study reports to voice their judgments. However, in this current case, Reps. Ramras, Edgmon and their allies are not willing to follow the rules which have worked so well in the past.

So the question remains: What is it that drives these politicians to cause such disharmony among the people of Bristol Bay?

Additionally, it doesn't make sense that these same politicians and related groups would be the first of many to oppose a state constitutional amendment that allows a subsistence priority for Alaskan Natives yet use the loss of subsistence to further support their no-development legislation. Does the end justify their means?

Rural Alaska is already suffering from a lack of employment and faced with rising energy costs. How are these politicians addressing these pressing needs? Or are they saying welfare is the only option?

Rep. Bryce Edgmon hasn't offered any remedies when addressing his district's lack of employment and high-cost energy needs. He doesn't have any plans; it may be that he is

feeding his hungry ego instead of solving pressing problems.

The anti-development politicians and their related groups are not only pursuing legislation to stop natural resource development in Bristol Bay but are also actively engaged in municipal, village and regional corporation elections, using hired lobbyists to solicit friendly candidates to further their anti-development positions.

Of course, their financial support of certain candidates isn't disclosed to the public. This is all part of their reckless efforts to further their cause.

Our state will be in trouble if we stand aside or give any credibility to those politicians. There is comfort, however, that the majority of our state legislature is made up of prudent and sensible people, unlike these shortsighted politicians who are led by some distant star or some secretive group or purpose.

We depend on the prudent and responsible legislators who are in the majority.

One can be certain in the end, regardless the outcome of natural resource development in Bristol Bay and the state of Alaska, that these politicians and opposing parties will not feel an ounce of remorse for the disharmony they have caused to the people of Bristol Bay. Their reckless actions will take years to heal the division.

The authors of HB 134 and companion SB 67 should feel ashamed for their political and reckless actions.

Lorianne Rawson is a commercial fisherman from South Naknek.

**The Tundra Drums**

(ISSN 1937-2183/USPS 424850)

Dustin Solberg, News editor  
dsolberg@alaskadrum.com

October 1, 2007

Dear Kensington Supporters:

I am pleased to once again provide all of you an email update on our work at Kensington.

As the weather changes and the longer days begin to fade, we are vigilantly preparing for the fall rains and winter season as it approaches. The mill and related surface facilities are now 100% complete, as is the underground tunnel connecting the Comet portal with the Jualin mill facilities and construction of the water treatment plant upgrade. We are now well poised to move forward toward production during the colder Alaskan winter months. As you know, we would like to be working on a tailings facility. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals continues its review of the Petition for Rehearing filed by the federal agencies, Coeur Alaska, the State of Alaska and Goldbelt, Inc. Seace's responses to those Petitions are due mid-October. Furthermore, as Seace, Sierra Club and Lynn Canal Conservation have offered publicly to meet with Coeur to further discuss Kensington's plans, we have accepted that invitation and meetings are being planned at this time.

With the change in the seasons, we also have a few changes in staffing to poise us for production.

You may have met Richard Weston, Coeur's Sr. Vice President of Operations, as he has been to Juneau on several occasions already. Richard will oversee all of Coeur's mining operations, including Kensington. Recently, Tom Henderson, a name you may already know as a part of our key management team, was promoted to Director of Operations for Coeur Alaska. Tom has been Mine Manager at the Kensington Mine since hiring on with the Company in late 2006. Prior to this he was mining manager at the Robinson Mine in Ruth, Nevada. Tom gained considerable operating experience at the Grasberg mine in Indonesia as well as other mines in Nevada and Idaho. He received his MBA from Regis University in Denver and his mining engineering degree from the University of Idaho. Tom brings more than twenty-nine years of mining operations experience to his new position. This is a great position for Tom's leadership now that production is imminent.

During this time of shifting from mine development to production, we also announce that Tim Arnold has made a decision to leave Coeur to seek new opportunities. Tim's efforts and dedication in working hand-in-hand with the construction team of over 400 strong to build the mine and mill, and his more recent efforts to build the production team are greatly appreciated. Tim has been such a huge contributor to our positioning for production, and the entire Kensington Team wish him all the best in his new endeavors.

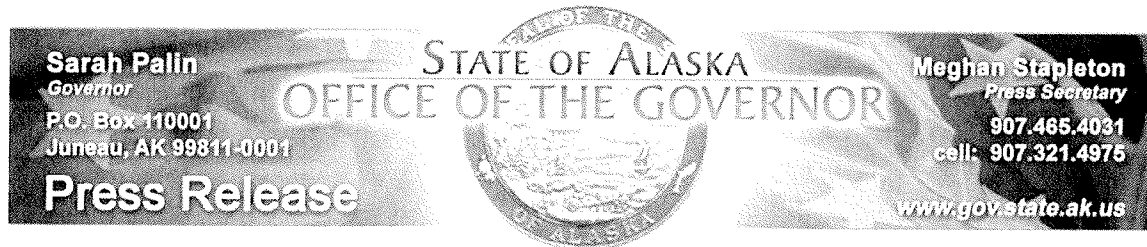
Additionally Coeur Alaska has added twenty new employees to our employment rolls at the mine since mid-summer. These new employees were hired from Southeast Alaska communities including Angoon, Haines, Kake, Klukwan, and Juneau:

Surface Equipment Operator  
Mill Operator  
Surface Equip Operator Trainee  
Electrician  
Electrician  
Mill Operator  
Mechanic  
Mill Operator  
Surface Equip Operator Trainee  
Surface Equip Operator Trainee  
Mill Operator  
Miner  
UG Mine Trainee  
Mill Operator  
Surface Equipment Operator  
UG Mine Trainee  
Surface Equipment Operator  
Miner  
Electrician

Kensington continues to benefit from the unwavering support of the many Southeast Alaska civic, Native, state and national organizations. This support is more important than ever in bringing resolution to the tailings plan issue. Recently, we were humbled by the amazing show of support by the Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska and Alaska Native Brotherhood Grand Camp. These two organizations issued letters of support and published formal ads in support of the Kensington Project and urging a resolution to the tailings dispute.

We will, of course, keep all of you posted as we continue our determined quest to production. Thank you for your continued support.

*Rick Richins*  
Special Projects



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**No. 07-199**

**Note: Revenue Commissioner Pat Galvin will be available to answer questions on the ACES bill on Tuesday, October 2, 2007, in the Governor's Anchorage conference room, 17<sup>th</sup> floor Atwood Building. For reporters who are unable to attend in person, a teleconference has been arranged. The teleconference number is 1-800-315-6338. The access code is 0202#.**

### **Governor Releases Draft ACES Bill**

October 2, 2007, Anchorage, Alaska - Governor Sarah Palin yesterday released to members of the Legislature the draft bill that would replace the current Petroleum Profits Tax with a new production tax – Alaska's Clear and Equitable Share, or ACES. This release, 17 days before the beginning of the legislative special session, will allow additional time for the public and members of the Legislature to review the bill prior to the start of the special session. The final bill will be introduced in the state House and Senate on October 18, the first day of the special session. During the next two weeks, the Administration plans to hold town hall meetings to explain the plan and work with the Legislature on committee hearings.

The draft bill codifies the principles set out in the Governor's September 4, 2007, ACES announcement. As promised, the draft bill provides a more transparent tax system and increases public confidence by improving the state's audit function, providing for forward-looking cost data from producers and economic information sharing between the state departments of Revenue and Natural Resources and the public. The bill aims to clearly establish the value of oil produced in Alaska and how the state and producers of that oil will share that value. There are a variety of improvements to the State's authorities to protect Alaskans' interests. Among other changes, the ACES plan removes the deduction for producers who fail to maintain pipelines and other infrastructure.

The draft bill is available at <http://www.gov.state.ak.us/aces/> or you may call the Department of Revenue to have a paper copy mailed to you at (907) 465-2301.

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Alaska energy. Alaska's future.

September 27, 2007

## North Slope & Cook Inlet production is declining. Why should Alaskans worry?

Stay informed with this weekly newsletter from your friends at AOGA.

The Alaska Oil and Gas Association (AOGA) is poised to bring you factual information about the #1 issue facing Alaska's economy: Production Decline & Need for Investment. The Trans-Alaska pipeline is only a third full, and oil production is falling. Billions of dollars in new industry investment are required to build a sustainable future for Alaska. A strong business climate is essential to produce this level of investment.

A healthy industry cannot endure tax changes year after year. Constantly changing tax policy is no way to keep Alaska competitive and will steer critical investment dollars away from Alaska.

### Upcoming events

Sept. 27: Alliance Breakfast – Doug Suttles, BP

Oct. 1: Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce  
Board of Directors Presentation  
– Marilyn Crockett & Chuck Logsdon, AOGA

Oct. 2: Palmer Kiwanis Presentation – Chuck Logsdon, AOGA

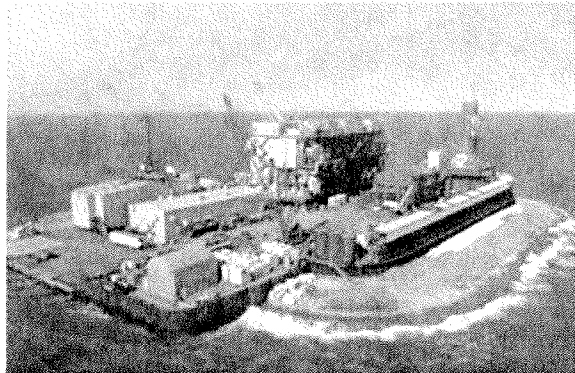
Oct. 3: Kenai Chamber of Commerce Presentation  
– Marilyn Crockett, AOGA

Oct. 3: Anchor Point Chamber of Commerce  
– Pioneer Natural Resources Alaska

Learn more at  
[www.aoga.org](http://www.aoga.org)

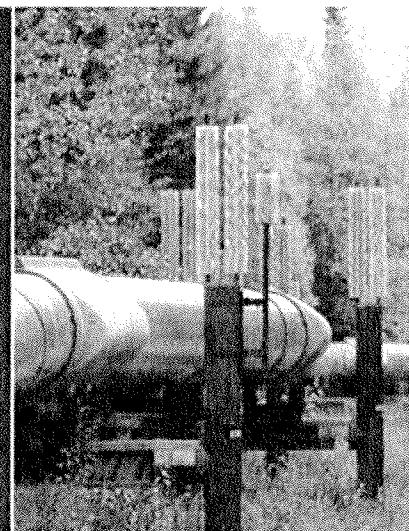
### What You Can Do

- Learn the facts
- Contact the Administration
- Contact your legislator  
(visit [www.aoga.org](http://www.aoga.org) for information)
- Talk to family and friends
- Write a letter to the editor  
(visit [www.aoga.org](http://www.aoga.org) to submit to your local paper)



### Did you know?

Daily oil production has plummeted 65%, from more than 2 million barrels per day in 1988 to less than 700,000 today.



### What Others Are Saying

"How well is PPT working? So well that it brought in about \$1 billion more in state revenue in fiscal year 2007 than the old system would have brought in. ... We bring this up because Gov. Palin and her team should stop calling the petroleum profits tax, or PPT, a failure."

- Fairbanks Daily News-Miner Editorial,  
Sept. 6, 2007

## A look over governor's shoulder

### **OIL TAX OPTIONS: Palin set to show us her hand this week.**

TIM BRADNER  
ECONOMY

*(Published: September 2, 2007)*

Gov. Sarah Palin is to roll out her ideas for changing the state's oil and gas production tax on Tuesday, setting the stage for what may be a contentious special session of the Legislature the governor has called for Oct. 18.

We won't know until Tuesday what Palin will propose but it is likely to involve either changes to the new net profits oil production tax -- the Petroleum Production Tax, or PPT -- or a variation on the old tax based on gross revenue.

A lot of political talk is developing around the PPT. I want to set some things straight. There are advantages and disadvantages with both tax systems, and changes must be thought through clearly and carefully.

The current tax on industry profits is different from the previous tax on gross revenue mainly in that operating and capital costs may be deducted. Both taxes start with determining the value of the oil as it comes out of the ground (the market price minus costs for shipping oil by tanker and pipelines). The old tax was applied at that point, as a percentage of the gross revenue. The new PPT allows production costs to be deducted to arrive at a net profit. The tax is then applied as a percentage of that number. The PPT is not a true profits tax because not all costs, like corporate overhead, are allowed as deductions.

There are some additional features. The old tax was adjusted by something called the "economic limit factor," an incentive that lowered the tax rate on higher-cost fields but this incentive had become obsolete and dysfunctional.

The new tax junks the ELF but incorporates an "investment tax credit" intended to spur exploration and development of existing fields. This tax credit is somewhat of a side issue because the core of the current debate is over the merits of a gross revenue vs. net profits tax.

In early August the Revenue Department released a report that claimed the PPT is not working as intended because deductible costs were much higher than expected. The tax is bringing in more revenue, but about \$800 million less than predicted when the Legislature debated changing the tax last year. The department acknowledged that its analysis was based on projections, not real numbers, but that point gets lost.

It was interesting to me that the department used an oil price of \$55 per barrel in its estimate for revenue under the PPT (a figure from its spring oil price forecast. It's a fine point, but if actual oil prices were used, or a trend of prices for the first three months of the fiscal year, the revenue estimate would be much higher.

The important question, however, is whether we have enough information, based on real numbers and not estimates, to make intelligent decisions on the tax.

We don't.

One advantage of the gross revenue approach is that it is simpler and easier to work with than a net profits tax. The disadvantage is that without some added incentive like the ELF, a gross tax hits all fields, large and small, at the same tax rate. This would kill off heavy-oil development, which is important to our future oil production, unless there is some new version of the ELF. The problem with a special incentive formula is that it can get outdated, as the ELF did.

The advantage of the net profits tax is that it automatically adjusts for high-cost fields and needs no ELF-type formula. The disadvantage is that it is more complex and difficult to administer. I think the auditing issue is a red herring, however. If the state is having trouble hiring auditors the Revenue Department could contract with a top-notch accounting firm to assist. I haven't heard this discussed. The new law also gives the state access to intercompany audits done by partners in oil fields owned by more than one company, which is the case with most of the big producing fields. This is a big advantage for the state.

Some oil producers are neutral as to whether the tax is on gross or net revenues as long as there is some way to help high-cost places like heavy-oil fields. The total state take of taxes is important to them, too.

Most governments of producing nations around the world successfully use some variation of a net profits tax, and we could too. Legislators will have to weigh the pros and cons of all this.

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Tim Bradner writes for an Alaska economic reporting service. He also consults for private clients and writes for business publications. His opinion column appears every fourth Sunday.

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## U.S. Fish &amp; Wildlife Service

News  
Release

October 2, 2007

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
Service Extends Comment  
Period on Polar Bear  
Research**[News Releases Home Page](#)[Search the News Releases](#)[U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Home](#)**Contacts**

Bruce Woods (907) 786-3695

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service today announced that it will give the public additional time to review and comment on nine new research papers analyzing polar bear population status and threats by extending its currently open public comment period until October 22, 2007. This research, recently completed by the U.S. Geological Survey, will be used by the Service in conjunction with other scientific information gathered over the past year in reaching a final decision on whether to protect the polar bear as a "threatened" species under the Endangered Species Act. The USGS studies can be found at:

[http://www.usgs.gov/newsroom/special/polar\\_bears/](http://www.usgs.gov/newsroom/special/polar_bears/).

The reopened comment period was scheduled to close on October 5, but will now remain open until October 22. The Service has limited this additional comment period because of statutory deadlines which require the agency to make a final listing determination within one year of the January 9, 2007 publication of the proposed rule to protect the polar bear as a threatened species.

The Service has made every effort possible to gather the latest and best scientific and technical data. During the original 90-day public comment period, which closed in April 2007, the Service held public hearings in Anchorage, Alaska; Barrow, Alaska; and Washington D.C. In June, the Service hosted a meeting to exchange scientific information with other countries in the polar bear's range.

As a result of these information gathering efforts, the Service received approximately 600,000 responses. The responses contain volumes of information concerning habitat, distribution, population densities and trends and effects of sea-ice change on polar bears.

Comments provided during the original 90-day public comment period should not be resubmitted, and any new comments should be limited to the above-mentioned USGS

reports. The Service is particularly interested in information regarding the new data and its relevance to the final determination on its proposal to list the polar bear as a threatened species.

Comments may be submitted by e-mail to: **Polar Bear Finding@fws.gov**.

Information on other methods for submitting comments can be found on the Federal eRulemaking Portal at: <http://www.regulations.gov>. You may mail or hand-deliver written comments and information to the Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Marine Mammals Management Office, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99503.

Further information about polar bear management in Alaska, and on the proposed Endangered Species Act listing of polar bears worldwide, can be found at: <http://alaska.fws.gov/fisheries/mmm/polarbear/issues.htm>.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal Federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting and enhancing fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service manages the 97-million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System which encompasses more than 548 national wildlife refuges, thousands of small wetlands and other special management areas. It also operates 66 national fish hatcheries, 64 fish and wildlife management assistance offices, 64 Fishery Resource Offices, and 78 ecological services field stations. The agency enforces Federal wildlife laws, administers the Endangered Species Act, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat such as wetlands, and helps foreign governments with their conservation efforts. It also oversees the Federal Aid program that distributes hundreds of millions of dollars in excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to state fish and wildlife agencies.

-FWS-

*For more information about the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, visit our home page at <http://www.fws.gov>*

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# News

Bureau of Land Management, Alaska State Office, Office of Communications  
222 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue #13, Anchorage AK 99513-7599  
Tel: 907-271-5555 Fax: 907-271-5421

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Ruth McCoard, 907.271.3322**  
**Sharon Wilson, 907.271.4418**

**News Release No. 07-36**  
**September 28, 2007**

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## **BLM-Alaska Extends Public Comment Period for Draft Supplemental Plan for Northeast NPR-A**

**Anchorage**—The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is extending the public comment period for the Draft Supplemental Integrated Activity Plan/Environmental Impact Statement from October 23 to November 6, 2007. This is in response to the North Slope Borough's request for additional time to prepare comments.

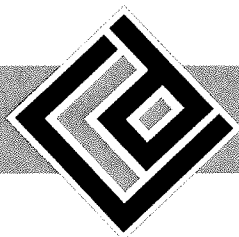
"We requested additional time so stakeholders and the public can make informed comments concerning complex issues raised in the draft impact statement," said North Slope Borough Mayor Itta. "As a formal cooperator, we appreciate the BLM's decision to extend the comment period. It shows the definite recognition by BLM of the importance of our many fall subsistence activities."

The BLM began developing the Supplement in December 2006 in response to a September 25, 2006, U.S. District Court for the District of Alaska decision that the 2005 Northeast NPR-A Amended Integrated Activity Plan/Environmental Impact Statement failed to adequately address cumulative impacts.

In early 2007, the North Slope Borough signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the BLM that gave it the formal status of a Cooperating Agency for this planning effort. The BLM is responsible for alternatives presented in the plan.

The BLM, an agency of the U.S. Department of the Interior, manages 258 million surface acres — more land than any other federal agency. Most of this public land is in 12 Western states, including 83.5 million surface acres in Alaska. The Bureau also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on the public lands.

###



## RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

### **ACTION ALERT**

Northeast Planning Area — National Petroleum Reserve Alaska

**Comment Deadline: Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

#### **Overview:**

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has released the Northeast National Petroleum Reserve – Alaska Supplemental Integrated Activity Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (IAP/EIS). This supplement addresses a list of issues and contains a range of alternatives regarding the BLM's administration of public lands within the planning area. These alternatives are essentially unchanged from those analyzed in the Northeast NPR-A Final Amended IAP/EIS and corrects inadequacies in that plan identified in a 2006 decision of the U.S. District Court of Alaska. The Court found that the amended 2006 IAP/EIS failed to fully consider the cumulative effects of oil and gas leasing in the planning area and in the adjacent Northwest NPR-A planning area. The new supplement adds this analysis.

Under the recently-released IAP/EIS, 373,000 acres north and east of Teshekpuk Lake is further evaluated for leasing. This area was off-limits in a 1998 plan crafted by the Clinton administration for the Northeast area of the reserve, but was open to leasing in the amended 2005 plan. This area is considered to be among the most oil-rich acreage in NPR-A, perhaps containing billions of barrels of oil.

The four alternatives in the 2007 amendment range from opening 87 percent to 100 percent of the 4.6 million acres of the Northeast planning area to oil and gas exploration and development. While the agency clearly supported increased leasing in the 2005 plan over the 1998 proposal (Alternative A—No Action), the latest version does not indicate which alternative of the four BLM prefers. The alternatives offer two types of mitigation for impacts to resources prescriptive to performance-based.

#### **Action Requested:**

Submit written comments by mail or fax before November 6<sup>th</sup> to:

Northeast NPR-A Supplemental IAP/EIS Comments  
ENSR Project Office  
1835 South Bragaw Street, Suite 490  
Anchorage, AK 99508

FAX: (907) 1-888-907-3677

**Points to include in your letter:**

- Given NPR-A was specifically designated by Congress for the production of energy resources and the need for new oil production has increased, it is vital that BLM provide access to the Northeast planning area's greatest prospects. Alternative C would provide such access.
- All of the producing fields on the North Slope are located within 25 miles of the coast. Eliminating substantial acreage within this belt could preclude the discovery of a major deposit.
- The areas currently off-limits in Alternative A may contain more than two billion barrels of recoverable oil.
- Industry's track record on the North Slope and the technological advances of the past decade, which have greatly reduced the development footprint, support full leasing.
- Alternative C would utilize prescriptive to performance-based standards and procedures to mitigate impacts of energy development. In addition, seasonal stipulations and other protective measures would be applied to safeguard sensitive areas. While Alternative C would open 100 percent of the area's 4.6 million acres to oil and gas exploration, permanent facilities would be prohibited on more than 1,113,000 acres.
- The industry has proven it can operate in a manner that protects the environment. The Arctic wildlife and environment can and will be preserved while petroleum resources are developed. Industry employs a variety of measures and operating procedures to mitigate impacts and protect environmentally sensitive areas.
- Oil and gas development in the petroleum reserve would benefit the economy by creating increased revenues and employment, while enhancing energy and economic security.
- Revenues and employment generated by oil and gas development would be significantly greater under Alternative C than under the no action alternative.
- The Department of Energy estimates the contribution of North Slope crude to domestically produced oil supplies would decline from 18 percent to 14 percent by 2020, but such a decline could be mitigated by opening Northeast NPR-A to oil and gas exploration. Projected production declines could potentially be reversed, depending upon how much additional oil is produced from NPR-A, but potential could be severely compromised if access is not provided to oil-rich areas.
- While opponents claim the changes to BLM's amended plan are merely cosmetic, the analysis of the increased activity in the 2007 draft expanded and substantially revised consideration of additional measures for minimizing impacts. BLM also considered results of recent scientific studies completed since 2005.
- The 2007 draft also addresses the cumulative impact of increased activity in the Northeast planning area when combined with increased activity in the Northwest planning area.
- The 2007 draft also takes into account issues ranging from climate change and potential Endangered Species Act protections for polar bears to the rising price of oil.
- Authorizing leasing is but a first step in opening an area to oil and gas development. There will be additional opportunities throughout the process, through the application of numerous permit approvals and other actions, to protect natural resources.

**Deadline for written comments: Tuesday, November 6, 2007**

# ALASKA Journal of Commerce

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## University of Washington Executive MBA

Visit us in Anchorage! Click to RSVP!  
Attend an Information Reception  
October 9, 6:00-7:30 p.m.  
The Hotel Captain Cook



R.S.V.P. Online Today!



## Will our oil last . . . until gas flows?

A forum on oil production  
decline and Alaska tax policy

Thursday, October 11th, 2007  
Egan Convention Center  
11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The Alaska Journal of Commerce and the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce will sponsor a policy forum to discuss oil production decline and state tax policy. Selected state officials, legislators, petroleum company managers and Anchorage area business leaders will participate.

The forum will discuss implications of the present decline in North Slope oil production, steps that can be taken to delay or mitigate decline until commercial gas production begins, and the role that state tax policy will play in investment decisions that will affect oil production levels.

Panel Members to Include:

- **Marc Langland** - President / CEO, Northrim Bank
- **Representative Mike Hawker** - (R) House District 32, Anchorage
- **Commissioner Patrick Galvin** - State of Alaska, Department of Revenue
- **Steve Reiger** - S. Rieger & Company
- **Representative Mike Doogan** - (D) House District 25, Anchorage

Plus representatives from the following organizations:

- **Conoco Phillips** - conocophillips.com
- **Alaska Oil and Gas Association** - aoga.org

Cost per attendee: \$25 in advance | \$30 on the door

Sponsored by the Alaska State Chamber and the Alaska Journal of Commerce

Alaska Oil & Gas  
**Reporter**

ALASKA STATE  
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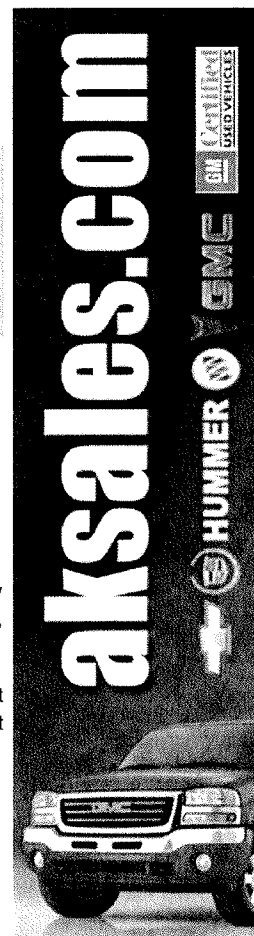
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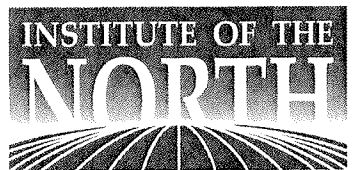
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[bellis@institutenorth.org](mailto:bellis@institutenorth.org)  
[www.institutenorth.org](http://www.institutenorth.org)

**WALTER J. HICKEL**  
FOUNDER  
**BEN ELLIS**  
MANAGING DIRECTOR

**ARCTIC ENERGY SUMMIT**  
SECRETARIAT

October 4, 2007

Greetings,

**The Arctic Energy Summit (AES) Technology Conference**, sponsored by the Institute of the North with the support of the U.S. Department of State and the Arctic Council, will be held October 15 – 18, 2007 at the Egan Center in Anchorage, Alaska.

The **AES Technology Conference** begins with an opening day of high-level keynote speakers on energy related issues through the Arctic, followed by two days of technical papers on significant Arctic energy research, panel discussions and keynote addresses on major policy areas of concern and/or interest, as well as a session of new technology and an energy industry exposition. AES presentations and exhibits will focus on:

1. Extractive energy development (oil, gas, coal bed methane, methane gas hydrates, coal);
2. Renewable power, especially in extreme remote areas;
3. Environmental, socio-economic and sustainability impact of energy projects in the Arctic.

The Honorable Olafur Ragnald Grimsson, President of Iceland, has confirmed his attendance. Other opening day speakers on October 15<sup>th</sup> include the Honorable Gary Lunn, Minister of Natural Resources Canada; Dr. Evgeny Velikhov, President of Kurchatov Institute, Moscow; Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC) Chair Patricia Cochran; U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Dan Sullivan, U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski, Alaska Governor Sarah Palin, and Bud Fackrell, Senior Vice President of BP Exploration Alaska. U.S. Senator Ted Stevens will deliver the closing keynote address on Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Regards,  
Carole Chambers

CAROLE CHAMBERS  
INSTITUTE OF THE NORTH  
935 W. THIRD AVE  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501 USA  
DIRECT PHONE (907) 771-2447  
[WWW.INSTITUTENORTH.ORG](http://WWW.INSTITUTENORTH.ORG)

Title: \_\_\_Mr. \_\_\_Mrs. \_\_\_Ms. \_\_\_Dr. \_\_\_Prof.  
 First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Affiliation/Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Website: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

**Type of Registration and Fees:**

Participant: Early-bird rate - \$ 850, after September 15 - \$ 950

Presenter: Early-bird rate - \$ 500, after September 15 - \$ 600

Students: Early-bird rate - \$ 425, after September 15 - \$ 475

Participant Fee: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Companion(s) Names: \_\_\_\_\_

**Arctic Energy Summit Conference  
 Companion Meals**

			#	Total
Monday	Lunch	\$ 20.00	___	\$ _____
	Opening Banquet	\$ 60.00	___	\$ _____
Tuesday	Lunch	\$ 15.00	___	\$ _____
	Buffet Dinner	\$ 60.00	___	\$ _____
Wednesday	Lunch	\$ 15.00	___	\$ _____
	Closing Banquet	\$ 60.00	___	\$ _____
Total Companion Meals:				\$ _____
Total Technology Conference Fees				\$ _____

Return this form with payment by September 1, 2007 to:

**The Institute of the North**  
 935 W Third Ave  
 Anchorage, AK 99501  
 Phone +1.907.771.2444 Fax +1.907.771.2466



**PAYMENT INFORMATION – PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY THIS APPLICATION**

**Method of payment:** Please make checks payable to The Institute of the North

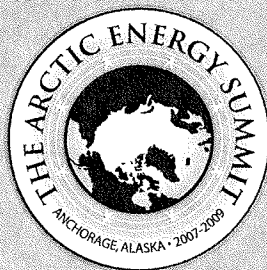
☐ Check ☐ VISA ☐ MC

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on credit card: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration online: [www.arcticenergysummit.org](http://www.arcticenergysummit.org) or Fax this form:  
 907.771.2466**



*The Institute of the North requests  
the honour of your presence at the fourth  
Robert O. Anderson Sustainable Arctic Award dinner  
to recognize the achievements of*

*The Honorable  
Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson  
President of Iceland*

*In conjunction with the  
Arctic Energy Summit Technology Conference*

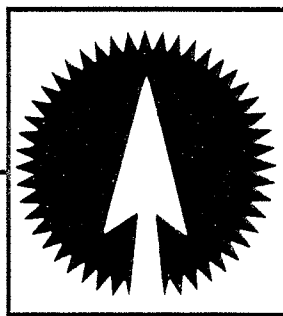
**17 October 2007  
7:00 to 9:00 pm  
Discovery Ballroom  
Hotel Captain Cook**

**\$100 per plate  
\$75 per plate for members of  
Alaska World Affairs Council  
Commonwealth North  
Resource Development Council and  
World Trade Center Alaska**

Business Attire  
Space limited RSVP by 10.09.07  
Nancy Hemsath +1.907.771.2443 [nhemsath@institutenorth.org](mailto:nhemsath@institutenorth.org)



## Alaska Forest Association, Inc.



111 STEDMAN STREET, SUITE 200  
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA 99901-6599  
Phone: 907-225-6114  
Fax: 907-225-5920  
E-mail: [afa@akforest.org](mailto:afa@akforest.org)

TO: AFA Members  
FROM: Liz Stone  
RE: 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention Update  
DATE: September 27, 2007

Plans for the **50<sup>th</sup> AFA annual convention** are well underway and we hope to see all of you there. A final meeting schedule and another registration form are enclosed. If you haven't registered yet, please do so at your earliest convenience so we can have your name tags ready and get an accurate count of participants.

After the meetings on Wednesday, the President's opening reception will take place sponsored by **Wells Fargo**. Music will be provided for those of you who would like to dance courtesy of **Milner, Howard, Mortensen, Palmer & Johnson!**

We are pleased to announce that the featured speakers for the luncheon on Thursday will include Kate Williams, Legislative Director for Senator Ted Stevens; Karen Knutson, Chief of Staff for Senator Lisa Murkowski; and David Stone, President of the Alaska Miners Association. Thank you to **First Bank** and **DeLisio, Moran, Geraghty & Zobel** for once again sponsoring this luncheon! Mark Rey, Under Secretary, Natural Resources and Environment, Department of Agriculture, will speak Friday at the Board of Directors meeting.

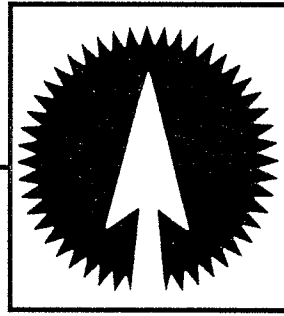
The Associate members are busy planning the Red Suspender party for Thursday evening. The proceeds from the auction benefit both the Associate Member Scholarship Fund and the Don Bell Alaska Loggers Scholarship Fund. If you wish to ship your auction item, please send it to:

Alaska Forest Association  
Attn: Red Suspenders Party  
111 Stedman, Suite 200  
Ketchikan, AK 99901

There is still some booth space available. If you are interested in a space, just let us know.

We are looking forward to celebrating AFA's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and to seeing everyone. Don't hesitate to call me with any questions.

SERVING ALASKA'S FOREST INDUSTRY



**SCHEDULE**

**ALASKA FOREST ASSOCIATION  
50<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
'FROM GOLD TO DIAMOND'  
TED FERRY CONVENTION CENTER  
CAPE FOX HOTEL  
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA  
OCTOBER 17-19, 2007**

**Wednesday, October 17, 2007**

8:00 am	Associates Set Up Booths – Ted Ferry
8:00 am – 5:00 pm	Registration – Ted Ferry
8:00 am – Noon	Alaska Loggers Retirement Plan Trustees – Shaa Hit
1:30 pm -5:00 pm	Tongass Timber Trust Trustees – Shaa Hit
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm	Opening Reception – Ted Ferry

**Thursday, October 18, 2007**

8:00 am	Associate Booths Open – Ted Ferry
8:00 am – 4:00 pm	Registration – Ted Ferry
8:00 am – 11:45 am	Timber Issues – Shaa Hit
9:00 am – Noon	AWIT Open House – Ted Ferry
Noon – 2:00 pm	Lunch – Ted Ferry
2:15 pm – 5:00 pm	Timber Issues Continued – Shaa Hit
2:15 pm – 3:30 pm	Associate Members Meeting – NaaKani Room
5:30 pm – 9:00 pm	Red Suspenders Party – Ted Ferry
9:00 pm	Associate Booth Take Down

**Friday, October 19, 2007**

8:00 am – 8:15 am	AFA General Membership Meeting – Shaa Hit
8:15 am – Noon	AFA Board of Directors Meeting – Shaa Hit

# ALASKA FOREST ASSOCIATION

50<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention  
"From Gold to Diamond"  
October 17-19, 2007  
Ketchikan, Alaska

## - MEETING REGISTRATION FORM -

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

*All registrants will receive a name badge that will serve as admission to the meetings and activities. No refunds will be made after October 1, 2007.*

### *Number of individuals attending:*

AFA Member Registrants \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$175.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

AFA Member Spouse Registration \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$175.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Retiree \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$125.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Non-AFA Member Registration \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$275.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### *Number of individuals participating in each event:*

Opening Reception/Dance \_\_\_\_\_

Thursday Lunch \_\_\_\_\_

Red Suspender Party \_\_\_\_\_

**Booth Space (no charge):** \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

### **Mail Form and Check to:**

Alaska Forest Association  
111 Stedman Street, Suite 200  
Ketchikan, AK 99901  
907-225-6114  
907-225-5920 (fax)  
[afa@akforest.org](mailto:afa@akforest.org)

# AMA Convention Registration Form

## ALASKA MINERS ASSOCIATION Convention and Trade Show November 5 – November 11, 2007

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Company \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### MEMBERSHIP

Individual Member .....\$95.00  
 Professional Member .....\$200.00  
 Operator .....\$250.00  
 Student .....\$10.00  
 Corporate.....Call AMA office for information \_\_\_\_\_

### CONVENTION REGISTRATION

Member Registration .....\$150.00  
 Non-Member Registration .....\$200.00  
 Student Registration.....\$20.00  
 Surcharge after Oct.15, 2007.....\$25.00

### SPECIAL EVENTS

#### Wednesday, November 7

Luncheon .....\$30.00

#### Thursday, November 8

Mining District Breakfast.....\$25.00  
 Luncheon.....\$30.00

#### Friday, November 9

UAF School of Mines Breakfast .....\$25.00  
 Luncheon .....\$30.00  
 Banquet .....\$55.00

**Total A** \_\_\_\_\_

**Deadline for Pre-Registration is October 15, 2007**

### Short Course #1 (Nov. 5 - Nov. 6 in the Sheraton Hotel)

#### "Heavy Mineral Indicators"

Pre-Registration .....\$300  
 After Oct 15 .....\$350  
 Student Rate .....\$50

(Registration Fee Includes Lunch)

I want Continuing Education Credits (fee paid at class) yes \_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_

### Short Course #2 (Nov. 6 in the Sheraton Hotel)

#### "Acid Rock Drainage"

Pre-Registration .....\$175  
 After Oct 15 .....\$225  
 Student Rate .....\$50

(Registration Fee Includes Lunch)

I want Continuing Education Credits (fee paid at class) yes \_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_

### Short Course #3 (in the Sheraton Hotel)

#### "Properly Filing Mining License Tax and State Royalty"

First Come First Served.....\$50

Tues Nov. 6, 2:00-4:00pm \_\_\_\_ or

Wed Nov. 7, 2:00-4:00pm \_\_\_\_ or

Thur Nov. 8, 2:00-4:00pm \_\_\_\_

### Short Course #4 (Nov. 10 in the Sheraton Hotel)

#### "MSHA Surface Refresher"

Pre-Registration ..... No charge

(Pre-registration is required. Lunch is not included)

**Total B** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Total A** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Grand Total** \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment Method:

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_ M.O.# \_\_\_\_\_ P.O. # \_\_\_\_\_

### To pay by credit card :

1. Circle one: **VISA**      **MASTERCARD**
2. Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Billing Zip: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Name on card (please print): \_\_\_\_\_
5. Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



**Alaska Miners Association**  
 3305 Arctic Boulevard, Suite 105  
 Anchorage, Alaska 99503  
 Ph: (907) 563-9229 Fax: (907) 563-9225  
 Email: [ama@alaskaminers.org](mailto:ama@alaskaminers.org)  
 Website: [www.alaskaminers.org](http://www.alaskaminers.org)

### Save Money with Pre-Registration!

Register early and pay a reduced registration fee. To take advantage of this reduced fee you must return the following registration form to the AMA office on or before October 15, 2007. Members of the AMA qualify for an even greater reduction for convention registration. Non-members may take advantage of this lower rate by joining the AMA when they register.

## Travel Information

### Hotel

**Book by October 15** and the Sheraton Anchorage Hotel will provide rooms at the special rate of \$99 (single or double) for those attending the AMA convention. Reserve your room early. **You must contact the Sheraton Hotel directly for room reservations.** When calling, state that you are attending the Alaska Miners Convention so you can receive these special rates.

**Sheraton Hotel**  
 401 East 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
 Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
 Phone: (907) 276-8700  
 Within Alaska, call toll free: (800) 478-8700

**Or Register on line at**

**<http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/akminers07>**

### Travel Arrangements

**ITC Travel** has obtained special fares from Alaska Airlines up to 10% off excursion fares excluding all other promo's for convention attendees. These rates are effective from Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> through Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>. To take advantage of these special rates, you must purchase your tickets through ITC Travel by calling 907-561-7722. Mention you are a conference attendee for the Alaska Miners Association Convention. CMR 9711 e-code. "International travelers" must have picture ID with Birth Certificate, Citizen Certificate, or current Passport.

#### ITC Travel

4101 Arctic Blvd., Ste. 107  
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## AMA Convention Short Courses

Short courses are open to all (need not be an AMA member and need not be registered for the convention).

### Short Course #1:

#### Application of Heavy Mineral Methods in Stream Sediment and Till to Exploration

**Instructor:** *Dr. Harvey Thorleifson, Director*, Minnesota Geological Survey

**Time:** 8:30am – 5:00pm, Mon - Tues Nov 5 - 6.

**Cost:** \$300, \$350 after Oct 15. Fee includes lunch.

Enrollment is limited to 50 participants. **Optional fee payable at class** for University of Alaska Continuing Education Credits. **Location:** Sheraton Hotel

The Alaska Miners Association is pleased to offer a course that will review basic principles and recent developments in heavy-mineral-based mineral exploration methods, including gold grains, base metal indicators, and kimberlite indicator minerals. It will include presentations and hands-on exercises dealing with survey design, sampling and sample-processing methods, geochemical analyses, mineral chemistry, quality assurance/quality control, as well as examples from precious metal, base metal, and diamond exploration.

### Short Course #2:

#### Current Practice in Acid Rock Drainage Prediction

**Instructors:** *Stephen Day, P.Geo., Principal Geochemist*, – SRK Consulting Ltd.

**Time:** 8:30am – 5:00pm, Tues, Nov 6.

**Cost:** \$175, \$225 after Oct 15. Fee includes lunch.

Enrollment is limited to 50 participants. **Optional fee payable at class** for University of Alaska Continuing Education Credits.

**Location:** Sheraton Hotel

### TRADE SHOW

Attend the Trade Show during the convention.  
Many mineral industry suppliers will participate.

#### Open to the public

Wednesday, November 7, 8:00am – 6:30pm

Thursday, November 8, 8:00am – 5:00pm

Friday, November 9, 8:00am – 2:00pm

Acid rock drainage (ARD) and the associated process of metal leaching (ML) can be important issues at any construction project where rock is exposed to flowing water. This seminar will provide an introduction to the methods available to predict the reactivity of rock and the chemistry of drainage in contact with rock, and the use of the results to identify technologies to address ML/ARD. The seminar will appeal primarily to engineers and geoscientists working in the mining, transportation and utility industries.

### Short Course #3:

#### Properly Filing Mining License Tax and State Royalty

**Instructor:** *Johanna Bales*, Alaska Department of Revenue, and *Rick Fredericksen*, Alaska Department of Natural Resources

**Time:** 2-hour sessions at 2:00pm on Tue, Wed, or Thu, Nov 5, 7, and 8, with 24 participants per session.

**Cost:** \$50. **Location:** Third Floor, Sheraton Hotel.

This short course provides training on accurately complying with the requirements of the Mining License Tax and Royalty. The primary focus will be on the small operators and accountants to ensure the filings are correct. Participants may arrange for private meetings on the afternoon following each course or by later appointment.

### Short Course #4:

#### MSHA Surface Refresher

**Time:** 8:00am – 5:00pm, Sat Nov 10.

**Cost:** Free – Pre-registration required. Lunch not included.

### ROCK & MINERAL SHOW

Rock and mineral displays. Trade, buy and sell.

#### Open to the public

Friday, November 9, 5:00pm – 9:00pm

Saturday & Sunday, Nov 10 & 11, 10:00am – 5:00pm

Yukon and Kuskokwim Rooms

## Technical Sessions

### Wednesday Morning, November 7

#### Agency Geologic Investigations

Updates by USGS, BLM, and DGGs scientists on Alaska work programs in progress or completed during the past year.

### Wednesday Afternoon, November 7

#### Exploration Project Highlights

An overview of various early stage exploration projects from around the State of Alaska. The session will include project talks on Southeast, Southcentral, Interior, Southwest, Western and Northern Alaska.

### Thursday Morning, November 8

#### AMA Session: Issues Affecting Alaska Miners

This session will update miners on current industry issues.

### Thursday Afternoon, November 8

#### Alaska Exploration Projects

Presentations will give highlights of 2007 exploration activities in Alaska and updates on specific properties.

### Friday Morning, November 9

#### A Social License to Operate

Overviews of social responsibilities for exploration and mining operations in Alaska will be presented.

### Friday Afternoon, November 9

#### Development and Mine Operations

Current mine development projects will be discussed as well as updates on selected mining operations.

## Sponsorship Opportunities

Sponsorship opportunities are available at a variety of levels for the convention, short courses, coffee breaks, student poster sessions, and other events. Sponsors receive personal recognition at the event and they receive promotion through the convention website and convention materials. For more information contact Sharon Cox at the Alaska Miners Association.

## AMA Convention Schedule of Events

	Monday Nov. 5	Tuesday Nov. 6	Wednesday Nov. 7	Thursday Nov. 8	Friday Nov. 9	Saturday Nov. 10	Sunday Nov. 11
Breakfast				Mining District Breakfast 7:00am	UAF School of Mines & Friends Breakfast 7:00am		
Morning Session	Short Course #1 Heavy Mineral Indicators  8:30am- 5:00pm  Sheraton Hotel	Short Course #1 (cont.) 8:30am-5:00pm	Agency Geologic Investigations 8:00-11:00am	AMA Session - Issues Affecting Alaska Miners 8:00-11:00am	A Social License to Operate 8:00- 11:00am	Short Course #4 MSHA Surface Refresher 8am-5pm  Sheraton Hotel	Rock & Mineral Show (10:00am- 5:00pm) Yukon and Kuskokwim Rooms
Luncheon		Short Course #2 Current Practice in Acid Rock Drainage Prediction 8:30am-5:00pm  Sheraton Hotel	Luncheon	Luncheon	Luncheon		
Afternoon Session		Short Course #3 Session 1 2:00pm - 4:00pm  Sheraton Hotel	Exploration Project Highlights 2:00-5:00pm  Short Course #3 Session 2 2:00-4:00pm	Alaska Exploration Projects 2:00-5:00pm  Short Course #3 Session 2 2:00-4:00pm	Developmen t and Mine Operations  2:00- 5:00pm		
Evening			Suppliers Cocktail Reception 5:00-6:30pm	USGS Scoping Workshop 5:15-6:15  History Night 7:00-9:00pm	Miners' Banquet 7:00pm		

## Special Events

### Attention Prospective Trade Show Exhibitors!

Please call AMA. Various suppliers to the mining industry are represented at the trade show.

### Trade Show Silent Auction: Rock Specimens from Alaska

Donations accepted! Contact Anita Williams at [awilliam@alaska.net](mailto:awilliam@alaska.net).

### Suppliers' Reception

Meet your friends and view the trade show exhibits at an opening mixer from 5:00-6:30pm on Wednesday, November 7. A ticket good for one drink is included in your registration packet. Hors d'oeuvres will be provided courtesy of the trade show exhibitors. Cash bar.

### Mining District Breakfast

Have breakfast with your friends and hear the latest news from various mining districts around Alaska. The breakfast will be held at 7:00am, Thursday November 8. Space is limited.

### USGS Scoping Workshop

All interested parties are invited to contribute their ideas at a public meeting to define and prioritize focus areas for the "Geologic and Mineral Deposit Data for Alaskan Economic Development" project for

2009 and beyond. Open to the public 5:15-6:15pm Thursday November 8.

### History Night – Alaska Mining Hall of Fame

The induction of new members will be held at 7:00pm, Thursday November 8. Open to the public.

### UAF School of Mines & Friends Breakfast

Obtain the latest news on activities in the UAF School of Mineral Engineering. Attend breakfast with fellow alumni and school supporters at 7:00am Friday, November 9. Space is limited.

### Miners Banquet

The AMA Convention wraps up with the Miners' Banquet on Friday evening at 7:00pm. Dinner, entertainment, the AMEREF Raffle drawing, presentation of awards, and visiting with friends combine for an exciting evening. No host cocktails available at 6:30pm.

### Rock and Mineral Show

Displays of rocks and minerals from around Alaska. Trade, buy and sell. Open to the public. Friday, November 9 (5:00-9:00pm), and Saturday and Sunday, November 10 and 11 (10:00am-5:00pm) in the Yukon and Kuskokwim Rooms.

## Student Poster Session

Students interested in mineral exploration, engineering, operations, management, economics, reclamation, environmental permitting and other subjects pertinent to the mining industry are invited to present their research and technology posters to attendees. This is an excellent opportunity for students to discuss career opportunities and challenges with professionals in multiple disciplines. Poster sessions will be held on **Wednesday November 7<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.**

Space is limited to 10 tables. For registration forms or more information contact Holly Morris at (907) 696-6215 or [hlm@mlfaalaska.com](mailto:hlm@mlfaalaska.com).



RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

# Alaska Resources 2008

*28<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference*

*November 14-15, 2007, Sheraton Anchorage Hotel*

Enormous opportunities stand before Alaska's resource industries in the new year, but the implications of new local, state and federal government actions pose special challenges to attracting the private investment necessary to turn opportunity into reality and expand Alaska's economy.

RDC's 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, **Alaska Resources 2008**, will bring these opportunities and challenges to the forefront as prominent experts address issues such as commercializing our immense North Slope natural gas resources, as well as the impact of new taxes, land use policies and endangered species listings on future oil production, mining, fishing, tourism and timber harvesting.

**Alaska Resources 2008** will provide timely updates on current and new projects across the oil and mining industries, as well as the latest forecasts and updates from other resource sectors and government policy makers.

This is a special invitation for your company to sponsor **Alaska Resources 2008**. Sponsors will be listed in pre-event brochures and in the official program. They will also be recognized throughout the conference. Your generous sponsorship sustains RDC and underscores its effectiveness on issues important to you and your business.

Conference attendees are treated to a diverse and knowledgeable slate of speakers, as well as gourmet breaks and lunches, networking opportunities, an audience of decision makers, and a VIP reception. We expect strong attendance again this year, with hundreds of key business leaders from Alaska, the Lower 48 and Canada, as well as government policy makers and regulators.

As Alaska's most established resource development forum, RDC's annual conference fosters dialogue, interaction and collaboration. Exchange ideas, help shape Alaska's future and enhance your company's competitive position. We look forward to your support and participation in **Alaska Resources 2008!**



## RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

### Alaska Resources 2008

*28<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference*

*November 14-15, 2007, Sheraton Anchorage Hotel*

Gain recognition from and exposure to all Resource Development Council members by becoming a conference sponsor! Sponsors are recognized in the conference brochure, on the RDC website, in event notices, the official program and ads in local business publications.

#### Event Sponsorship Levels:

##### **Platinum Sponsor \$5,000**

Eight registrations to the conference and VIP reception, sponsor recognition in all conference communications and the *Resource Review* newsletter, 1/2 page advertisement in the conference program (Camera ready artwork due: Friday, October 26th, Ads are 5"h x 7.25"w), prominent display of your company banner at the conference and listing of your company logo in Powerpoint. Please send logo electronically to RDC ([msoto@akrdc.org](mailto:msoto@akrdc.org)) by October 26.

##### **Cosponsor \$3,000**

Six registrations to the conference and VIP reception, sponsor recognition in all conference communications and the *Resource Review* newsletter, 1/4 page advertisement in the conference program (Camera ready artwork due: Friday, October 26th, Ads are 5"h x 3.5"w), strategic display of your company banner at the conference and listing of your company logo in Powerpoint. Please send logo electronically to RDC ([msoto@akrdc.org](mailto:msoto@akrdc.org)) by October 26.

##### **General Sponsor \$2,000**

Four registrations to the conference and VIP reception, sponsor recognition in all conference communications and the *Resource Review* newsletter, enhanced placement of your company banner at the conference and listing of your company logo in Powerpoint. Please send logo electronically to RDC ([msoto@akrdc.org](mailto:msoto@akrdc.org)) by October 26.

##### **Underwriter \$1,000**

Two registrations to the conference and VIP reception, sponsor recognition in all conference communications and the *Resource Review* newsletter, placement of your company banner at the conference and listing of your company logo in Powerpoint. Please send logo electronically to RDC ([msoto@akrdc.org](mailto:msoto@akrdc.org)) by October 26.

##### **Exhibitor Showcase \$1,000 Ballroom\*, \$600 Mezzanine\*\***

*Space is limited as this segment of the conference has sold out six years in a row. Exhibit booth at the conference, sponsor recognition in conference communications, complimentary registration to the conference and VIP reception. \*Includes two registrants \*\*Includes one registrant*

*Return the following pledge form - by October 1<sup>st</sup> to be listed in the conference brochure!*



## RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

### **Specialty Sponsorship Options:**

Sponsor recognition signs for each event as well as recognition in the official conference brochure and program. All food breaks are held in the exhibit area.

#### **Wednesday or Thursday's Eye-Opener Breakfast (7:00 - 8:00 am) \$2,500 each**

Every registrant's first stop! Continental fare includes warm breakfast dish, bagels, croissants, muffins, fruit, yogurt, juice, soda, coffee and tea.

#### **Wednesday or Thursday Morning Breaks \$2,500 each**

The conference stops for these popular breaks. Add your own personal flair - ask for your favorite snacks!

#### **Wednesday Afternoon Break \$2,500**

A modern ice cream social event stimulates discussion and networking.

#### **Champagne & Sparkling Cider Toast \$1,500**

The toast kicks off the Grand Raffle drawing at the conclusion of Thursday's program.

#### **Centerpiece Sponsor \$3,000**

Personalized arrangements at each table with your company logo.

#### **RDC Grand Raffle**

Donate a prize of your choice for the popular drawing held at the close of the RDC Conference, November 15, 2007. Donors are recognized in conference program.

\*\*\*\*\*

Please fill out the following information and fax the form to RDC at (907) 276-3887 or email us at [resources@akrdc.org](mailto:resources@akrdc.org). Questions? Call Deantha or Carl at (907) 276-0700. RDC will send an invoice, unless instructed otherwise.

Sponsorship Level: ☐ Platinum ☐ Cosponsor ☐ General ☐ Underwriter

Exhibitor Showcase: ☐ Ballroom ☐ Mezzanine

Specialty Sponsorship Choice(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

# Alaska Resources 2008

Sheraton Anchorage Hotel

## Wednesday – November 14<sup>th</sup>

- 7:00 a.m. Registration/Check-In/Exhibits Open  
Eye-Opener Reception In Exhibit Area
- 8:00 Opening Remarks  
**Cook Inlet: 2008 & Beyond**  
Mitch Little, Alaska Asset Team Leader, Marathon Oil Company  
Danny Davis, President, Escopeta Oil and Gas Corporation (*Invited*)
- 8:45 **North Slope Exploration & Development Projects:  
A Look Ahead**  
Doug Suttles, President, BP (Exploration) Alaska, Inc.  
Jim Bowles, President, ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc.  
Doug Wilson, Alaska Exploration Manager, Anadarko Petroleum
- 9:30 Gourmet Break – Sponsored by **ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc.**
- 10:00 **North Slope Exploration & Development Projects:  
A Look Ahead**  
Ken Sheffield, President, Pioneer Natural Resources Alaska  
Rick Fox, Alaska Assets Manager, Shell E&P, Inc. (*Invited*)  
John Zager, Manager, Alaska Assets, Chevron
- 10:45 **The Current News From Washington On Alaska Gas**  
Drue Pearce, Federal Coordinator, Alaska Natural Gas  
Transportation Projects
- 11:15 Networking Break
- 12 Noon Keynote Luncheon  
**1977-2007: How Oil Has Transformed Alaska's Economy**  
Scott Goldsmith, Economist, Institute for Social & Economic  
Research, University of Alaska Anchorage  
Neal Fried, Economist, State of Alaska Department of Labor  
Mike Burns, Executive Director, Permanent Fund Corporation
- 2:00 p.m. **Canadian Arctic Gas & Energy Update**  
Philip Jennings, Director General, Petroleum Resources Branch,  
Energy Policy Sector, Natural Resources Canada (*Invited*)

- 2:30        **The Threat To Our Prosperity: Alaska's Looming Energy Crisis**  
Mayor Mark Begich, Municipality of Anchorage
- 3:00        Gourmet Break – Sponsored by **CH2M Hill**
- 3:30        **The Arctic Initiative**  
Lars M. Hvalbye, Senior Advisor, Technology, StatoilHydro
- 4:00        **Industry-Community Partnerships, Challenges  
& The Path Forward**  
Mayor Edward Itta, North Slope Borough  
Mayor John Williams, Kenai Peninsula Borough
- 5:00        **VIP Networking Reception** at Josephine's Hosted by  
**Government of Canada**, open to all conference attendees

## **Thursday – November 15<sup>th</sup>**

- 7:00 a.m.    **Eye Opener Reception In Exhibit Area**
- 8:00        **Expanding Alaska's Energy Horizons:  
Major Issues & Current Efforts**  
Henri Bisson, Bureau of Land Management
- 8:30        **The Endangered Species Act: Current Listings, Candidate  
Species & Implications For Alaska's Economy**  
Ken Taylor, Deputy Commissioner, Alaska Department of Fish &  
Game  
Jeff Leppo, Seattle Office Managing Partner, Stoel Rives LLC  
Caryn Rea, Senior Biologist, ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc.
- 9:30        Gourmet Break – Sponsored by **Stoel Rives LLC**
- 10:00       **Are The Clean Water, Clean Air, & Endangered Species Acts  
Being Used To Advance An Anti-Development Agenda?**  
Marilyn Crockett, Executive Director, Alaska Oil & Gas Association  
Bob Stiles, President, DRven Corporation, Development Manager,  
Chuitna Coal Project  
Stephanie Madsen, Executive Director, At-Sea Processors  
Association (*Invited*)
- 11:15       Networking Break
- Noon        Keynote Luncheon:  
Ryan Lance, President, Exploration & Production, Europe, Asia,  
Africa & The Middle East, ConocoPhillips, Inc.

Resource Development Council's 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

# Alaska Resources 2008

*Wednesday-Thursday, November 14-15, 2007, Sheraton Anchorage Hotel  
(As of Noon Wednesday, October 3, 2007)*

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121 West Fireweed Lane, Suite 250  
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(907) 276-0700

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

## Membership Application

Resource Development Council for Alaska, Inc.  
121 W. Fireweed Lane, Suite 250  
Anchorage, AK 99503-2035  
Phone: (907) 276-0700 Fax: (907) 276-3887

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

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City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers Wk: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

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### Annual Membership Categories

	<u>Corporate</u>	<u>Individual</u>
PLATINUM	\$3000 or more	\$500 or more
GOLD	\$1500	\$300
SILVER	\$ 750	\$150
BASIC	\$ 500	\$ 75

Please circle 1 or 2 topics of most interest:

Oil & Gas • Timber • Mining • Fisheries • Transportation • Agriculture  
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Method of payment: Enclosed is a check for: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or

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