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Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

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 Senator Mark Begich
 Senator Lisa Murkowski
 Congressman Don Young
 Governor Sean Parnell

BREAKFAST MEETING

Thursday, May 20, 2010

1. Call to order –Tom Maloney, Treasurer
2. Self Introductions
3. Headtable Introductions
4. Staff Report – Jason Brune, Executive Director
5. Program and Keynote Speaker:

Kenai LNG Plant Export License Extension

Dan Clark, Manager, Cook Inlet Assets,
ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc.

Look for RDC's Annual Meeting Luncheon in June
Breakfast meetings resume in September

Please add my name to RDC's mailing list:

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COMPANY: _____

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RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

RDC Action Alert:

Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan

[View RDC and RDC member comments](#)

Comment Deadline is Monday, June 7, 2010

Overview:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has announced it will develop a new Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) for the 19.5 million acre Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). The Service is seeking public comments regarding the refuge and its uses, management, and future. Public meetings on the planning process are being held this spring in Alaska and in Washington, D.C.

In ANWR, 92 percent of the refuge is permanently closed to development. However, 1.5 million acres of the refuge's western coastal plain, known as the "1002 area," were excluded from Wilderness designation under the 1980 Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA). In 1987, after six years of environmental, geologic, and economic study required by ANILCA, the Department of the Interior recommended that the 1002 area be opened to responsible oil and gas development. An act of Congress is required for the 1002 area to be opened, and in 1995, Congress voted to open the coastal plain to exploration. Unfortunately, President Bill Clinton vetoed the measure.

The 1002 area on the coastal plain of ANWR, which accounts for only eight percent of the refuge, is estimated to contain upwards of 16 billion barrels of oil and 18 trillion cubic feet of natural gas. Responsible development can and does occur in similar areas presently on the North Slope of Alaska. Today, Americans overwhelmingly support new oil and gas exploration and development on our soil and ANWR development should be part of our energy equation.

As part of the update to ANWR's CCP, the Service will conduct a review of the refuge lands to determine if additional acreage should be designated as federal Wilderness. The Record of Decision from this planning process could recommend the designation of the 1.5 million-acre coastal plain as Wilderness, an action that would permanently close America's most promising onshore oil and gas prospect to future development. Any proposed Wilderness designations would need to go before Congress for its approval. RDC members must show their support for keeping this area open to future potential oil and gas exploration and development.

Action requested:

RDC encourages its members to participate in the process by submitting comments and presenting brief testimony at upcoming public hearings urging the Service to manage the 1002 area in a manner which preserves the option of responsible oil and gas development in the future and opposing new Wilderness designations in ANWR. It is vital that the Service and the Obama Administration hear from Alaskans about how critical ANWR's coastal plain is to Alaska's future economy and the nation's energy security. Those wanting Wilderness status for the refuge will likely turn out in force at public hearings and can be expected to generate heavy write-in and email campaigns.

Public Meetings:

Fort Yukon, April 20
Arctic Village, April 26
Venetie, April 29
Washington DC, May 4

Anchorage, May 11:

US Fish & Wildlife Service Regional Office, 1011 E. Tudor Road

Information & poster session: 3 pm to 9 pm in the atrium

Public comments: 4 pm to 6 pm, and again 7 pm to 9 pm in the Gordon Watson Conference Room

Fairbanks, May 13, 3-8:30 pm, Morris Thompson Cultural Center, 101 Dunkel Street

Kaktovik, May 20

Comment Deadline is Monday, June 7, 2010

How to comment:

Online Submittal:

<http://arctic.fws.gov/ccp.htm>

Email: ArcticRefugeCCP@fws.gov

Fax: 907-456-0428

Mail:

Sharon Seim, Planning Team Leader

Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

101 12th Avenue, Room 236

Fairbanks, AK 99701

Points to consider in your comments or verbal testimony:

- Congress excluded the "1002 area" from ANWR's large Wilderness block in a compromise struck under ANILCA. The compromise doubled the size of the Arctic Refuge and designated 8 million acres Wilderness. Congress also mandated a study of the 1002 area's environment and petroleum resources. In 1987, the Department of the Interior concluded oil development would have minimal impact on wildlife and recommended Congress open the coastal plain to development.
- Upwards of 16 billion barrels of oil and 18 trillion cubic feet of natural gas are estimated to lie within the 1002 area of ANWR.
- Responsible oil and gas development of the 1002 area of ANWR would provide a safe and secure source of energy to the nation, create hundreds of thousands of jobs throughout the country, and refill the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System, which is operating at one-third its original capacity.
- With advances in technology, it is possible to develop the coastal plain's energy reserves while directly utilizing very little (potentially only 2,000 acres) of the 1.5 million acres in the 1002 area. Such development would allow access to energy Americans need without any significant disturbance to wildlife.
- Wildlife populations have all remained stable or grown over the 35-year period of oil development on the North Slope. For example, the Central Arctic caribou herd at Prudhoe Bay has grown from under 5,000 animals in the 1970s to more than 66,000 animals today, an indication that wildlife and development can coexist.
- The 1002 area of ANWR must continue to be excluded from Wilderness designation.
- There is no need for additional Wilderness designations in ANWR, given 92 percent of the refuge is already closed to development.
- Alaskans strongly oppose a Wilderness designation on ANWR's coastal plain. In fact, 78 percent of Alaskans support oil exploration on the in the 1002 area. Every Alaskan Governor and every legislature and elected congressional representative and senator from Alaska have supported responsible development. The North Slope Borough, the regional government for the entire Alaskan Arctic, also supports responsible development, as well as a strong majority of residents in Kaktovik, a village within the coastal plain.
- Alaska already contains 58 million acres of federal Wilderness, an area larger than the combined size of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont and New Hampshire. Alaska accounts for 53 percent of America's federal Wilderness areas.
- A federal Wilderness designation over the 1002 area would forever place off-limits

North America's most promising onshore oil and gas prospect to development and destroy the agreements made when ANILCA became law.

- If the 1002 area was designated Wilderness, the nation will continue to import billions of barrels of oil from foreign sources. Every barrel of oil not developed domestically is a barrel of oil imported from abroad, often produced under weaker environmental standards than those enforced in Alaska.

Comment Deadline is Monday, June 7, 2010

[Return to Action Alerts](#)

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

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

May 4, 2010

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

As a united Alaska delegation, we have strong concerns with the US Fish and Wildlife Service's proposal to include a wilderness review of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) as part of the revision of the Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) for ANWR. While we understand the current 22-year-old CCP for ANWR needs to be updated, we strongly object to any further wilderness reviews for ANWR since we all recognize any new wilderness designations can only be made by Congress. The Fish and Wildlife Service's limited financial resources – and taxpayer dollars – should not be wasted on such an unproductive exercise.

Alaska already leads the nation in the number of wilderness designations and in the total amount of protected land. Under the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), nearly half of ANWR has already been designated wilderness. After considerable debate, the coastal plain of the Refuge, the so-called 1002 area, was not so designated and instead was left open for potential oil and gas development. Alaska furthermore leads the nation with 25 Wild and Scenic River designations with several in and around ANWR, including the Ivishak, Sheenjek, and Wind Rivers. The ANWR coastal plain likely contains the continent's largest onshore deposit of hydrocarbons and, given advancements in technology, it is possible to access those resources without any significant impact to the wildlife frequenting the coastal plain.

As the Service states in its planning update for the Refuge, the future of the 1002 area of ANWR can only be resolved by Congress so "this is one issue the plan won't decide." Since the plan revision clearly will not decide this issue, we strongly urge you to take the wilderness review off the table as part of the CCP revision. We believe this will save the

The Honorable Ken Salazar
May 4, 2010
P. 2

Service considerable time and money and allow Refuge personnel to focus on critical issues such as managing increased visitor use and changing habitat conditions.

Additionally, as much as the advance of time may have changed habitat and wildlife management concerns, new technology can now facilitate both a better understanding of the oil and gas reserves within the 1002 area as well as enable more environmentally responsible development. Modern 3-D and 3-C seismic techniques can provide a substantially more accurate oil and gas resource assessment, and this can properly inform policy decisions. Additionally, directional drilling techniques would allow extraction of oil and gas from some of the 1002 area with no surface disturbance. We request you meaningfully consider both of these technological advances and their application in future planning for the 1002 area of ANWR. Furthermore, because seismic acquisition studies are expressly authorized in ANILCA Section 1002(b), so long as they are conducted in such a way as to avoid significant adverse effects, we request you comprehensively authorize and/or conduct such studies and make the resultant information available to Congress prior to any consideration of additional conservation measures.

We hope you will strongly consider these recommendations and alter your planning process accordingly so as to provide Congress with the information necessary to make informed decisions about the lands with which it is entrusted. Thank you for your attention to our concerns.

Sincerely,

		
<hr/> Lisa Murkowski United States Senator	<hr/> Mark Begich United States Senator	<hr/> Don Young United States Representative



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

No. 10-094

Governor Parnell Fights New ANWR Wilderness Reviews

May 11, 2010, Juneau, Alaska – Governor Sean Parnell today submitted comments on upcoming revisions to the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) Comprehensive Conservation Plan by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). A new refuge plan could potentially affect the most promising unexplored petroleum region in North America.

Governor Parnell strongly opposes any plan or wilderness review process that further encumbers or complicates the potential for oil and gas development on the coastal plain, specifically the area described in Section 1002 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act.

"Responsible oil and gas development in ANWR's coastal plain would provide a secure on-shore domestic supply source of energy for the nation, create tens of thousands of jobs throughout the country, and ensure the continued operation of the Trans Alaska Pipeline System for years to come," Governor Parnell said. "We must keep good paying jobs at home and reduce our purchases of foreign energy supplies."

Kevin Banks, director of the Division of Oil and Gas in the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, provided testimony at a USFWS public hearing in Anchorage.

"We believe that, in point of fact and as a matter of law, the decisions about both oil and gas development and wilderness designation of the 1002 Area have been reserved by Congress for itself," Banks testified. "Any study recommendations will further fuel national controversies over the future disposition of the 1002 Area. Such controversies will distort congressional considerations of the highest-potential on-shore area for oil development remaining in the United States."

A copy of Governor Parnell's comments is available at:

http://gov.alaska.gov/parnell_media/documents/gov_ltrtoSharonSeimReANWR.pdf

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RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

RDC Testimony: *Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan*

Testimony of Carl Portman, Deputy Director, Before US Fish & Wildlife Service Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan

May 4, 2010

Washington, D.C.

Good afternoon. My name is Carl Portman, Deputy Director of the Resource Development Council for Alaska. I am a life-long Alaskan, raised in Fairbanks and I currently live in Anchorage. I have been involved with the issue of the Coastal Plain of ANWR, also known as the 1002 area, since the ANILCA compromise of 1980 and I am here today to remind the agency of the promises and compromises that were made to the State of Alaska over 30 years ago.

RDC is an Alaskan business association comprised of individuals and companies from Alaska's resource development sectors.

Today, I am advocating for the State of Alaska's and, indeed, our nation's interests in recommending the 1002 area of ANWR be opened to responsible oil and gas exploration and development, as was recommended by the Department of Interior and Congress in the 80s and 90s. RDC is strongly opposed to new federal Wilderness designations in ANWR and the mere implication of such consideration is inconsistent with promises that were made in ANILCA.

We strongly support the Obama administration's goal to decrease dependence on oil by sharply increasing renewable energy production. However, it is still projected that fossil fuels will account for over 65% of this nation's energy consumption in 2025. Where will this oil come from? New oil production is required until we fully transition to new energy sources decades from now.

The 1002 area was excluded from ANWR's Wilderness designation in a compromise struck under the 1980 Alaska Lands Act. In exchange, Congress doubled the size of the Refuge and designated eight million acres outside the 1002 area as Wilderness. In recognizing the 1002 area's enormous oil and gas potential, Congress mandated a study of its petroleum resources, as well as its environmental values. In 1987, the Department of the Interior concluded that oil development would have minimal impact and recommended the 1002 area, which accounts for eight percent of the refuge, be opened.

A federal Wilderness designation over the 1002 area would forever place off-limits North America's most prolific onshore oil and gas prospect and would mean abandoning the 1980 compromise. This is unacceptable.

Alaska already contains 58 million acres of federal Wilderness. This is larger than New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont and New Hampshire combined. In fact, my state accounts for over half of America's federal Wilderness areas. We don't need more Wilderness in Alaska. We are sufficiently protected. What we do need is more economic opportunities and if the 1002 area is opened, not one acre of federal Wilderness would be disturbed.

With advances in technology, it is possible to develop the 1002 area's energy reserves while directly utilizing only a fraction of the area. This can be accomplished without significant

disturbance to wildlife. In fact, wildlife populations have grown or remained stable in other areas of the North Slope where oil development is already occurring. At Prudhoe Bay, the central arctic caribou population has grown from 5,000 animals in 1970 to more than 66,000 animals today. Development and wildlife do co-exist in Alaska.

78 percent of Alaskans statewide strongly support exploration and development in the 1002 area of ANWR. Local residents and the Inupiat people who actually live adjacent to the 1002 area overwhelmingly support development.

Oil development in the 1002 area would provide a safe and secure source of oil for the nation for decades. It would create thousands of jobs throughout the country. And, it would refill the Alaska pipeline, existing infrastructure that is currently operating at only 1/3rd of its capacity. It would also enhance the prospects of a gas pipeline from the North Slope to the Lower 48.

Finally, given recent events in the Gulf of Mexico, opponents of offshore oil and gas development are calling for an end to new exploration and development pretty much everywhere. They are seizing on this national tragedy to rally against possible future development, not just offshore in the OCS, but onshore in the 1002 area, despite the fact there are significantly different characteristics between onshore and offshore development. I ask, if we don't drill here in America, where will we drill?

In conclusion, the 1002 area of ANWR should not only continue to be excluded from Wilderness designation, but it should be opened up to responsible onshore oil and gas exploration and development. My state's economy depends on it.

We can have oil and gas development in a very small area of ANWR while maintaining the special values of the refuge.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan
Public Hearing
May 11, 2010
Alaska Regional Office
1011 East Tudor Road

Comments Submitted By:

Tara M. Sweeney
Vice President of External Affairs
Arctic Slope Regional Corporation

Good afternoon. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments today. My name is Tara MacLean Sweeney, I am the Vice President of External Affairs for Arctic Slope Regional Corporation, and I am an Iñupiaq from Barrow, Alaska. My ancestry has footprints across the North Slope thousands of years old; not simply for a float trip in the summer. Our people are the aboriginal environmentalist for the region, long before it was trendy to have a membership in the Audubon Society.

I submit to you comments on behalf of ASRC in opposition to proposed Wilderness designation for the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

The village of Kaktovik is the only village within the 19.6 million acres of the ANWR boundary, and is situated within the 1.5 million acres of the Coastal Plain. In the context of the CCP revision process, the major problem with proposed Wilderness designation is that it will severely impact the subsistence activities and traditional way of life for the residents of the Village.

Despite being private land owners within the Coastal Plain, the village will be surrounded by Wilderness, making the villagers essentially refugees on their own land. Subsistence activities are a major element of the traditional Native culture in the area and a primary source of nutrition for residents. Wilderness designation carries with it significant limitations on access and uses that will choke off traditional activities.

Motorized access to the vast hunting areas around the villages by snowmachine and other vehicles, and shelters and semi-permanent structures used for camping and hunting activities, will be limited and problematic. Alaska Native communities already confront these issues with existing nearby Wilderness areas. Now, the USFWS is contemplating transforming to Wilderness status the thin ribbon of coastal plain that exists between the mountain front and the coastline. This coastal plain includes the total remainder of caribou and waterfowl hunting areas, fish camps, ancestral campsites, and existing Native allotments. The agency is proposing Wilderness "creep" toward the shoreline to eventually surround privately-held lands near the Village. Life is difficult enough already with current Wilderness areas. Sending this burden further northward will be devastating.

As early as last November (2009), at the White House Tribal Nations Conference, President Obama acknowledged that, "Promises were broken. You were told your lands, your religion, your cultures, your languages were not yours to keep." Proposing the Coastal Plain for Wilderness designation flies in the face of the promises that were made to the only Native Americans to live within the federal boundaries of the 19.6 million acres of ANWR.

The residents of the Village of Kaktovik already are deprived of substantial economic opportunity because without further act of Congress, the Coastal Plain of ANWR is closed to such activities as oil and gas development. *

The USGS estimates a median of 10.6 billion barrels of oil within the Coastal Plain, and yet as private land owners within the Coastal Plain, Kaktovik is barred by Federal law from taking advantage of this substantial, sustainable economic resource. Proposing Wilderness to shut down the community's traditional activities on top of this does not only seem at odds with the Obama Administration's Federal Indian Policy position; **it seems unconscionable.**

There is no valid reason to designate the Coastal Plain as Wilderness. The section 1002 area has unique status that needs to be taken into account in the planning process. President Carter recognized the unique status of this area by setting it aside because of its oil and gas potential. He had the opportunity to designate this area as Wilderness, and chose not to because of the potential for domestic oil and gas production.

This is a matter of national security. In a time of federal OCS policy uncertainty, ANWR holds the greatest North American potential for on-shore development where technology, regulations and mitigation standards are well established. To designate the Coastal Plain as Wilderness is shortsighted, and a national security risk as America continues to import oil from countries hostile to our nation.

Finally, it is important for me to point out that the public hearing process afforded to us by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service provides insufficient opportunities for the local communities that will be most affected by the plan revision. Although approximately 63% of the refuge lies within the boundaries of the North Slope Borough, and 100% of the Coastal Plain that could be recommended for Wilderness designation is located in the region, only one out of six public meetings are to be held within our region. Additional public hearings in the region are necessary to provide a fair and meaningful opportunity for the most affected communities to participate in the plan revision process.

Thank you for your time, your work and the opportunity to comment.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 12, 2010
2010-097

Contact: Julie Hasquet, Press Secretary
(907) 258-9304 office
(907) 350-4846 cell

Begich Commends Alaska Priorities in Energy and Jobs Legislation
*Offshore oil development, revenue sharing in bill,
more progress needed on refining, trade, and adaptation*

U.S. Sen. Mark Begich said he welcomes the inclusion of several Alaska provisions in long-awaited comprehensive Senate energy and jobs legislation released today. But the bill, sponsored by Sens. John Kerry (D-MA) and Joe Lieberman (ID-CT), needs further improvement before it fully addresses Alaska's needs and reaches the Senate floor.

The proposal includes several elements Begich has been pushing, including expanded Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) oil and gas production in Alaska, sharing a portion of OCS revenues with affected states and expanded opportunities for Alaska's natural gas.

"This bill's endorsement of off-shore domestic energy development and revenue sharing from it are essential for Alaska communities and Alaska's economy," Begich said. "It's important to get the balance right. While we need to reduce our dependence on foreign oil and consumption overall, Alaska can provide a tremendous amount of oil and clean burning natural gas that we're going to need for decades to come."

Begich has been working with the authors of the legislation, including Sen. Lindsay Graham (R-SC), to help them understand the key role Alaska can play in securing the country's economic and national security by reducing America's dependence on foreign sources of oil and gas. In March, Begich wrote a detailed letter to the Senate Majority Leader outlining Alaska's priorities for the energy bill, many of which are in the legislation.

The key provisions for Alaska and supported by Begich include:

- **Outer-Continental Shelf oil and gas production** – The legislation recognizes the importance of expanding oil and gas development and exploration in Alaska's Chukchi and Beaufort Seas can play in reducing America's dependence on foreign oil;
- **Revenue Sharing** – Under the legislation, states with OCS development will receive 37 percent revenue sharing as a result of the development in federal waters. Currently, Alaska is excluded from revenue sharing from OCS development;

- **Natural Gas production support** – Incentives for natural gas production that build a stronger market and could lead to increased interest in Alaska’s natural gas line;
- **EPA pre-emption on CO2 emissions** – Would prohibit states from implementing tougher regulations on carbon emissions than are required by the Environmental Protection Agency.

“Today, the U.S. imports about three-quarters of the oil it consumes, much of it from countries where our best interests are not especially high on their priority list,” Begich said. “Developing America’s enormous energy resources by Americans and within America’s borders is good for our economic security and good for our national security.”

Begich identified several areas in the legislation that still need improvement, including how the legislation would affect refineries and other energy intensive and trade sensitive industries, as well as additional funding for adapting infrastructure.

“This bill is a dramatic improvement in terms of how it treats refineries and heavy industry and keeps them competitive. However, I intend to stay at the table to ensure that this will work for Alaska’s refineries,” he said.

The new energy bill also includes money for adaptation funding which is dedicated funding to assist Alaska communities on the front line of climate change with the costs of village relocation, infrastructure rebuilding and energy costs. But Begich says the \$75 billion in the bill that would be available to all states and foreign countries falls short of what will be needed. He said he will push for more adaption funds in the bill some of which should be dedicated specifically to Alaska, where the effects of climate change are already affecting Alaskans’ lives and will continue to.

“Until my colleagues have a chance to visit Alaska, and have their eyes opened and knowledge enhanced, I don’t think they will understand the size and scope of the costs and problems we face,” Begich said. “I’ll continue to do my best to educate the administration and other members of Congress.”

##



RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

May 7, 2010

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Congressman Don Young
Governor Sean Parnell

Regulatory Commission of Alaska
701 West Eighth Avenue, Suite 300
Anchorage, AK 99501

Re: TA 316-8 - Contact between Chugach Electric Association, Inc., and Marathon Alaska Production LLC

Dear Commissioners Pickett, Giard, Lisankie, Patch, and Wilson:

On behalf of the Resource Development Council for Alaska (RDC), I write to offer support for Chugach Electric Association's (CEA) request for the Commission to approve the proposed base contract between CEA and Marathon Alaska Production LLC (Marathon). The contract will allow for the sale and purchase of much needed natural gas between CEA and Marathon for the Alaska market.

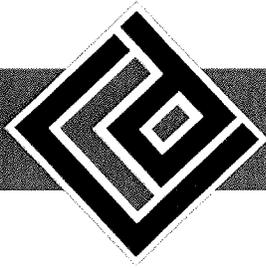
RDC is a statewide membership-funded organization founded in 1975. Our membership is comprised of individuals and companies from Alaska's oil and gas, mining, timber, tourism, and fisheries industries, as well as Alaska Native corporations, local communities, organized labor, and industry support firms. 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 is supportive of stable and cost effective supply of natural gas. TA 316-8 will help CEA meet this need for consumers in Anchorage and along the Railbelt, encouraging certainty for electric supply. Contracts for gas purchase provide for a more stable market to suppliers, thereby encouraging additional exploration and development in Alaska. Subsequently, additional exploration and development will create essential jobs for Alaskans.

In conclusion, RDC supports the expedited approval of TA 316-8 by the Regulatory Commission of Alaska. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jason W. Brune



RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

May 13, 2010

Regulatory Commission of Alaska
701 West Eighth Avenue, Suite 300
Anchorage, AK 99501

Re: TA 187-4 - Support of gas supply agreement approval between ENSTAR and Marathon

Dear Commissioners Pickett, Giard, Lisankie, Patch, and Wilson:

On behalf of the Resource Development Council for Alaska (RDC), I write to support the Regulatory Commission's expedited approval of the proposed gas supply agreement (GSA) between ENSTAR Natural Gas Company (ENSTAR) and Marathon Alaska Production LLC (Marathon).

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.

This agreement will help meet approximately 90% of ENSTAR's expected customer needs for two years. The approval of contracts like this are imperative to encourage additional exploration and development in Alaska, and in Cook Inlet in particular. Subsequently, additional exploration and development will create essential jobs for Alaskans.

In conclusion, RDC supports the approval of the GSA between ENSTAR and Marathon by the Regulatory Commission of Alaska. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jason W. Brune

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Executive Director
Jason W. Brune

2009-2010 Executive Committee

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**The Alaska Coal Association
Proudly Presents the 18th Annual
Coal Classic Golf Tournament
Wednesday, June 16, 2010
Anchorage Golf Course - 7:00 am Start**

Proceeds benefit Alaska Resource Education (formerly AMEREF)

[Sponsorship Form \(pdf\)](#)

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**Help make this event a success by
sponsoring today!**



Alaska Coal Association

Presents the 18th Annual

Coal Classic

Golf Tournament



Wednesday, June 16, 2010 at Anchorage Golf Course

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

Proceeds benefit Alaska Resource Education (formerly AMEREF)

Alaska Resource Education 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.

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

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

_____ \$400 Breakfast Sponsor

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_____ \$300 Hole Sponsor

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*Item of your choice with your logo and AK Resource logo, given to each golfer. Call 907-276-0700 ext. 4 for details.

Prize/item description: _____

REGISTRATION FORM

_____ \$1,000 Team (four golfers)

_____ \$300 Individual Golfer

Great prizes and lunch included!

Team Name _____

Golfers _____

Contact person _____

Address _____ City/State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

VISA/MC _____ Expiration _____ 3 Digit Code _____

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

To guarantee your slot, please register by Wednesday, June 2, 2010