# BREAKFAST MEETING

# Thursday, April 16, 2009

- 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:

# **Keynote Speaker:**

Kim Elton, Senior Advisor for Alaska Affairs,
Office of the Secretary,
U.S. Department of the Interior

Next Meeting: April 30: Ralph Samuels, Vice President, Government and Community Relations, Holland America Line (Location to be announced)

Please add my name to RDC's mailing list

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# Resource Development Council Action Alert: Energy Development on the Outer Continental Shelf

#### Overview:

The Obama administration intends to develop a new offshore energy plan for the nation over the next six months. Interior Secretary Ken Salazar is seeking input on where and how his department should move forward in developing the traditional and renewable energy resources of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). Four public hearings were recently held across the nation, including Anchorage in April where over 600 people from across the state were in attendance.

Specifically, the Interior Secretary is seeking comments on all aspects of the "Draft Proposed Program," including energy development and economic and environmental issues in OCS areas. The new offshore energy program will likely emphasize renewable energy, with some new oil and gas development in certain areas.

Non-development interests have launched a nationwide effort to convince Secretary Salazar that no OCS development should occur off Alaska's coast. How RDC members and their associates and friends respond to this challenge could well determine Alaska's economic course for decades to come. A recent study by Northern Economics and the University of Alaska Anchorage reveals that OCS development has the potential to sustain Alaska's economy for generations.

# Requested action:

Although the comment period has been extended to September 21<sup>st</sup>, please submit comments early and encourage your associates and friends to also do so. RDC members should reflect on experiences and facts unique to their own personal situation. Obviously, a secure supply of reasonably priced energy affects the economics of domestic mining, transportation, aviation, construction, commercial fishing and other resource development activity. The multitude of jobs these industries provide Alaskans drives our economy. Brief personalized comments from our members will go a long way in showing the Secretary the importance we place on "doing it right" in Alaska.

In your comments, specifically support the Draft Proposed Plan covering the period 2010-2015 and encourage the Minerals Management Service to provide for a seamless transition to new oil and gas leasing programs in the future that will expand access to the nation's OCS energy resources.

#### How to comment:

Please reference "2010-2015 Oil and Gas Leasing in the Outer Continental Shelf," in your comments and include your name and return address. You may submit your comments using one of the following methods:

Federal eRulemaking Portal: <a href="http://www.regulations.gov">http://www.regulations.gov</a>

Under the tab "More Search Options," click "Advanced Docket Search," then select "Minerals Management Service" from the agency drop-down menu, then click the submit button. In the Docket ID column, select MMS-2008-OMM-0045 to submit public comments and to view related materials on the DPP and select MMS-2008-OMM-0046 to submit public comment and to view materials on the Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS.

#### Mail:

Ms. Renee OrrChief, Leasing Division Minerals Management Service, MS 4010 381 Elden Street Herndon, VA 20170-4817

### Points to consider:

- Access to Alaska's OCS resources may be a key element in the economic feasibility of the proposed natural gas pipeline from the North Slope to the Lower 48, one of President Obama's Top 5 Green Energy Priorities. Additional gas reserves beyond those already discovered are needed to make the project economic.
- Access to the OCS has the potential to sharply increase throughput in the trans-Alaska oil pipeline, which is currently operating at one-third capacity.
- For every barrel of oil America refuses to develop domestically, it will have little choice but to import an equal amount from overseas where weaker environmental regulations often apply.
- A comprehensive energy plan for the nation must include Alaska, which accounts for over 30 percent of the nation's technically recoverable oil and gas resources.
- According to the federal government, more than 86 billion barrels of oil and 420 trillion cubic feet of natural gas lie undeveloped off U.S. shores in the OCS. That amounts to enough energy to replace 50 years worth of OPEC oil.
- A recent report issued by the Interior Department shows that these undeveloped reserves of the OCS represent about four times America's proven reserves of oil and natural gas.
- Based on USGS and MMS assessments, 50 percent of undiscovered oil resources and 36 percent of undiscovered natural gas resources lie offshore.
- 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. By comparison, total production from the North Slope since 1977 has been approximately 15.5 billion barrels.
- The Chukchi Sea is considered the nation's most prolific, unexplored offshore basin in North America.
- OCS development has an outstanding safety and environmental record spanning decades in Cook Inlet, the Gulf of Mexico, the North Sea and elsewhere.
- In Alaska, over 77 percent support OCS development. Nationwide, 61 percent of Americans support new offshore oil and gas development.
- Oil and gas production can occur in a responsible manner under a strong regulatory system, seasonal operating restrictions as needed, and mitigation measures to avoid conflicts with other resource and subsistence users.
- The OCS has the potential to sustain Alaska's economy for generations, sharply increase Alaska oil and gas production, create tens of thousands of new jobs and generate hundreds of billions of dollars in federal, state and local government revenues.
- According to a recent University of Alaska study, OCS production could provide an annual average of 35,000 jobs for 50 years and \$72 billion in new payroll.
- Sharing federal royalty payments from production in federal waters with coastal states and local communities is critical, as it significantly benefits local governments, promotes national economic interests and generates additional, new federal revenues by increasing state and local participation. Such sharing facilitates a closer partnership among federal, state and local agencies.
- Given demand for energy will rise as the economy recovers, America must continue to pursue new oil and gas development, even as the nation slowly transitions to the new energy sources of the future.
- Even under the most optimistic projections, petroleum products and natural gas are projected to account for almost 65 percent of domestic energy consumption in 2025 requiring continued development of domestic oil and gas resources.
- Increased emphasis on renewable energy should not preclude or require less oil and gas development. America needs more of both to reduce its reliance on foreign oil.

For additional information on the hearing: <a href="http://www.doi.gov/ocs/">http://www.doi.gov/ocs/</a>

Institute for Energy Research: <a href="http://www.instituteforenergyresearch.org/contact">http://www.instituteforenergyresearch.org/contact</a> form/

To view selected OCS testimony from Anchorage hearing: http://www.akrdc.org/issues/oilgas/ocs

To view RDC OCS Newsletter: <a href="http://www.akrdc.org/newsletters/">http://www.akrdc.org/newsletters/</a>

To view AOGA OCS Newsletter: http://www.aoga.org/

Deadline for comments: September 21, 2009

# Testimony of the Resource Development Council Before U.S. Department of the Interior On Draft Proposed Five-Year Program 2010-2015 April 14, 2009 Anchorage, Alaska

Good afternoon. My name is Carl Portman, Deputy Director of the Resource Development Council (RDC). RDC is a statewide membership-funded organization founded in 1975. Our 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.

RDC and many Alaskans share President Obama's view that America needs to conserve more and put new emphasis on renewable and alternative energy. By doing so, we can ultimately break our reliance on foreign oil.

Yet while we conserve more and move toward renewable energy, we still need to pursue new oil and gas production, given the fact it will take decades before renewables becomes a dominant energy source. Even with the Obama administration's goal to decrease our dependence on oil, fossil fuels will still account for two-thirds of our energy consumption in 2025.

Where will our oil come from to meet demand? The OCS is the most logical choice, given its immense potential. If not the OCS and the North Slope, then where? For every barrel of oil we refuse to develop domestically, our nation will have little choice but to import another from overseas – where weaker environmental regulations and emission standards often apply.

I would like to express disappointment and concern regarding a letter from 67 members of Congress to President Obama urging him to develop a so-called Arctic conservation and energy plan. The recommendations set forth in the letter would suspend virtually all new oil and gas exploration – both onshore and offshore – in Alaska's Arctic.

The letter and its recommendations were advanced under the false premise that industrial activity in the region is "ill-planned" and is not based on sound science. We strongly disagree. In our view, the recommendations are an excuse to prevent new exploration and development until sometime in the distance future, if ever.

Energy development in the arctic is subject to in-depth analysis by federal law, a stringent permitting process and oversight by state and federal agencies. In every instance, development is preceded by extensive studies. The North Slope and the offshore is now perhaps the most studied energy basin in America.

RDC supports offshore exploration because it is confident operations can occur safely. Offshore development has an outstanding record in Alaska and elsewhere. We believe industry and government working together has the ability to protect subsistence resources. Advances is technology have dramatically reduced industry's footprint, giving us an additional measure of confidence.

Any energy plan for the nation should include Alaska's OCS, given its potential for immense recoverable reserves and enormous economic benefits to the state and nation.

RDC supports the Draft Proposed Five-Year Program 2010-2015 and encourage the Minerals Management Service to provide for a seamless transition to new oil and gas leasing programs in the future that will expand access to the nation's OCS energy resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on a comprehensive offshore energy development plan.



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# Alaskans address Interior secretary on offshore drilling

By KYLE HOPKINS khopkins@adn.com (04/14/09 22:04:14)

Gov. Sarah Palin told the new secretary of Interior on Tuesday that Alaska needs new offshore oil and gas development or risks an early shutdown of the trans-Alaska oil pipeline.

"Once that line shuts down, it will mean the end of oil production on the North Slope," Palin said, adding that plans for a new pipeline to carry natural gas to Lower 48 markets are at stake, too.

But at the same meeting in downtown Anchorage, skeptical fishermen raised the specter of the Exxon Valdez oil spill as an example of the dangers of development. The mayor of the North Slope Borough said new oil and gas projects in the Chukchi and Beaufort seas aren't worth the risk.

"That's because spill response (is) virtually impossible in Arctic waters," said Mayor Edward Itta.

This is the battle for the future of oil and gas development in Alaska. It hit the Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center on Tuesday morning, as U.S. Interior Secretary Ken Salazar made his second stop in Alaska to hear whether oil and gas development off the state's coast is a good idea.

The faces in the crowd told you it was a heavyweight bout.

Along with Palin, all three members of Alaska's congressional delegation weighed in. So did oil industry executives, environmental groups and regional leaders.

Just before leaving office in January, the Bush administration proposed a five-year, national leasing plan for offshore development. Off Alaska's coast it would include lease sales in lower Cook Inlet, federal waters outside Bristol Bay and the Beaufort and Chukchi seas.

When President Barack Obama took over, his new Interior secretary, Salazar, put the plans on hold and called for more public input.

That led to Tuesday's meeting.

The day started at 8 a.m., as oil industry boosters in hard hats and union vests marched from Town Square to the civic center, chanting "Who wants work? We do!"

Someone carried a casket representing "American jobs" lost to foreign oil. Arriving outside the Dena'ina Center, the group swarmed around a pair of drilling opponents wearing a polar bear and a puffin outfit who had been waving to passersby. The polar bear's T-shirt read "save me."

a threat to fishing

The conservationists held a rally of their own at noon, serving about 65-pounds of Bristol Bay salmon in Town Square.

As a man pointed a "Keep our oceans wild" sign at passing cars, Homer fisherman Alan Parks helped serve salmon.

He was one of the few people chosen in a kind of lottery to testify in the morning, while Salazar was still at the meeting. (He left after lunch, with other officials hearing the rest of the testimony.)

Parks told the secretary he's been fishing in Alaska since the 1970s and that new outer-continental-shelf development projects need to be deferred in Bristol Bay.

"We cannot let what happened in Prince William Sound happen anywhere else in America," he said, a reference to the Exxon Valdez spill in 1989.

Other opponents say new development could threaten Alaska's massive commercial fishing industry, not to mention the subsistence seasons fishermen have used to feed their families for generations.

# POSSIBILITY OF JOBS

Drilling supporters argued new exploration and development would create jobs in and outside Alaska while reducing the country's reliance on foreign oil.

Communities in the Aleutians East Borough depend on subsistence and commercial fishing, but that's not enough, said borough mayor Stanley Mack.

School-age children are leaving the region. Fuel prices sky-rocketed, he said. "Sadly, we are losing many of our long-term residents," Mack said in a prepared statement. "Hopefully we can turn that around with responsible oil and gas development."

Shell Alaska General Manager Pete Slaibys said offshore development is nothing new.

"We've drilled 30 wells in the Alaskan Beaufort Sea," he said. "Five wells in the Chukchi and about a dozen wells in offshore, southwest Alaska. ... We've been doing this kind of work since the '80s and the '90s."

### KEY ALASKA SUPPLIES

The testimony began with Palin and Alaska's congressional team, as Sen. Mark Begich told Salazar that Alaska hasn't received its fair share of revenue from previous offshore development.

"Oil and gas will continue to supply the majority of this nation's energy for a long time. I believe most of it should come from secure, reliable domestic sources -- especially Alaska," he said.

Sen. Lisa Murkowski said Alaska often feels left out of federal decision making and that the hearings this week appear to be the first of their kind.

"I'm confident that after this series of meetings, that there will be some general agreement that we want to see the development of our resources proceed -- but proceed in a safe and in a timely manner," she said.

# what's next?

Salazar has been hearing a lot of this kind of thing lately. Alaska is just one of four states he's been visiting this month as the Obama administration works on its offshore energy plan and decides whether to go ahead with offshore leases in Alaska and elsewhere.

After visits to Louisiana and New Jersey, Salazar stopped in Dillingham on Monday. Salazar said 400 or 500 people had signed up to testify in Anchorage by midmorning.

In a short talk with reporters, Salazar didn't signal what exactly the Obama administration's plans are, but talked about three goals that will guide the offshore energy plan: addressing climate change, increasing national security by reducing spending on overseas oil and creating economic opportunities in the U.S.

In the past, he's said that the president's energy plan will emphasize renewable energy and include new oil and gas development in some coastal areas.

"Whatever we do, there are people who are going to be dissatisfied," he said.

Next, Salazar heads to another meeting -- this one in San Francisco.

Asked about Palin's statement that offshore development was crucial to the creation of a new natural gas pipeline, Salazar said: "The people who are going to build that pipeline are not going to build it unless they know they have a natural gas supply."

"We're not far enough along to start making decisions about where that additional supply might come from," he said.

Find Kyle Hopkins online at adn.com/contact/khopkins or call him at 257-4334.

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# No drill, baby, drill off California

Barbara Boxer Wednesday, April 15, 2009



On Jan. 16, 2009, just days before leaving office, the Bush administration gave one last gift to its allies in the oil and gas industry: a five-year plan by the Interior Department's Minerals Management Service to



open nearly all of our nation's coastline to offshore drilling - including California's pristine coast, from San Diego to the Oregon border.

Fortunately, within weeks of President Obama's inauguration, his new Interior secretary, Ken Salazar, put the plan on hold, calling it a "headlong rush of the worst kind" that was made with "almost no consultation from states, industry or community input." Salazar, to his credit, is in San Francisco Thursday for the last of four regional meetings to listen to our concerns.

As Californians, we should speak with one voice and tell the new administration, unequivocally, that oil and gas drilling off our coast would be an environmental and economic disaster.

This is not our first battle to protect our coast. In the 1970s, President Jimmy Carter's Interior secretary, Cecil Andrus, came to California after the oil embargo to explore the idea of new offshore oil and gas leases. In the 1980s, President Ronald Reagan's Interior secretary, James Watt, made a desperate push to build new oil rigs off our coast. Now the "drill, baby, drill" mantra could once again put California's coast in peril.

For Californians, our coast is not only a God-given environmental treasure and our legacy to our children and grandchildren, it is also a powerful engine of our economic growth. Ocean-related tourism, recreation and fishing generate \$23 billion in economic activity for our state each year and support 390,000 jobs.

We also know the devastating consequences of drilling. A 1969 blowout at an offshore oil rig near Santa Barbara blackened 35 miles of coastline and killed nearly 4,000 seabirds. Supporters of drilling tell us the technology has improved. If so, why is it that the same oil rig spilled another 1,100 gallons of crude oil into the Pacific Ocean just last year?

It is not just the catastrophic spills that worry us. The National Academy of Sciences estimates that small spills and discharges released an average of 2 million gallons of oil per year during the 1990s - 25 percent

No drill, baby, drill off California 4/15/09 2:01 PM

more oil than was released from tanker accidents. The routine release of these toxins accumulates in marine organisms, including the fish we eat.

The seismic surveys used to estimate oil and gas resources have been shown to be harmful to whales, other marine mammals and fish.

And there are negative impacts on shore as well: The oil rigs, pipelines and other infrastructure needed for drilling can displace businesses and devalue coastal properties.

There is no reason to endanger California's environment and economy. According to data from the Interior Department, 80 percent of the oil on the Outer Continental Shelf is in areas that have already been opened to oil and gas leasing, but oil companies are producing on only 21 percent of these available leases.

And oil companies hold 68 million acres of onshore and offshore leases that they have still not developed - leases that could nearly double U.S. oil production. Why should we open up unspoiled areas of our coast to drilling when oil companies are not taking advantage of areas already open to them?

It is time for a new and better energy policy. We need to focus on making the investments in renewable energy and energy efficiency that will create new jobs, reduce our dependence on oil and help us fight global warming. In California, our entrepreneurs and scientists are leading the way toward a clean energy future. We can meet our energy needs and grow our economy without putting one of our most valuable assets - our magnificent coast - at risk.

Barbara Boxer represents California in the U.S. Senate.

http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2009/04/15/EDE0171M5M.DTL

This article appeared on page A - 15 of the San Francisco Chronicle

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# The Peg and Jules Tileston Award

# Awarded Jointly by the Alaska Conservation Alliance and the Resource Development Council

The Alaska Conservation Alliance and the Resource Development Council (RDC) both agree that economic development and environmental stewardship are not mutually exclusive goals. The Tileston award was created to acknowledge individuals and/or businesses that create solutions and innovations advancing both goals. The "Tileston Award" is named in honor of two long-time Alaskans, Peg and Jules Tileston, who worked on seemingly different sides of conservation and development issues but who always agreed "that if it is in Alaska, IT MUST BE DONE RIGHT!"

Opposites may attract, but it takes communication, patience, respect, and a healthy sense of humor to create a sustainable, lasting, and constructive relationship. Peg and Jules Tileston have these qualities in abundance. Married for 54 years and with three children, Peg and Jules learned how to balance their divergent perspectives successfully—and, in the process, develop a better definition of what's "Right" for Alaska—by talking together, respectfully hearing what the other had to say, and finding common ground on which both could agree.

With such different career tracks and professional interests, an outside observer could wonder at the lasting success of Peg and Jules's marriage. Jules studied biology, geology, and ecology as an undergraduate and graduate student, while Peg majored in physical education and history. After working with the Department of Interior leading the wild river studies in Alaska, Jules went on to serve as the Deputy State Director for Lands and Renewable Resources for the Bureau of Land Management, where, among other items, he was the BLM Lead for federal exploration of the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska. At the same time, Peg was on the National Board of Directors for the Sierra Club, co-founded and served as board president of Trustees for Alaska, was one of the "founding mothers" of the Alaska Center for the Environment, and co-founded the Alaska Conservation Foundation. In the 1980s and '90s Jules worked with the Department of Interior during planning and construction of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System and later served

as director of the Division of Mining and Water Management for the Alaska Department of Natural Resources. Meanwhile, Peg continued to serve on the ACE and ACF boards as well as the Alaska Women's Environmental Network steering committee, and started a weekly electronic calendar of conservation-related events called "What's Up." Questions on topics such as where and how mines should be permitted and the Trans-Alaska Gas System EIS process prompted spirited discussions. As the Tileston children agree, it made for interesting dinner table conversation. And yet in spite of—or perhaps because of—the Tileston's contradictory experiences and perspectives, the issues worked on by one were improved and advanced because of the other's input.

The conservation community and the development community stand to learn from the example set by the Tilestons. We will get further by working together starting early in the process; by engaging in open, honest, and—above all—respectful dialogue; and by identifying together the overarching vision of how a successful project can and should balance environmental conservation and responsible resource development.

The first annual Tileston Award was presented to the Alaska Board of Forestry in 2008. The Board advises the state's policy makers on forest practices issues and provides a forum for discussion and resolution of forest management issues on state lands. In 1990 the Board played a leading role in the adoption of major revisions to the Alaska Forest Resources and Practices Act (FRPA). The 1990 rewrite and subsequent revisions ensure that timber harvesting will be done in a manner that protects the water quality and fish habitat in the state's rivers and streams. In addition, regulations adopted pursuant to the FRPA establish best management practices for road construction and maintenance, and for timber harvesting.

Accomplishing this was not an easy task for the Board of Forestry but they worked through the various conflicting points of view to arrive at solutions that are in the best interest of the state, its forests, waterbodies, and fish and wildlife habitat.

As Alaskans we may occasionally disagree on how things should happen, but, like the Tilestons, we can all agree that if it is in Alaska, IT MUST BE DONE RIGHT.

# **Peg and Jules Tileston Award**

# A joint award of

# The Alaska Conservation Alliance and The Resource Development Council

# **Nomination Form**

Nominations are due by May 15, 2009 For more information, visit www.tilestonaward.com

Vision: Conservation and Business Working Together

Purpose: To recognize that economic development and environmental stewardship are not mutually exclusive goals. To encourage partnerships and solutions that fuse economics and environmentalism and make Alaska a place we wish to live.

Criteria: The following criteria will be used to determine award recipients

- 1) Crafted a solution to a resource management or development issue seen as a win by the development and conservation community
- 2) Designed a project to avoid, minimize or innovatively mitigate an environmental effect (impact or consequence) while maintaining its economic viability
- 3) Pioneered or advanced a technological solution to address a conservation concern

Project/Solution Name
Nominator's Name
Description of Project/Solution (500 words max)
Explain how this project/solution benefits economic development in Alaska (250 words max).
Explain how this project/solution benefits conservation in Alaska (250 words max).
People, communities, corporations, and others directly and indirectly affected by this project/solution
(optional) Persons who can attest to economic and environmental benefits of this project/solution



121 West Fireweed Lane, Suite 250 Anchorage, Alaska 99503 (907) 276-0700

www.akrdc.org

# **Membership Application**

Resource Development Council for Alaska, Inc. 121 W. Fireweed Lane, Suite 250 Anchorage, AK 99503-2035 (907) 276-0700 resources@akrdc.org www.akrdc.org

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

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

Communications • Construction • Engineering/Environmental • Finance
Fishing • Government • Legal/Consulting • Media • Mining • Native Corporations
Oil and Gas • Retail/Wholesale • Support Services • Timber • Tourism
Trade/Business Organizations • Transportation • Utilities/Energy

Method of payment:	Enclosed is a check for: \$	or
MC/VISA/AMEX#	Exp. Date:	

The Resource Development Council for Alaska, Inc. is classified a non-profit trade association under IRS Code 501(c)(6). Membership dues and other financial support may be tax deductible as an ordinary and necessary business expense, however, 15.9% of the dues are non-deductible. Dues are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes.

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The Alaska Coal Association Proudly Presents the 17th Annual Coal Classic Golf Tournament Wednesday, June 17, 2009 Anchorage Golf Course - 7:00 am Start

Proceeds benefit AMEREF, Register by June 3, 2009

Registration/Sponsorship Form (pdf)

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# Alaska Coal Association

# **Coal Classic**



# **Golf Tournament**

Wednesday, June 17, 2009 at Anchorage Golf Course Breakfast, Registration & Hosted Driving Range 6:00 am, Shotgun Start 7:00 am Proceeds benefit the Alaska Mineral & Energy Resource Education Fund

AMEREF is an industry-state partnership whose mission is to provide Alaska's students with the knowledge to make informed decisions related to mineral, energy, and forest resources.

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

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Return this form with your check payable to AMEREF 4141 B Street, Suite 402, Anchorage, AK 99503 • Fax 907-276-5488 • golf@ameref.org

Please register by Wednesday, June 3, 2009