

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

BREAKFAST MEETING

Thursday, February 5, 2008

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

**Unintended Consequences of CO2
Mitigation Strategies in Other States**
Paul Chesser, Director, Climate Strategies Watch

Next Meeting: February 19: Looking Ahead: The Green Economy & The Obama Administration, Kate Troll, Executive Director, Alaska Conservation Alliance and Alaska Conservation Voters

Please add my name to RDC's mailing list

NAME/TITLE: _____

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Alaska Climate Change Strategy

State of Alaska > Alaska Climate Change Strategy

What will Climate Change mean to Alaska?

Climate change describes the variation in Earth's global and regional atmosphere over time. These changes are likely caused by a combination of natural processes and activities. The rise in the Earth's average surface temperature is known as global warming. Scientists attribute the accelerating rate of global warming to manmade greenhouse gas emissions.

Global warming is currently impacting Alaska and will continue to impact it a number of ways. These impacts include melting polar ice, the retreat of glaciers, increasing storm intensity, wildfires, coastal flooding, droughts, crop failures, loss of habitat and threatened plant and animal species.

Globally, 2005 was the warmest year on record (using records dating back to 1880) with a sustained period of warming in the arctic during 2000-2005. Convincing evidence includes NASA satellite data that shows Arctic perennial sea ice decreasing by 9% per decade since 1979. Less ice means more open water-which means greater absorption of solar energy-which leads to increased warming in the ocean, and in turn accelerates more ice loss. This has led to a wide range of impacts in Alaska, including:

- **melting glaciers, rising sea levels, and flooding of coastal communities.** Warming of oceans and melting of land-based ice increases the volume of ocean water. Loss of sea-ice cover changes habitat for arctic species and leaves coastal communities more exposed to larger waves generated by severe storms.
- **thawing permafrost, increased storm severity, and related infrastructure damage** to roads, utility infrastructure, pipelines and buildings. Extremes in weather patterns, precipitation and rising sea levels will affect safe water sources in villages, and contributes to increased erosion along Alaska coasts and rivers and undermines Alaska boreal forests.
- **loss of the subsistence way of life** as animal habitat and migration patterns shift and as hunting and fishing become more dangerous with changing sea and river ice. Warming streams and increased silt from melting glaciers affect fish habitat. Boreal forests advance northward and to higher elevations, displacing tundra. Invasive species compete with native vegetation. Humans, animals and plants may be exposed to new infectious diseases as habitat changes.
- **forest fires and insect infestations** increasing in frequency and intensity. In the past decade, Alaska has witnessed a record loss of forests to fires and spruce bark beetles.

Of Interest...

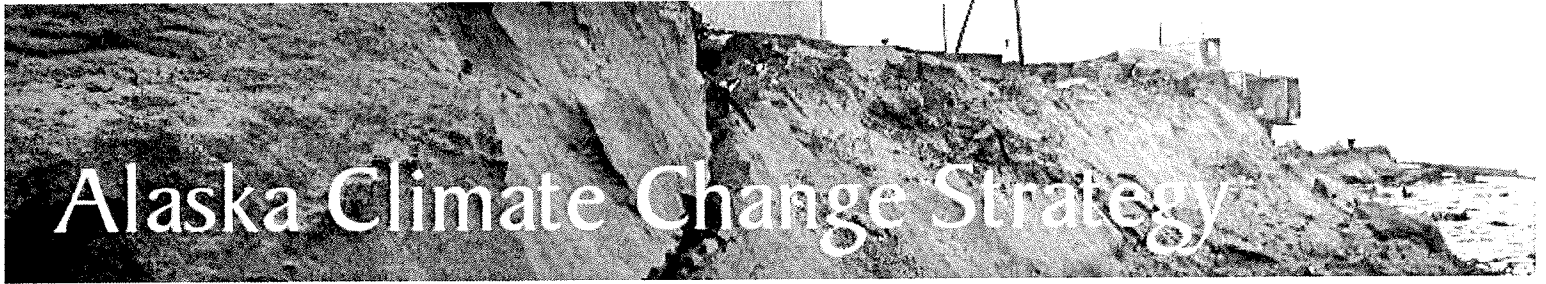
Climate Change Webpages

- Home
- What will Climate Change mean to Alaska?
- Sub-Cabinet Meeting Handouts
- Advisory Groups Background
 - Adaptation
 - Mitigation
 - Immediate Action
 - Research Needs
- Relevant Documents and Links
- Climate Change Photographs
- Sub-Cabinet Members

Associated Groups

- Joint Alaska Climate Impact Assessment Commission (Legislative Commission)
- ACIA (Arctic Climate Impact Assessment)
- University of Alaska ACCAP (Alaska Center for Climate Assessment & Policy)
- Western Climate Initiative

Contact the Climate Change Sub-Cabinet



Home

Schedule

Background

What Is Alaska

Already Doing

Role of the
Advisory Groups

Adaptation

Mitigation

Inventory &
Forecast
Report

Useful links &
documents

Contact Us

Background on Alaska's Climate Change Advisory Groups

The Climate Change Sub-Cabinet's efforts are organized into two broad themes. "Adaptation" includes those measures that can be taken to respond to the effects of climate change. "Mitigation" refers to measures to reduce Alaska's greenhouse gas emissions and to address other sources and causes of climate change. See the Adaptation Advisory Group and the Mitigation Advisory Group pages for members, meeting information, and documents.

Over the course of the next year, the efforts of the Adaptation Advisory Group and the Mitigation Advisory Group will each be supported by the efforts of four or five technical work groups.

The Adaptation technical work groups are focusing on areas such as how to address present and future impacts on:

1. public infrastructure
2. health and culture
3. natural systems, and
4. economic activities

The Mitigation technical work groups will examine ways in which greenhouse gas emissions can be reduced through conservation, efficiency and technological advances. Technical work groups have been assembled around general greenhouse gas mitigation action categories:

1. oil and gas
2. energy supply and demand
3. transportation and land use
4. forestry, agriculture, waste, and
5. cross-cutting issues

The Adaptation and Mitigation advisory groups will meet bi-monthly while the technical work groups will meet monthly.

The advisory groups will assemble information from the technical work groups and deliver final recommendations to the Sub-Cabinet. The Sub-Cabinet, in turn, will evaluate the recommendations and submit a proposed Climate Change Strategy to the Governor. This should be completed within one year.

All meetings will be announced and are open to the public. The stakeholder process commenced in May 2008.

The efforts of the three existing work groups formed with a short-term focus (Immediate Actions, Alternative Energy, and Research) will continue as part of the new, longer-term organization. The Alternative Energy Workgroup members have been 'absorbed' into the Mitigation Advisory Group and its Technical Work Groups. The Immediate Action and Research Needs Workgroups are proposed to remain as entities under the Sub-Cabinet.

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Alaska Climate Change Strategy

[Home](#)

[Schedule](#)

[Background](#)

[Adaptation](#)

[Public Infrastructure](#)

[Health & Culture](#)

[Natural Systems](#)

[Economic Activities](#)

[Mitigation](#)

[Inventory & Forecast Report](#)

[Useful links & documents](#)

[Contact Us](#)

Alaska Climate Change Adaptation Advisory Group

For a list of Members of the Climate Change Adaptation Advisory Group (CCAAG), [click here](#).

Four Technical Work Groups (TWGs) are analyzing options for adapting to the impacts of climate change upon Alaska. Use the buttons at left to see information on specific work groups. These work groups meet regularly by teleconference, and the public is invited to listen in on these calls.

For a list of Members of the Technical Work Groups, [click here](#).

Meetings and Documents

Meeting #5 of the CCAAG will be held in Anchorage on Friday, February 6, 2009 from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm, at the Atwood Bldg, 550 W. 7th Avenue, 2nd floor Conference Room #240. Call-in number is **(800) 315-6338**; code **2294#**. The meeting documents are [posted](#) on the Adaptation website.

Meeting #4 of the CCAAG was held Friday, November 7, 2008 in Anchorage. The meeting details are [posted here](#).

Meeting #3 of the CCAAG will be held Tuesday, September 23, 2008 in Anchorage from 9:00 am to 2:45 pm in the UAA Commons, University of Alaska, Anchorage. Members of the public wishing to attend the meeting via teleconference should call **(800)315-6338**, using call-in code **2690#**.

Documents for Meeting #3:

- Notice and Agenda
- Summary of Meeting #2 - DRAFT
- Evaluation Criteria Powepoint
- Proposed Policy Options
 - Economic Activities Progress Report
 - Health and Culture Progress Report
 - Natural Systems and Associated Economic Activities Progress Report
 - Public Infrastructure Progress Report

Meeting #2 of CCAAG was held Wednesday, July 16, 2008, in the Globe Room, Elvey Building, 903 Koyukuk Drive, University of Alaska - Fairbanks. For a campus map showing the Elvey Building, [click here](#).

Documents for Meeting #2:

- Notice and Agenda
- Powerpoint Presentation
 - Printer Friendly - 2 slides per page, black and white
- Summary of Meeting #1

- Catalogs of Proposed Policy Options
 - Economic Activities Catalog (revised 9 July 2008)
 - Revised EA Catalog (14 July 2008)
 - Description of EA Options (revised 9 July 2008)
 - Revised Description of EA Options (14 July 2008)
 - Vulnerabilities, Impacts and Opportunities
 - Health and Culture Catalog
 - Description of HC Options
 - Natural Systems and Associated Economic Activities Catalog
 - Description of NS Options
 - Public Infrastructure Catalog
 - Description of PI Options

Meeting #1 of CCAAG was held Friday, May 16, 2008, from 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. in Room 105, Carr-Gottstein Hall, Alaska Pacific University, Anchorage.

Documents posted for Meeting #1:

- Notice and Agenda
- Administrative Order 238
- Alaska Climate Impact Assessment Commission Report (8.2 MB)
- Immediate Action Workgroup Recommendations Report to the Governor's Sub-Cabinet on Climate Change (1.04 MB)
- Impacts Framework:
 - Summary
 - Public Infrastructure
 - Health and Culture
 - Natural Systems
 - Economic Activities
- Adaptation Advisory Group Planning Process (252 kb)

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Alaska Climate Change Strategy

www.akclimatechange.us/Adaptation.cfm

Governor's Sub-Cabinet on Climate Change Adaptation Advisory Group July 7, 2008

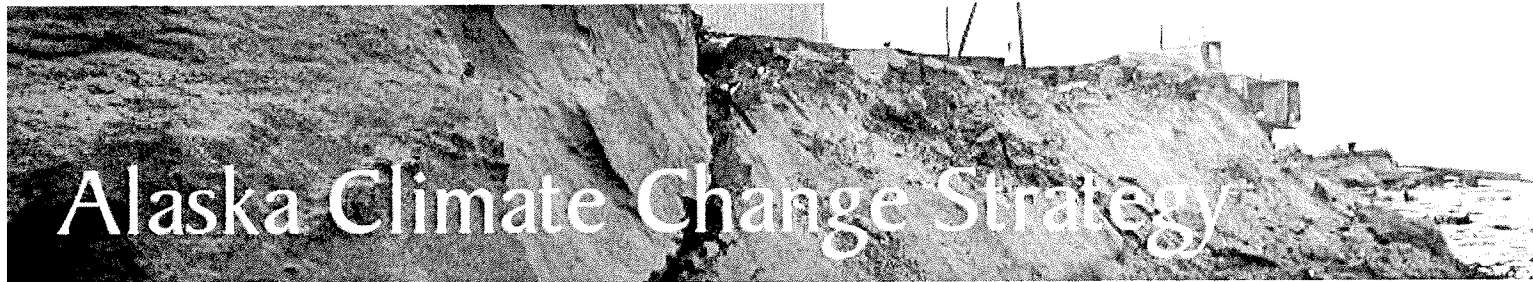
Name	Title, Affiliation	Location
Elaine Abraham	Alaska Native Elder; RN; BA/Human Development; M.A.T in Bilingual Multicultural Education	Yakutat
John Binkley	President, Alaska Cruise Association; Chair, AK Railroad Corporation	Fairbanks
Taunnie Boothby	Planner & State Coordinator, Floodplain Management Programs, DCRA, DCCED	Anchorage
Bruce Botelho	Mayor	Juneau
Michael Cerne	Chief, Planning and Force Readiness, USCG	Anchorage
Terry Chapin	Professor, Ecology, UAF	Fairbanks
Patricia Cochran	Chair, Inuit Circumpolar Council	Anchorage
Billy Connor	Director, AK University Transport Center, UAF	Fairbanks
Jeffrey Demain	Medical Director and Founder, Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology Center of AK	Anchorage
Bryce Edgmon	State Legislator, Western Alaska House District 37	Dillingham
Laura Furgione	Director, NWS Alaska Region, NOAA	Anchorage
Stan Foo	Manager, Barrick Gold Corp.	Donlin Creek
Richard Glenn	V.P., ASRC; whaling captain	Barrow
Larry Hinzman	Director, International Arctic Research Center, UAF	Fairbanks
Steve Ivanoff	Planner, Transportation, Kawerak	Unalakleet
Peter Larsen	Senior Policy Advisor, Climate Change, The Nature Conservancy	Anchorage
Stephanie Madsen	Director, At-Sea Processors	Juneau
Denise Michels	Mayor	Nome
Tony Nakazawa	Professor, Economics, Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences, UAF	Fairbanks
Bob Pawlowski	Director, Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation; member Alaska Climate Impact Assessment Commission, Immediate Action Workgroup	Juneau
Buck Sharpton	Vice Chancellor of Research, UAF	Fairbanks
Jeff Short	Research Chemist, NMFS, NOAA	Juneau
Orson Smith	Chair, Civil Engineering, UAA	Anchorage
Bill Streever	Manager, Marine Mammal Program, British Petroleum AK	Anchorage
Dale Summerlin	V.P., Health, Safety, Environment, ConocoPhillips	Anchorage
Mead Treadwell	Chair, Arctic Research Commission	Anchorage
Fran Ulmer	Chancellor, UAA	Anchorage
Steve Weaver	Chief Engineer, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium	Anchorage
Thomas Weise	Rector, Catholic Cathedral	Juneau

Alaska Climate Change Strategy

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GOVERNOR'S SUB-CABINET ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION TECHNICAL WORK GROUPS JULY 7, 2008

Public Infrastructure	Health & Culture	Natural Systems	Economic Activities
<p><u>Infrastructure</u> Trish Opheen John Warren Herb Schroeder Vladimir Romanovsky</p> <p><u>Safe Shipping</u> Michael Cerne (<i>AAG Member</i>) Lawson Brigham</p> <p><u>Climatologists</u> David Atkinson</p> <p><u>Aviation</u> Art Warbelow</p> <p><u>Conservation/Tourism</u> John Kreilkamp</p> <p><u>State Agency Expertise</u> Mike Coffey, DOT Mike Black, DCCED Greg Magee, DEC</p> <p><u>State Agency Expertise</u> Tara Jollie, DCCED Chris Mello, AEA Larry Dietrick or alternate, DEC SPAR John Madden or alternate DVMA</p>	<p><u>Cultural</u> Henry Huntington</p> <p><u>Health</u> Jim Berner Jeff Smith Mike Bradley</p> <p><u>Alaska Native</u> David Bill, Sr. Peter Captain Jerry Isaac Harry Brower</p> <p><u>Native Corp</u> Rosie Barr</p> <p><u>Archaeological Expert</u> Chris Wooley Josh Wisniewski</p> <p><u>Subsistence Foods</u> Arthur Lake Mike Williams</p> <p><u>State Agency Expertise</u> Joe Mc Laughlin Bob Gerlach</p>	<p><u>Agriculture</u> Tony Nakazawa (<i>AAG Member</i>)</p> <p><u>Forestry</u> Scott Rupp</p> <p><u>Seafood/Commercial</u> Ken McHugh Roland Maw</p> <p><u>Fisheries</u> Molly McCammon</p> <p><u>Climatologist</u> Gerd Wendler</p> <p><u>Economist</u> Steve Colt (<i>MAG member</i>)</p> <p><u>Community Economies</u> Robin Samuelson</p> <p><u>Invasive Species</u> Trish Wurtz</p> <p><u>NGOs</u> Kurt Parkan</p> <p><u>Wildlife/Megafauna</u> Tom Paragi, ADF&G</p> <p><u>State Agency Expertise</u> Chris Maisch, DNR Erik Volk, ADF&G</p>	<p><u>Oil & Gas</u> Elden Johnson Paul Dubuisson John Hellén</p> <p><u>Mining</u> Karl Hanneman</p> <p><u>Rural / Muni Government</u> Crawford Patkotak</p> <p><u>Economist</u> Keith Silver</p> <p><u>Economist/Reporter</u> Tim Bradner</p> <p><u>Infrastructure</u> Tom Krzewinski</p> <p><u>State Agency Expertise</u> Ed Fogels or alternate DNR</p>
Advisory Group Members:			
<p>Steve Ivanoff Taunnie Boothby Laura Furgione Steve Weaver Billy Connor Bob Pawlowski Mead Treadwell Denise Michels</p>	<p>Patricia Cochran Jeffrey Demain Elaine Abraham</p>	<p>Stephanie Madsen Bryce Edgmon Steve Colt Jeff Short Terry Chapin Kate Troll Bill Streever</p>	<p>Larry Hinzman Orson Smith Dale Summerlin John Binkley Richard Glenn Peter Larsen</p>



Home

Schedule

Background

Adaptation

Mitigation

Forestry, Agriculture & Waste
 Cross Cutting Issues
 Energy Supply & Demand
 Oil & Gas
 Transportation & Land Use

Inventory & Forecast Report

Useful links & documents

Contact Us

Alaska Climate Change Mitigation Advisory Group

For a list of Members of the Climate Change Mitigation Advisory Group (CCMAG), click [here](#).

Five Technical Work Groups (TWGs) are analyzing options for mitigating greenhouse gases in Alaska that contribute to climate change. Use the buttons at left to see information on specific work groups. These work groups meet regularly by teleconference, and the public is invited to listen in on these calls.

For a list of Members of the Technical Work Groups, click [here](#).

Meetings and Documents

Meeting #5 Time and Location information has been changed (1 February 2009)

Meeting #5 of the CCMAG will be held Thursday, February 5, 2008 from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. It will begin at the Dena'ina Convention Center, 2nd Level, in the Tubughnenq' Room (Breakout Rooms 3, 4, 5), and, at approximately 9:15 am, reconvene across the street in Room 240 of the Atwood Building, 550 West 7th Ave., Anchorage.

Members of the public wishing to attend the meeting via teleconference should call [\(800\)704-9804](tel:8007049804), using call-in code **563 667#**.

Documents for Meeting #5:

- Notice and Agenda
- Powerpoint Presentation
 - Printer Friendly - 2 slides per page, black and white
- Summary of Meeting #4 - *DRAFT*
- Technical Work Group Straw Proposals
 - Forestry, Agriculture and Waste
 - Synopsis
 - Cross Cutting
 - Energy Supply and Demand
 - Oil and Gas
 - Summary
 - Transportation and Land Use

Meeting #4 of the CCMAG will be held Thursday, November 6, 2008 from 9:00 am to 4:10 pm at the JL Tower, 3800 Centerpoint Drive, Anchorage. Members of the public wishing to attend the meeting via teleconference should call [\(800\)704-9804](tel:8007049804), using call-in code **563 667#**.

Documents for Meeting #4:

- Notice and Agenda
- Powerpoint Presentation
 - Printer Friendly - 2 slides per page, black and white
- Summary of Meeting #3 - DRAFT
- Catalogs of Proposed Policy Options
 - Forestry, Agriculture and Waste Draft Straw Proposal - Includes sample language for Straw Proposals
 - FAW Ballot Results - presented at September 22 meeting
 - Cross Cutting Ballot Results
 - Option Descriptions
 - Cross Cutting Presentation
 - Printer-Friendly version
 - Energy Supply and Demand Final Ballot Results
 - Energy Supply and Demand Presentation - revised
 - Oil and Gas Ballot Results
 - Transportation and Land Use Ballot Results

Meeting #3 of the CCMAG will be held Monday, September 22, 2008 in Anchorage from 9:00 am to 3:15 pm in the UAA Commons, University of Alaska, Anchorage. Members of the public wishing to attend the meeting via teleconference should call **(800)704-9804**, using call-in code **563 667#**.

Documents for Meeting #3:

- Notice and Agenda
- Powerpoint Presentation
 - Printer Friendly - 2 slides per page, black and white
 - Summary of Meeting #2 - FINAL
- Catalogs of Proposed Policy Options
 - Forestry, Agriculture and Waste Catalog
 - Description of FAW Options
 - FAW Ballot Results
 - Cross Cutting Catalog - Preliminary rating results
 - Energy Supply and Demand - Progress Report
 - Oil and Gas Catalog - Progress Report
 - Transportation and Land Use Catalog
 - Description of TLU Options
 - Priority Policy List

Meeting #2 of CCMAG was held Tuesday, July 15, 2008, in the Globe Room, Elvey Building, 903 Koyukuk Drive, University of Alaska - Fairbanks. For a campus map showing the Elvey Building, [click here](#).

Documents for Meeting #2:

- Notice and Agenda
- Powerpoint Presentation
 - Printer Friendly - 2 slides per page, black and white
- Summary of Meeting #1

- Catalogs of Proposed Policy Options
 - Forestry, Agriculture and Waste Catalog
 - Description of FAW Options
 - Cross Cutting Catalog
 - Description of CC Options
 - Energy Supply and Demand Catalog
 - Residential, Commercial and Industrial Catalog
 - Description of ESD Options
 - Oil and Gas Catalog
 - Suggested revisions to OG Catalog from individual TWG members - 07-14-08
 - Description of OG Options
 - Suggested revisions to OG Catalog Descriptions from individual TWG members - 07-14-08
 - Transportation and Land Use
 - Description of TLU Options

Meeting #1 of CCMAG was held Thursday, May 15, 2008, from 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. in Room 105, Carr-Gottstein Hall, Alaska Pacific University, Anchorage

Documents for Meeting #1:

- Notice & Agenda
- Center for Climate Strategies (CCS) Mitigation Advisory Group Planning Process PowerPoint presentation (276 kb)
 - 2 slides/per page version of CCS Presentation
- Draft Alaska Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory and Forecast (1.4 MB)
- 1990-2020 Alaska Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Forecast (72 kb)

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Alaska Climate Change Strategy



www.akclimatechange.us/Mitigation.cfm

Governor’s Sub-Cabinet on Climate Change Mitigation Advisory Group July 7, 2008

Name	Title, Affiliation	Location
Scott Anaya	Director, Alaska Building Science Network	Anchorage
Bob Batch	V.P., Health, Safety, Environment, British Petroleum	Anchorage
Steve Colt	Economist, Institute for Social and Economic Research, UAA	Anchorage
Jeff Cook	Government Affairs, Flint Hills Resources	Fairbanks
Brian Davies	Board Chair, The Nature Conservancy, Former V.P. British Petroleum	Anchorage
Steve Denton	V.P. Business Development, Usibelli Coal Mine	Fairbanks
Karen Ellis	Director, Environmental Management, FedEx Express	Memphis
Rick Harris	V.P., Sealaska	Juneau
Jack Hebert	Director, Cold Climate Housing Research Center and Owner, Hébert Homes	Fairbanks
David Hite	Petroleum Geologist and Consultant, Hite Consulting	Anchorage
Kate Lamal	V.P., Golden Valley Electric	Fairbanks
Meera Kohler	Director, Alaska Village Electric Co-op	Anchorage
Paul Klitzke	Pastor, St. David’s Episcopal Church, and Chair, Interfaith Light & Power	Wasilla
Greg Peters	Manager, Environmental Compliance, Alyeska Seafoods	Unalaska
Chris Rose	Director, Renewable Energy Alaska Project (REAP)	Anchorage
Jon Rubini	Owner, JL Properties	Anchorage
Sean Skaling	Director, Green Star	Anchorage
Jamie Spell	Chief, Environmental Flight, 3rd Wing Elmendorf AFB	Anchorage
Curt Stoner	Sales Manager, Totem Ocean	Anchorage
Kate Troll	Director, Alaska Conservation Alliance	Anchorage
Kathy Wasserman	Director, Alaska Municipal League	Juneau
Randy Virgin	Director, Sustainability, Economic and Community Development, Municipality	Anchorage
Dan White	Director, Institute of Northern Engineering, UAF	Fairbanks

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GOVERNOR'S SUB-CABINET ON CLIMATE CHANGE

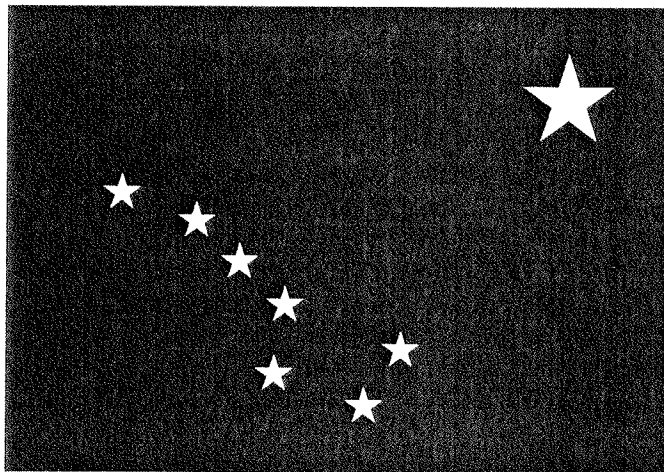
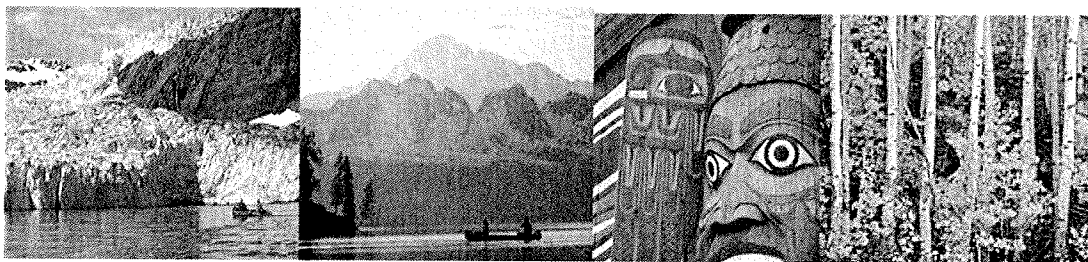
MITIGATION TECHNICAL WORK GROUPS

JULY 7, 2008

Oil & Gas	Energy Supply & Demand	Transportation/ Land Use	Forestry, Agriculture, Waste Management	Cross-Cutting Issues
<p><u>Refining/Marketer</u> Kip Knudsen</p> <p><u>O&G</u> Janet Bounds Jim Pfeiffer Brad Thomas</p> <p><u>OCS Interest</u> Jeff Walker, MMS</p> <p><u>Economists</u> Claire Fitzpatrick Jim Calvin</p> <p><u>Diesel/Drilling Exploration</u> Russ Douglass</p> <p><u>Turbine Engines</u> Sean Lowther</p> <p><u>State Agency Expertise</u> Bob Swenson, DNR</p> <p>Louis Kozisek – Chief Engineer, JPO</p> <p>John Norman, AOGCC</p>	<p><u>Economists</u> Scott Goldsmith Tom Lovas</p> <p><u>Major Seafood Power Users</u> David Benton</p> <p><u>Large Utility</u> Marilyn Leland Jim Posey</p> <p><u>Small Utility</u> Meera Kohler (<i>MAG Member</i>)</p> <p><u>Alternative Energy/Efficiency</u> Gwen Holdmann</p> <p><u>Mining</u> Wayne Hall Charlie Boddy</p> <p><u>Residential/Commercial Users</u> Sean Skaling (<i>MAG Member</i>)</p> <p><u>Native/Rural Energy Users</u> Jodi Mitchell</p> <p><u>State Agency Expertise</u> Peter Crimp, AEA Clint Farr, DEC Christopher Nye, DNR</p>	<p><u>Eco-Tourism</u> David van den Berg</p> <p><u>Local Gov't Leader</u> John Duffy Luke Hopkins Lance Wilber</p> <p><u>Commercial Fishing</u> Chip Treinen</p> <p><u>NGO/Transportation</u> Rob Bosworth</p> <p><u>Rail Transportation</u> Bruce Carr</p> <p><u>Aviation</u> Karen Ellis (<i>MAG member</i>)</p> <p><u>Ocean-Going Vessels/Oil Tankers, etc.</u> Curt Stoner (<i>MAG member</i>)</p> <p><u>State Agency Expertise</u> Jeff Ottesen, DOT Planning</p>	<p><u>Forestry</u> Ron Wolfe Rick Rogers</p> <p><u>Waste/Landfill</u> Steve Gilbert Donna Mears Jeff Riley</p> <p><u>Agriculture</u> Charles Knight</p> <p><u>State Agency Expertise</u> Chris Maisch Doug Buteyn</p>	<p><u>Topics:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gov't Lead by Example Public Education / Outreach Private Citizen / Homeowner Incentive Actions <p><u>Knowledgeable Citizen</u> Lori Hanemann</p> <p><u>Energy Efficient Buildings</u> Scott Waterman</p> <p><u>Recycling</u> Jeanne Carlson</p> <p><u>Outreach Expertise</u> Lynda Giguere Mike Heatwole Doug O'Harra</p> <p><u>Local Government– Lead by Example</u> Maria Gladziszewski James Hornaday</p> <p><u>Federal Government –Lead by Example</u> Kimberly Gray</p> <p><u>State Government– Lead by Example Team</u> Scott Sloane, ADEC</p>
Advisory Group members:				
<p>David Hite Bob Batch Jeff Cook</p>	<p>Meera Kohler Steve Colt Dan White Steve Denton Greg Peters Kate Lamal Chris Rose</p>	<p>Jamie Spell</p>	<p>Rick Harris Kathie Wasserman</p>	<p>Randy Virgin Sean Skaling Scott Anaya Jack Hebert Kate Troll John Rubini Paul Klitzke</p>

OBSERVED CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE NEGLIGIBLE GLOBAL EFFECT OF GREENHOUSE-GAS EMISSION LIMITS IN THE STATE OF ALASKA

January 2009

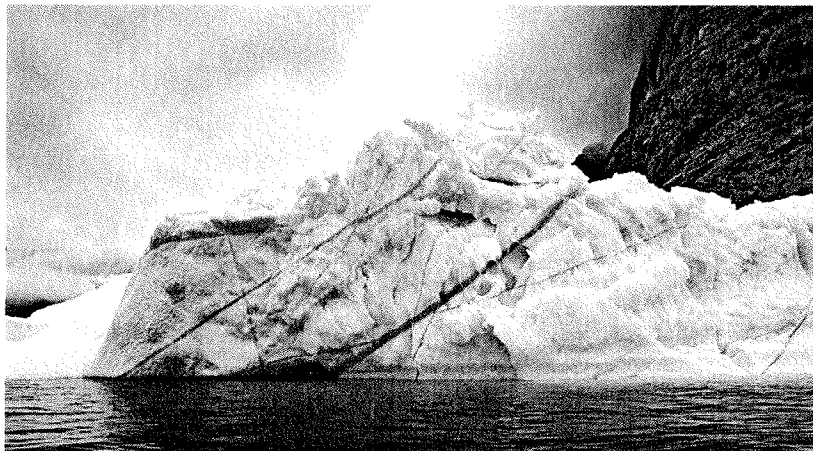


www.scienceandpublicpolicy.org

[202] 288-5699

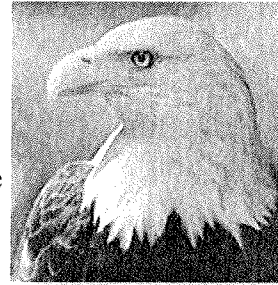
TABLE OF CONTENTS

Summary for Policy Makers	3
Alaska's Climate and the Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO)	4
Alaska Temperature History	6
Other Impacts of the current PDO warm phase	8
<i>Relocating Native Villages</i>	9
<i>Wildlife Changes</i>	12
<i>Robins</i>	12
<i>Polar Bears</i>	13
Long-term Climate History of Alaska	16
Impacts of climate-mitigation measures in the state of Alaska	17
Costs of Federal Legislation	22
Alaska Scientists Reject UN's Global Warming Hypothesis	23
Appendix: Recent <i>global</i> temperatures	24
References	25



Summary for Policy Makers

The climate of Alaska has changed considerably over the past 50-plus years. However, human emissions of greenhouse gases are *not* the primary reason. Instead, the timing of the swings of a periodic, natural cycle—the Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO)—has made a strong imprint on the observed climate of Alaska since the mid-20th century. Despite its established existence and influence, this natural cycle is often overlooked or ignored in zealous attempts to paint the current climate of Alaska as being one primarily molded by the emissions from anthropogenic industrial activities. In truth, the climate of Alaska and the ecosystems influenced by it have been subject to the cycles of the PDO and other natural variations since the end of the last ice age (some 12,000 years ago) and likely for eons prior. It is primarily these natural cycles that are currently shaping Alaska’s long-term climate and weather fluctuations.



Local and regional processes are the most important determinants of the climate experienced by local and regional ecosystems, including human populations. Global-scale influences are much harder to detect and their influence on regional-scale changes is uncertain. In fact, global climate models which project changes in future climate are unable to reliably model local and regional changes—the most important ones in our daily lives.

Therefore, efforts to control global processes through local changes are largely useless when it comes to the climate. For instance, the greenhouse gases emitted by human activities each year in the state of Alaska amounts to less than 0.2 percent of the global total human greenhouse gas emissions. Industrial growth in China adds an additional Alaska’s worth of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere each and every month (over and above its baseline emissions). This leads to the inescapable conclusion that even *a complete cessation of all* carbon dioxide emissions originating from Alaska would be subsumed by global greenhouse gas emissions increases in less than *three week’s time*. What’s more, carbon dioxide emissions reductions in Alaska would produce no detectable or scientifically meaningful impact on local, regional, or global climate. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said for the economic consequences of greenhouse gas emissions’ legislation—they have been recently estimated to be large, and negative, for the citizens of Alaska.

FULL PAPER AT:

<http://scienceandpublicpolicy.org/images/stories/papers/originals/AlaskaClimateChange.pdf>



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[Blonde Uprising](#)
[Reader Commentary](#)
[Grassroot Perspective](#)
[Fresh Perspective](#)
[Heroes & Scoundrels](#)
[Cartoon of the Week](#)
[Letters](#)

POLITICS

[ELECTIONS 2008](#)
[ELECTIONS 2010](#)

AROUND THE CAPITOL

[Capitol Hits](#)

INVESTIGATIONS

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2008: Another Grim Year for the Global Warmers

By Michael R. Fox Ph.D., 1/2/2009 10:45:23 AM

The year 2008 marked the tenth consecutive year of no global warming. This is not widely reported or known. In fact the Earth has been cooling for the last 6 years.

Richard Lindzen

A profound analysis of the global warming issues including huge political issues was written and presented in August this year by Dr. Richard Lindzen, climatologist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). (<http://tinyurl.com/6lcejl>). He asks two very important questions:

- 1. Has the global warming alarm become the goal itself, instead of the result of scientific research?
- 2. Is climate science really designed to answer questions or promote political goals?

Too often we witness climate alarmism being promoted while solid science is ignored, misrepresented, or downplayed. This makes great fodder for scary movies, scary news articles, and scary documentaries, but it is still bad science.

We also note that the nearly \$5 billion/year being spent on global warming research is buying a lot of name-calling, ad hominem attacks, and all around nastiness by many of the indentured recipients of that money.

Such behavior certainly is not scientific. In fact it inhibits the progress of science, and the intelligent formulations of science and energy policies. If half the participants are ignored by the science journals, insulted with ad hominem attacks by the promoters, and ignored and dismissed by the media, then the simple and rational scientific processes are stopped.

Lindzen describes the origins of global warming alarm, the political agenda of the alarmists, their intimidation tactics, and the reasons for their success. Also, in painstaking detail, he debunks their key scientific claims and counterclaims. This Lindzen paper, although quite lengthy, is must reading for all decision makers, energy policy makers, and their staffs. Of course it would also help if the entire US population and the media read it as well, to help them understand the unscientific political processes taking place right before their eyes.

Les Kinsolving

Writer Kinsolving reports more of the bad news (<http://tinyurl.com/8xnox9>). As Dr. David Gee at the University of Uppsala Sweden asks "For how many years must the planet cool before we begin to understand that the planet is not warming? For how many years must cooling go on?"---Geologist Dr. David Gee, chairman of the science committee of the 2008 International Geological Congress, has authored 130-plus peer-reviewed papers, and currently is at Uppsala University of Sweden. As if this weren't bad enough, the list of credentialed skeptics is growing by leaps and bounds.

Kinsolving provides a number of other important quotations from the scientists who don't accept the dogma of man-made global warming:

- 1. "I am a skeptic. ... Global warming has become a new religion." – Nobel Prize winner for physics Ivar Giaever.
- 2. "Anyone who claims that the debate is over and the conclusions are firm has a fundamentally unscientific approach to one of the most momentous issues of our time." – Solar physicist Dr. Pal Brekke, senior adviser to the Norwegian Space Centre in Ohio.
- 3. "It is a blatant lie put forth in the media that makes it seem there is only a fringe of scientists who don't buy into anthropogenic global warming." – U.S. government atmospheric scientist Stanley B. Goldenberg of the Hurricane Research Division of NOAA.

- 4. "After reading (U.N. IPCC Chairman) Pachauri's asinine comment (comparing skeptics to Flat Earthers, it's hard to remain quiet." – Climate statistician Dr. William M. Briggs.
- 5. "All those urging action to curb global warming need to take off the blinkers and give some thought to what we should do if we are facing global cooling instead." – Geophysicist Dr. Phil Chapman, an astronautical engineer and former NASA astronaut, serving as staff physicist at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
- 6. "The (global warming) scaremongering has its justification in the fact that it is something that generates funds." – Award-winning paleontologist Dr. Eduardo Tonni, of the Committee for Scientific Research in Buenos Aires and head of the Paleontology Department at the University of La Plata.
- 7. "Earth has cooled since 1998 in defiance of the predictions by the U.N.-IPCC. ... The global temperature for 2007 was the coldest in a decade and the coldest of the millennium ... which is why 'global warming' is now called 'climate change.'" – Climatologist Dr. Richard Keen of the Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences at the University of Colorado.

The Petition Project

There are many more scientists and engineers who do not accept the fuzzy "science" of global warming. More than 31,000 of them are now listed on the Petition Project, including more than 9000 Ph.D.s (<http://tinyurl.com/5o5dxl>). These 31,000 scientists, engineers, and medical professionals sign a simple statement which says:

"We urge the United States government to reject the global warming agreement that was written in Kyoto, Japan, in December, 1997, and any other similar proposals. The proposed limits on greenhouse gases would harm the environment, hinder the advance of science and technology, and damage the health and welfare of mankind. There is no convincing scientific evidence that the human release of carbon dioxide, methane, or other greenhouse gases is causing, or will in the foreseeable future, cause catastrophic heating of the Earth's atmosphere and disruption of the Earth's climate. Moreover, there is substantial scientific evidence that increases in atmospheric carbon dioxide produce many beneficial effects upon the natural plant and animal environments of the Earth."

This is not an unreasonable appeal by very well educated people asking our government not to fall for the steady stream of a continuing hoax. Solid evidence is needed. If we don't get the science right, we won't get the policy right.

Christopher Booker

The irrepressible Christopher Booker has noted the large changes in the global warming events during 2008 (<http://tinyurl.com/8p7d83>).

These include:

- 1. Global temperatures continue to decline. Booker says "The decline in global temperatures was wholly unpredicted by all those computer models which have been used as the main drivers of the scare. Last winter, as temperatures plummeted, many parts of the world had snowfalls on a scale not seen for decades. This winter, with the whole of Canada and half the US under snow, looks likely to be even worse. After several years flatlining, global temperatures have dropped sharply enough to cancel out much of their net rise in the 20th century."
- 2. Booker continues "secondly, 2008 was the year when any pretence that there was a "scientific consensus" in favour of man-made global warming collapsed. At long last, as in the Manhattan Declaration last March, hundreds of proper scientists, including many of the world's most eminent climate experts, have been rallying to pour scorn on that "consensus" which was only a politically engineered artifact, based on ever more blatantly manipulated data and computer models programmed to produce no more than convenient fictions".
- 3. "Thirdly, as banks collapsed and the global economy plunged into its worst recession for decades, harsh reality at last began to break in on those self-deluding dreams which have for so long possessed almost every politician in the western world. As we saw in this month's Poznan conference, when 10,000 politicians, officials and "environmentalists" gathered to plan next year's "son of Kyoto" treaty in Copenhagen, panicking politicians are waking up to the fact that the world can no longer afford all those quixotic schemes for "combating climate change" with which they were so happy to indulge themselves in more comfortable times".

Summary

A nation which abolishes its fossil energy sources (coal, oil, and natural gas), nuclear energy, hydro energy, as these political forces are pushing, will lose all of the energy needed for our industries, homes, and infrastructure such as hospitals, office buildings, schools, and hotels. A powerful nation such as ours cannot sustain its energy needs on sunbeams and gentle breezes, as many of the warmers propose. That pathway to the future is dangerous and instead is a pathway to economic suicide

Hawaii's Online
Resource for Business
and Government Record

Hawaii Reporter
P.O. Box 11664

Michael R. Fox, Ph.D., is a nuclear scientist and a science and energy resource for Hawaii Reporter and a science analyst for the Grassroot Institute of Hawaii, is retired and now lives in Eastern Washington. He has nearly 40 years experience in the energy field. He has also taught chemistry and energy at the University level. His interest in the communications of science has led to several communications awards, hundreds of speeches, and many appearances on television and talk shows. He can be reached via email at <mailto:mike@foxreport.org>

Reach Hawaii Reporter editor Malia Zimmerman at <mailto:Malia@HawaiiReporter.com>

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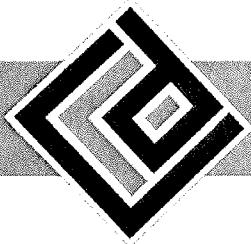
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RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

Alaska Federal Natural Resource Policy Positions

January 20, 2009

Dear President Barack Obama and Members of Congress:

Just fifty years ago, Congress voted on whether Alaska should become our flag's 49th star. Earlier statehood votes failed as Congress doubted that the northern territory could sustain itself economically. However, the discovery of oil in Southcentral Alaska and the potential of vast deposits on the North Slope convinced Congress that Alaska could support its northern economy and contribute to the Union. Today, Alaska is responsibly developing natural resources that provide jobs, stimulate the economy, and ultimately increase national security by lowering America's dependence on foreign countries.

We strongly encourage you to become familiar with the issues that affect natural resource development in Alaska, as they have significant impacts on the rest of the country. The attached report provides an overview of federal natural resource policy positions that affect Alaska. It includes recommendations for you to consider as legislation and policies are developed to revitalize the economy, provide for the energy needs of America, and responsibly develop natural resources domestically for the benefit of all Americans.

Resource development drives Alaska's economy and provides jobs and income that have powered five decades of economic expansion. The state's economy is dominated by oil and gas exploration and production. Significant revenues and jobs are also generated from mining, fishing, timber, and tourism. In addition, there is great opportunity in renewable resources with Alaska aiming to produce 50 percent of its power through renewable means by 2025.

Yet much of Alaska is currently off-limits, preserved in vast Conservation System Units (CSUs). In 1980, when Congress passed the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), a staggering 106 million acres of the public domain was withdrawn into CSUs, such as national parks and refuges, bringing Alaska's total withdrawn acreage to 158 million acres.

Unlike the "Lower 48" states, where most of the land is owned by the private sector, less than one percent of the 365 million acres in Alaska is owned by conventional private owners. Currently, the federal government owns 60 percent of Alaska and the State of Alaska owns 28 percent. Alaska Native Corporations account for approximately 12 percent of the state as a result of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) which Congress enacted in 1971 to provide a means by which Alaska Native people could derive economic benefits from the development of natural resources on their lands.

Given the state's reliance on natural resource development for economic stability and the funding of essential public services, it is imperative the Obama Administration and Congress provide for balanced federal policies that encourage multiple use activities on our vast federal lands and responsible resource development on state, Alaska Native, and private lands. Thank you for your thorough review of these recommendations. Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions.

Sincerely,

Jason W. Brune
Executive Director

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Resource Development Council for Alaska, Inc.

Alaska Federal Natural Resource Policy Positions

Summary

- **Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline:** Encourage the construction of a gas pipeline from the North Slope to the “Lower 48.” Provide access to unexplored gas basins to ensure the long-term viability of the project.
- **Oil and Gas Exploration & Development:** Support new exploration and development of Alaska’s oil and gas deposits, including prolific basins in the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (NPR-A), the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS), and the 1002 area of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). Offshore development should include federal revenue sharing and/or community impact assistance. Additionally, encourage research and development of gas hydrates on the North Slope.
- **ANILCA Special Protections:** Uphold the special protections granted to Alaska under the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA).
- **Federal Land Withdrawals:** Oppose new federal land withdrawals, marine protected areas, Antiquities Act designations, and BLM Wilderness studies on federal lands in Alaska. Support proposed land exchanges in Yukon Flats and Izembek National Wildlife refuges as well as the Sealaska Corporation Land Bill.
- **Polar Bear ESA Listing:** Oppose the use of the listing of the polar bear under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) to regulate greenhouse gas emissions and to block access to energy development.
- **Endangered Species Act Reform:** Support a federally streamlined, science-based process for listing and protecting ever-growing numbers of candidate species, threatened and endangered species, and critical habitat acreage designations.
- **Climate Change:** Encourage the regulation of greenhouse gas emissions through independent legislation, rather than through the Clean Air Act or Endangered Species Act, based on sound environmental, scientific, and economic principles that are international in scope.
- **Economic Timber Supply in Multiple Use Tongass National Forest with Continued Exemption from Roadless Initiative:** Manage the national forest system in Alaska to achieve its multiple use mandate, which includes resource development such as timber harvesting, mining, and commercial tourism operations. This must include providing a sustainable and long-term supply of economic timber in the Tongass. Maintain exemption for the Tongass National Forest from future roadless initiatives.
- **Increased Access for Tourism:** Support increased and expanded tourism opportunities through improved visitor facilities throughout Alaska’s national parks.
- **NPFMC Oversight of Federal Fisheries:** Support continued science-based oversight of Alaska’s federal fisheries under the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC).
- **Federal Mining Law:** Oppose revisions to federal law and regulations that would have adverse impacts on Alaska’s mining industry.
- **Renewable Energy:** Support efforts to commercialize Alaska’s hydro, geothermal, wind, tidal, and other renewable energy sources.
- **Wetlands:** Support regulations that strictly follow the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Rapanos v. United States*.
- **Federal Agency Funding:** Provide adequate funding for permitting functions.

**Resource Development Council for Alaska, Inc.
Alaska Federal Natural Resource Policy Positions**

Climate Change

Encourage the regulation of greenhouse gas emissions through independent legislation, rather than through the Clean Air Act or Endangered Species Act, based on sound environmental, scientific, and economic principles that are international in scope.

RDC opposes the regulation of greenhouse gas emissions through the Clean Air Act or the Endangered Species Act. Separate greenhouse gas emission legislation should be based on sound environmental, scientific and economic principles within the context of U.S. energy needs and the national economy. Such legislation should be coordinated with other emitting nations to ensure this problem is addressed on a global scale and does not put American business at a competitive disadvantage. Otherwise, new regulations would likely result in unintended consequences, including a shift in emissions, and possibly production capacity, from the U.S. to other countries. This could result in a net increase in global emissions.

RDC urges the Obama Administration and Congress to conduct a comprehensive discussion of the impacts and costs of any program aimed at regulating greenhouse gas emissions. The government must explain in clear terms the costs and benefits of the U.S. regulating greenhouse gases. The government must avoid regulatory measures that result in significant and untimely shocks to a weak domestic economy and result in higher prices for energy, food, manufactured goods, and transportation. Overly stringent and duplicative regulation would hinder the nation's ability to meet domestic energy demands, grow the economy, and avoid price shocks across the nation.

Resource Development Council for Alaska, Inc. Alaska Federal Natural Resource Policy Positions

Polar Bear ESA Listing

Oppose the use of the listing of the polar bear under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) to regulate greenhouse gas emissions and to block access to energy development.

RDC does not support the listing of the polar bear under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The listing is premature and could result in substantial unintended consequences. The federal government failed to adequately consider the existing regulatory mechanisms, including conservation measures, as polar bears are currently protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). Their listing under the ESA could severely impact Alaska's economy, especially given the third party litigation that is likely to emerge over development projects in or near critical habitat designations.

Existing laws such as the MMPA and other mechanisms are working and provide a high level of protection to polar bears, which have coexisted with oil and gas operations in Alaska's arctic region for decades. In fact, polar bears are abundant and their population in Alaska is healthy in size and distribution. Their Alaska population has increased sharply since the advent of oil and gas exploration and development on the North Slope.

RDC is concerned the polar bear listing will be used to force regulation of greenhouse gas emissions through the ESA, leading to potentially severe consequences for the national economy and significant increases in the cost of energy for Americans. If the ESA is used as a tool to regulate greenhouse gases, there is a high risk that other species in other habitats across North America could be listed under the precedent that climate change is threatening their habitats.

RDC is further concerned oil and gas exploration and other responsible resource development will be blocked in or near areas designated as critical habitat for polar bears with no added benefit for the bears. Access could be blocked to new gas discoveries necessary for an economically feasible gas pipeline to the Lower 48.

The Obama Administration should reject demands to repeal or revise the section 4(d) rule adopted under the polar bear listing and continue to preclude consideration of climate change through the ESA. Under the special 4(d) rule, the polar bear listing would not be used to limit greenhouse gas emissions, and decisions on oil and gas development would continue to reside within the MMPA.

RDC strongly supports this rule and believes it is necessary to avoid frightening unintended consequences to the economy and domestic energy development. In addition, preservation of the rule will prevent use of the ESA to set backdoor climate policy.

**Resource Development Council for Alaska, Inc.
Alaska Federal Natural Resource Policy Positions**

Renewable Energy

Support efforts to commercialize Alaska's hydro, geothermal, wind, tidal, and other renewable energy sources.

Diversity and predictability of energy sources will encourage investment in responsible resource development projects and value-added industries in Alaska. Subsequently, RDC supports the commercialization of Alaska's hydro, geothermal, wind, tidal, and other renewable energy sources to diversify Alaska's energy portfolio and help communities across the state achieve energy security for their future economic well-being.

The State of Alaska has set an ambitious goal of generating 50 percent of Alaska's electricity by 2025 from renewable sources and we look forward to being an example for other states to follow.

In addition, Alaska's vast coal resources should not be ignored, and research should be funded to advance clean coal technology.

2009 Resource Development Council Policy Positions

General Issues

Fiscal Policy & Planning

- Advocate development and implementation a comprehensive, responsible, and long-range state fiscal plan.
- Support equitable and predictable tax and royalty policies.
- Support some use of the Permanent Fund earnings as part of a fiscal plan.
- Support development of a state strategic economic development plan.

Access

- Advocate increased access to and across public lands for resource development.
- Advocate multiple-use of public lands.
- Continue to assert the state's rights on navigable waters and submerged lands.

Regulation/Permitting

- Encourage the state to promote and defend the integrity of Alaska's permitting process.
- Advocate clear, timely, and streamlined state and federal permitting systems based on sound science, economic feasibility, and protection of property ownership rights.
- Support efforts to ensure Alaska's ballot initiative process is open and transparent.
- Adequately resource permitting agencies for personnel, research, and science.
- Support the State of Alaska's efforts to challenge unwarranted Endangered Species Act listings.
- Remove the "Point of Discharge" requirement implemented by the 2006 cruise ship head tax initiative to empower DEC to regulate cruise ship discharges to meet all water quality standards.
- Encourage the state to carefully consider the impacts of potential changes to the ACMP program on communities and industry while striving to eliminate the duplication of current state and federal requirements.

Infrastructure

- Encourage the state to develop a prioritized transportation strategy that supports resource exploration and development activities.

Education

- Support programs, including the Alaska Mineral and Energy Resource Education Fund (AMEREF) to educate students and the general public on responsible resource development activities in Alaska.
- Support growing the state's emphasis on workforce development.

Industry Specific Issues

Oil & Gas

- Oppose efforts, either legislatively or through the initiative process, to impose a gas reserves tax.
- Support legislation to encourage new exploration and development of Alaska's oil and gas deposits, as well as enhanced production from existing fields.
- Encourage public policy and fiscal decisions to improve the commercial viability of developing Alaska's North Slope and Interior natural gas resources.
- Support efforts to increase Cook Inlet oil and gas exploration and development to meet local demand and export markets.
- Advocate for a tax policy that enhances the State of Alaska's competitiveness for exploration and development investments.
- Encourage methods, such as investment tax credits, to improve the commercial viability of developing Alaska's heavy oil resources.
- Educate and advocate for opening the coastal plain of the ANWR to oil and gas development.
- Support offshore oil and gas development and work to maximize benefits to Alaska through advocacy for federal revenue sharing and/or community impact assistance.

Energy

- Support simplified leasing and permitting of non-conventional fuel resources to encourage development of the state's resources and provide energy to local areas.
- Encourage development of new electrical generating and transmission systems to provide stable sources of electricity for economic development and existing electricity consumers.
- Support utilization of Alaska's coal resources for value-added industries and power generation in addition to export to international markets.
- Support efforts to diversify Alaska's energy sources, including known renewable energy options and research and development of non-conventional sources.

Mining

- Support equitable and predictable mining tax and royalty policies.
- Encourage new exploration and development of Alaska's mineral resources, as well as increased production from existing deposits.
- Advocate continuation and expansion of the airborne geophysical mapping program and the on-the-ground follow up work required to realize the full benefits of the program.

Fisheries

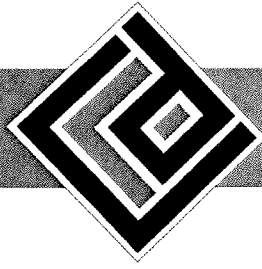
- Support fisheries policies that ensure access, markets and revenues for Alaska fishermen and coastal communities, and a healthy competitive environment for an Alaskan seafood processing industry.
- Support reduced fisheries waste and better utilization of Alaska fisheries resources, improved product value and development of new product forms.
- Support funding of fisheries and marine mammal research.

Forestry

- Advocate a reliable and economical long-term federal and state timber supply.
- Support adequate funding and enforcement of the Alaska Forest Practices Act.
- Encourage funding of forest management initiatives that address long-term forest health and reforestation.

Tourism

- Advocate additional aircraft landing sites and reduced restrictions on over-flights.
- Support amending the new cruise ship law to ensure compliance with federal tax restrictions, and avoid regulatory redundancy.



RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

February 3, 2009

Representative Bryce Edgmon, Chairman
House Fisheries Committee
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 416
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: HB20-Fisheries Loans for Energy Efficiency

Dear Representative Edgmon:

On behalf of the Resource Development Council for Alaska, Inc., (RDC), I am writing in support of HB20-Fisheries Loans for Energy Efficiency.

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.

Throughout the last several years, Alaskans have been struggling with high energy costs. Fuel costs and usage have escalated as fisherman are required to go further out for catch due to impacts from endangered species listings, critical habitat designations, marine protected areas, and fish movement. Opportunities to improve energy efficiency through state loans are important not only for the pocket books of the fisherman who harvest over half of this nation's total catch, but also for the environment—increased efficiency will likely lead to lower costs and ultimately decreased carbon emissions.

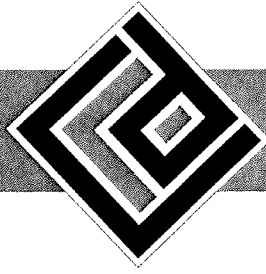
We encourage the committee to vote in favor of this bill. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jason W. Brune
Executive Director

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RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

February 3, 2009

Patty McGrath
Red Dog Mine SEIS Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900, OW-135
Seattle, WA 98101

Re: Red Dog Mine SEIS

Dear Ms. McGrath:

The Resource Development Council for Alaska (RDC) writes to express support of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) preferred alternative, alternative B, of the Red Dog Mine Draft SEIS.

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.

Alternative B will allow for the continuation of the mine operated by Teck Alaska, and through a partnership with NANA Regional Corporation. The mine, which is the largest employer in the region, with the majority of employees being NANA shareholders, will continue to provide economic benefits to the region for the next two decades. Red Dog employs hundreds of Alaskans, paying millions of dollars in wages, state and federal taxes, and royalties to NANA Regional Corporation. Through the shared wealth provision of ANCSA, the mine has not only been beneficial to NANA, but also to the other Regional Native Corporations in Alaska.

Alternative B will allow the operations to continue to decrease naturally occurring metal levels in Red Dog Creek, resulting in a productive and

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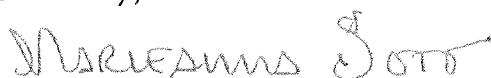
healthy environment for fish. Further, Teck Alaska has committed to developing a plan to determine the viability of a pipeline to transport processed wastewater directly to the ocean.

Concerns addressed in the SEIS regarding subsistence resources are and will be addressed through the Red Dog Subsistence Committee on an ongoing basis. Protecting subsistence resources is a priority to NANA, Teck Alaska and to all Alaskans.

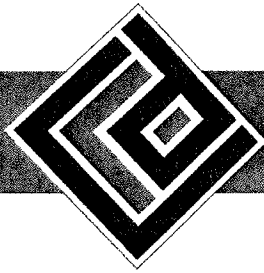
RDC is confident extending the life of the mine will continue to provide positive economic impacts, with long-term opportunities for rural Alaskans to develop skills and to enable them to not only continue living in rural Alaska, but to prosper.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marleanna Soto". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Marleanna Soto
Projects Coordinator



RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

January 30, 2009

Mr. David Navecky
STB Finance Docket No. 34658
Surface Transportation Board
395 E St SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: Alaska Railroad Corporation Construction and Operation of a Rail Line between North Pole, Alaska and Delta Junction, Alaska

Dear Mr. Navecky,

The Resource Development Council writes to express support for the construction and operation of a Rail Line by Alaska Railroad Corporation between North Pole, Alaska, and Delta Junction, Alaska, referred to as the Northern Rail Extension (NRE).

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.

The Alaska Railroad network begins in Seward, Alaska and travels north through Anchorage, continues to Fairbanks and ends at Eielson Air Force Base. The purpose of the NRE is to extend the Railroad's existing service, both freight and passenger, to areas southeast of the Fairbanks area. Expansion of this service would provide an alternative route to the Richardson Highway, for travelers and commercial freight between Fairbanks and Delta Junction. Rail lines are less susceptible to severe weather conditions than highways, increasing the ability to deliver goods and services at all times. Additionally, an expanded rail line would promote tourism to areas not currently part of the Railroad grid. Thousands of tourists travel from Seward to Fairbanks on the Alaska Railroad during summer months, and could continue their travels even further given the availability of appropriate infrastructure.

The Alaska Railroad has always been a good corporate citizen; strongly protecting Alaska's environment and supporting its economy and residents. It is for these reasons that construction and operation of the Northern Rail Expansion be allowed to proceed.

Thank you for the opportunity to give comment on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Deantha Crockett
Projects Coordinator

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ANILCA Seminar
February 24 & 25, 2009
BP Energy Center
900 E. Benson Blvd., Anchorage



*Anyone who wants to understand Alaska and its future
must understand ANILCA...
the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980*

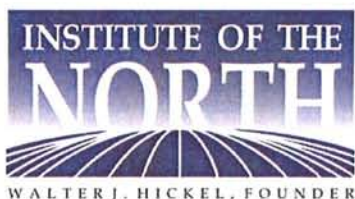
\$500 cost includes discussion, guest speakers, continental breakfast,
lunches, comprehensive ANILCA Study Guide and CD

Daily sessions from 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Includes lunches with keynote speakers
25 participants minimum

Contact: (907) 771-2443 or nhemsath@institutenorth.org
VISA or MC accepted. Make checks payable to **Institute of the North**
If you can't make this seminar, please contact us about other opportunities.

Participants will gain an understanding of:

- The context for and conflict over ANILCA, both state and national
- Ten exceptions written by Congress in ANILCA to guarantee the continuation of the Alaska lifestyle
- The intent of Congress, including the "no more" clause
- Navigable waters, submerged lands and RS2477s – who owns them and what is their status?
- Access to inholdings and across Wilderness Preserves in National Forests, Parks, Refuges and other Conservation System Units and the definition of "compatible with the purposes of a CSU"
- Wilderness Act exceptions in ANILCA and Wilderness reviews
- Subsistence – ANILCA provisions and how it is managed today
- General hunting, fishing and trapping on federal lands
- ANWR and other North Slope provisions and promises
- The clash with the Statehood Compact and the future of ANILCA



Presented by the **Institute of the North**
509 West Third Avenue, Suite 107
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
www.institutenorth.org

ASSESSMENT OF THE LEVEL OF YOUR ANILCA BACKGROUND AND YOUR AREAS OF INTEREST

This seminar was prepared for both those who know very little about ANILCA and those who work with its provisions on a regular basis. The following feedback will help us prepare for your participation.

- I know very little about ANILCA and would like a general introduction to its history, its key concepts and the influence it has on major Alaska issues.
- I know quite a bit about ANILCA but want to learn more.
- I work with ANILCA issues regularly but need a deeper understanding of many of its provisions.

Specifically, I am interested in the following ANILCA related issues:

- All of the issues listed below
- The Alaska context – our history and visions
- The battle for statehood, the Compact, and building an economy on the “commons”
- The struggle leading to the passage of ANILCA, the mobilization of national conservation interests and the intent of Congress when the bill passed
- The geographic context of the Conservation System Units
- Management principles for the Conservation System Units (parks, etc.) in Alaska – revising management plans and the step-down planning process
- Alaska exceptions written by Congress to enable the continuation of the Alaska way of life and a healthy economy
- Access across Conservation System Units and to inholdings; the definition of "compatible with the purposes of a conservation unit" as it relates to access
- Wilderness reviews and exceptions to the Wilderness Act in Alaska
- Subsistence, including definitions of rural priority, customary trade and management
- General hunting and fishing in National Parks and on other federal lands
- The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and the debate over the 1002 area
- How ANILCA interfaces with the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act – access, 17(b) easements, Native allotments, etc.
- Who owns what, including navigable waters, submerged lands and valid existing rights including RS2477 rights-of-way
- Recordable Disclaimers of Interest

Thank you. See you in February!

1st floor conference room

Public hearings also will be scheduled in the following communities between January 16 and March 15, 2009: Kaktovik, Wainwright, Point Lay, Point Hope, Barrow, and Nuiqsut. The dates, time, and locations for these hearings soon will be announced to the public on the MMS Web site: <http://www.mms.gov/alaska/>

Points to consider for your comments:

- The Alaska OCS is an important future source of U.S. energy supply with an estimated 27 billion barrels of oil and 132 trillion cubic feet of natural gas potentially in place. The Chukchi Sea is considered the most prospective unexplored offshore basin in the country.
- Responsible development of Alaska's offshore energy resources would help meet future U.S. energy demand and offset declining production from mature basins in the U.S. and Canada. Moreover, Alaska OCS development would geographically diversify offshore domestic supplies beyond the hurricane-prone Gulf of Mexico.
- Any energy plan for the nation must include Alaska, which accounts for over 30 percent of the nation's technically recoverable resources.
- MMS should maintain regular lease sales in the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas, as well as portions of the North Aleutian Basin. Oil and gas production can move forward in these areas in an environmentally-sensitive and responsible manner through a strong regulatory regime, state-of-the-art oil spill response, seasonal operating restrictions as needed, and mitigation measures to avoid conflicts with other resource users.
- Revenue sharing from the OCS with local communities should be enacted to help address local impacts.
- OCS production in Alaska would provide many benefits, including hundreds of new jobs in rural and urban areas, additional tax income to the state and local governments, new local sources of fuel and energy, and improved search and rescue operations.
- Subsistence whaling is vitally important, both economically and culturally to North Slope villages. Seasonal restrictions and/or deferrals of specific tracts in active whaling waters should be considered to avoid potential conflicts. Early consultation and conflict avoidance mechanisms should also be established.
- OCS development has an outstanding safety and environmental record spanning decades. Development has coexisted with other industries, including fishing, in the North Sea, the Gulf of Mexico and Cook Inlet.
- Given long lead times for development, which can exceed ten years, MMS must proceed expeditiously with key lease sales. Otherwise, production from new areas could be pushed back decades.
- Demand for energy is continuing to rise and reality will require continued development of America's oil and gas resources as the nation transitions to the new energy sources of the future. While renewable energy will make up a growing part of the U.S. energy portfolio, they will not significantly reduce our reliance on foreign sources of oil in the near or mid-term.
- The health of our economy and our national security will require utilization of both conventional and unconventional energy sources. No single approach is enough as we cannot drill our way to energy independence, nor can we conserve our way.
- Given the impact of high energy prices on Americans and their economy, the U.S. has a moral obligation to development domestic energy sources, both onshore and offshore. These resources will buy us the time we need to develop alternative and renewable energy resources that will someday break our reliance on foreign oil.

Comment deadline is March 16, 2009

Resource Development Council for Alaska, Inc.
121 West Fireweed, Suite 250 Anchorage, AK 99503
resources@akrdc.org Phone: 907.276.0700 Fax: 907.276.3887



RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

RDC Action Alert: Alaska Outer Continental Shelf Lease Sales

Comment deadline is March 16, 2009

Overview:

The Minerals Management Service (MMS) is seeking comments on its Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for Beaufort Sea and Chukchi Sea OCS Oil and Gas Lease Sales 209, 212, 217, and 221. Alaska's offshore waters hold great potential for meeting the nation's energy needs. In fact, the Chukchi Sea is considered the nation's most prolific, unexplored offshore basin in North America. MMS has estimated that Alaska's OCS contains 27 billion barrels of oil and 132 trillion cubic feet of natural gas. By comparison, total production from the North Slope since 1977 has been 15.5 billion barrels. Access to Alaska's OCS resources will be a key element in the economic feasibility of the proposed natural gas pipeline from the North Slope to the Lower 48. Alaska OCS lease sales to date have generated over \$3 billion in bonus payments to the U.S. Treasury.

For additional information, refer to MMS's hearing notice located at:

http://www.mms.gov/alaska/cproject/ArcticMultiSale_209/2008_1219_NOA.pdf

Action Requested:

RDC encourages its members to participate in the process by submitting comments and presenting brief testimony at public hearings scheduled later this month. It is vital that MMS and the Obama administration hear from Alaskans that these lease sales are critical to Alaska and for the nation's long-term energy security. MMS will count verbal and written comments for and against the proposed lease sales to assist the administration in deciding whether to hold the sales, determining lease terms/stipulations, and recommending whether portions of the sale area should be deferred or withdrawn.

The opposition will likely turn out in force at public hearings to oppose the sales. They can be expected to generate heavy write-in and email campaigns. Their objective is to show the new administration and incoming Department of the Interior Secretary Salazar that "Alaskans and people throughout the nation do not support OCS drilling." Therefore, it is critical that those supporting the lease sales express their opinion.

Send written comments to:

*Alaska OCS Region, Minerals Management Service
3801 Centerpoint Drive, Suite 500
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-5820*

Online: <https://ocsconnect.mms.gov/pcs-public/>

Click on "Quick Search" and type in: Sales 209, 212, 217, and 221.

Click on Project ID to see DEIS and to submit comments.

Comment deadline is March 16, 2009

Attend a public hearing to present brief testimony:

Please also consider making a brief statement at the Anchorage hearing. Please sign in early!

Thursday, January 15th at 7 p.m.

Location: Centerpoint Building, 3801 Centerpoint Drive,