

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

Founded 1975
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 Senator Lisa Murkowski
 Senator Dan Sullivan
 Congressman Don Young
 Governor Bill Walker

BREAKFAST MEETING

Thursday, January 15, 2015

1. Call to order – Ralph Samuels, President
2. Head Table Introductions
3. Staff Report – Kati Capozzi, Membership Director
4. Program and Keynote Speaker:

2015 Legislative Session Preview

Kevin Meyer, Senate President
 Mike Chenault, House Speaker

Next Meeting:

Thursday, February 5: Wood Bison Release, Mike Miller, Executive Director,
 Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center

Please add my name to RDC's contact list:

Name/Title: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

2015 Resource Development Council Policy Positions

TOP LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

- Support efforts to limit unrestricted general fund spending to a sustainable level.
- Encourage the State to promote and defend the integrity of Alaska's permitting process and advocate for predictable, timely, and efficient state and federal permitting processes based on sound science and economic feasibility.
- Support efforts to bring more accountability to the appeals and litigation processes for community and resource development projects.
- Support policies to encourage new exploration and development of Alaska's mineral and energy deposits, as well as enhanced production from existing operations.

General Issues

Fiscal Policy & Planning

- Support efforts to limit unrestricted general fund spending to a sustainable level.
- Advocate for implementation of a comprehensive, responsible, and long-range state fiscal plan.
- Support some use of the Permanent Fund earnings as part of a fiscal plan.
- Advocate for tax policy and incentives that enhance the State of Alaska's competitiveness for all industries.
- Encourage and support foreign and domestic private sector investments in Alaska's resource industries and manufacturing.
- Oppose efforts to enshrine the Permanent Fund Dividend in the Alaska Constitution.

Access

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

Regulation/Permitting

- Support efforts to bring more accountability to the appeals and litigation processes for community and resource development projects.
- Encourage the State to promote and defend the integrity of Alaska's permitting process.
- Encourage the State to use all available avenues to ensure reasonable and predictable decision making under the CWA Section 404 permit program including establishment of an industry/state government working group to identify and implement Alaska solutions to wetlands mitigation.
- Advocate for predictable, timely, and efficient state and federal permitting processes based on sound science and economic feasibility.
- Provide adequate resources to permitting agencies for personnel, research, and science.
- Support the State of Alaska's efforts to challenge unwarranted Endangered Species Act listings and proposed critical habitat designations.
- Support reasonable mixing zones for resource and community development.
- Support efforts to reduce federal interference and devolve more authority to the states.

Infrastructure

- Support transportation and power projects that enhance resource and community development activities.
- Encourage development of new electrical generating and transmission systems to provide stable sources of electricity for economic development and existing consumers.
- Stimulate investment in power and transportation infrastructure by catalyzing private partnership investment through the public-private-partnership (P3) model.

Education

- Support programs, including the Alaska Resource Education program, to educate students and the general public on responsible resource development activities in Alaska.
- Support efforts to provide for a skilled and trained Alaska workforce necessary to support resource development industries.

Industry Specific Issues

Oil & Gas

- Support tax policies that establish a competitive tax structure and incentives to increase the exploration, production, and development of all Alaska's oil fields (new and existing).
- Support policies to establish a competitive tax structure and legislative and administration efforts to increase the commercial viability of developing Alaska's natural gas resources.
- Educate and advocate for access to and development of oil and gas resources on federal lands; including the coastal plain of ANWR, NPR-A, and the Alaskan OCS.
- Advocate for federal revenue sharing and/or community impact assistance to maximize benefits of OCS development to Alaska.

Energy

- Support simplified leasing and efficient permitting of non-conventional fuel resources to encourage development of the state's resources and provide energy to local areas.
- 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.

Mining

- Encourage expansion and increased production from existing deposits as well as new exploration and responsible development of Alaska's mineral and coal resources.
- Advocate continuation and expansion of airborne geophysical mapping and the on-the-ground follow up work required to realize the full benefits of the program.
- Support the State's efforts to maintain control of reclamation bonding.

Fisheries

- Support policies that ensure healthy and sustainable commercial, sport, and subsistence fisheries resources; access and markets for Alaska fishermen, sport charter businesses, and coastal communities; including a reasonable and stable regulatory environment.
- Support funding of fisheries and marine mammal research.
- Encourage programs that not only manage but in fact enhance the State's fisheries resources.

Forestry

- Advocate for a reliable and economical long-term State and federal 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 for a positive business environment to promote continued growth of the cruise and tourism industries in Alaska.
- Advocate for equitable environmental laws for cruise ships.
- Advocate additional aircraft landing sites and reduced restrictions on over-flights.
- Support South Denali infrastructure development to provide for a variety of visitor experiences and help accommodate future visitor needs in the region.
- Advocate for the reinvestment of a portion of visitor industry-related revenues to market Alaska as a destination.

AGDC Legislative Architects Respond to Walker Action

Wednesday, January 7th, 2015 @ 9:47AM

The legislators who sponsored the bill creating the Alaska Gasline Development Corporation today released statements in light of Governor Bill Walker's action firing three board members and ordering his appointees to not participate in the confidentiality process.

Alaska Speaker of the House Mike Chenault, R-Nikiski, and Rep. Mike Hawker, R-Anchorage, believe the three key AGDC board members were critical in advancing a natural gas commercialization project, and brought valuable perspective and acumen to the Board. AGDC was designed to bring gas to Alaskans and more revenue to the state via its Alaska Stand Alone Pipeline (ASAP) project working parallel to the AK LNG project, which it was facilitating for the State.

"I spoke to Gov. Walker after hearing that he had fired AGDC board members Dick Rabinow, Drue Pearce, and Al Bolea," said Chenault. "The governor certainly has the power to do that; the Legislature granted the governor that power in House Bill 4, which created and directed AGDC. I'm disappointed that Gov. Walker has chosen to eliminate these board members, who have proven their worth and commitment to Alaska in the progress made already.

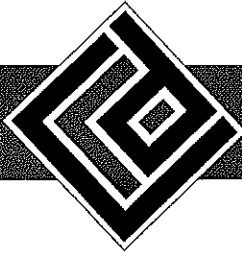
"It's going to be hard to replace the 60 years of knowledge that these three board members bring – and in particular, the expertise of Dick Rabinow, who is the only board member to have actual gasline construction experience under his belt.

"My greatest concern is what delay is this action going to cost the AK LNG and ASAP projects? With a substantial turnover in leadership, how much longer will Alaskans wait for natural gas?"

"I am disappointed in the Governor's action gutting the top quality board that was working diligently for Alaska," said Hawker. "I'm deeply concerned that this signals a wholesale change of course for Gov. Walker on gas commercialization. An overwhelming majority of legislators approved creation of AGDC, and of its mission, which is clear in law – to pursue a natural gas project that delivers gas to Alaskans first, then to markets beyond.

"In creating AGDC, the Legislature carefully weighed the need for confidentiality in some issues with the need for public accountability. The legislature struck a balance between transparency to Alaskans, and the need to protect commercially sensitive information, third-party private company information, and information that, if known, could adversely impact the price Alaskans receive for its gas.

"I, too, am gravely concerned that this action by Gov. Walker will result in significant delays to the AK LNG and ASAP projects. All the key business agreements crafted by the State under confidentiality agreements will, by law, be brought back to the legislature for a fully transparent, public vetting and approval."



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Phil Steyer
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Casey Sullivan
Jan Trigg
Doug Ward
Sinclair Willt
Ex-Officio Members
Senator Lisa Murkowski
Senator Mark Begich
Congressman Don Young
Governor Bill Walker

December 23, 2014

Jolie Harrison
Chief, Permits and Conservation Division
Office of Protected Resources
National Marine Fisheries Association
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Re: NOAA-NMFS-2014-0129, Comments of the Resource Development Council for Alaska, Inc. on Issuance of Take Authorization in Cook Inlet, Alaska

Dear Ms. Harrison,

The Resource Development Council (RDC) is writing to offer comments on the Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the Issuance of Incidental Take Authorizations (ITA) in Cook Inlet, Alaska.

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 economic impact from shipping and responsible resource development in and around Cook Inlet is significant and far-reaching. Oil and gas exploration and development; commercial, sport and subsistence fishing; mining; tourism; air freight, commercial aviation and national defense all depend on commerce in and near Cook Inlet. Thousands of jobs and the energy and food security of hundreds of thousands of Alaskans can be directly attributed to shipping and natural resource development in the Cook Inlet region.

The Port of Anchorage is Alaska's largest port. An estimated 90% of the merchandise goods for 85% of Alaska's populated areas pass through the Port of Anchorage. The Port is undergoing critical improvements to prevent severe economic disruption in the event of a catastrophic seismic event. The Port at Point McKenzie will soon have rail access and evaluation is underway to ship LNG from Port McKenzie by rail to Fairbanks to address soaring energy costs. Alaska consumers rely on these ports for gasoline, heating oil, diesel, cement, business supplies, groceries, etc.

Monetizing North Slope gas through the Alaska LNG project and the smaller Alaska Stand Alone gas project both require predictable use of Cook Inlet waters and expanded shipping infrastructure.

RDC stresses the importance and *requirement* of the National Marine Fisheries Service to review the social and economic values of Cook Inlet during the EIS process. Just as there can be cumulative impacts on protected species, there are also cumulative social and economic impacts to Alaskans from delays, conditions and restrictions on Cook Inlet activities. The food security and energy security to a majority of Alaskans is dependent on the uninterrupted commerce in Cook Inlet. The EIS should fully acknowledge and evaluate direct, indirect and cumulative impacts of any foreseen ITA delays or restrictions in Cook Inlet.

NMFS is reminded that the decline in the Cook Inlet Beluga whale population is the result of past hunting practices that have been curtailed. In conducting a programmatic EIS for the ITA program, the service should be careful fully evaluate and characterize both the uncertain benefit any restrictions in ITA might have on population recovery, as well as the ubiquitous dependence on Cook Inlet development and trade throughout Alaska's economy. Activities in and around Cook Inlet are essential to the daily lives of Alaskans. Given the dependence we all have on the flow of goods and energy from Cook Inlet, NMFS should fully evaluate the risks to human health and safety that the delay or curtailment of ITA issuance could have on the well being of Alaskans.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Rogers", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rick Rogers
Executive Director

For Immediate Release – December 12, 2014

Congress Fulfills ANCSA Promise to Sealaska

JUNEAU, Alaska – Sealaska is celebrating the passage of H.R. 3979, which includes the Sealaska land entitlement bill, a comprehensive and visionary solution to many issues facing Southeast Alaska. Through this legislation, Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian people of Southeast Alaska will be conveyed 70,075 acres promised under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) of 1971.

“On behalf of the board we want to express our heartfelt appreciation to the Alaska delegation and Sealaska leaders, some of whom are no longer with Sealaska, who worked tirelessly to make this a reality,” said Sealaska Chair Joe Nelson. “Over the course of a decade many people have dedicated their time and energy to fulfill this effort, the benefits of which will be felt for generations to come.”

“Words cannot describe how pleased we are that this lands bill has passed through Congress,” said Sealaska President and CEO Anthony Mallott. “This is a monumental step to achieve our strategic plan of growth and profitability while maintaining important cultural priorities. I want to thank all the stakeholders who collaborated and partnered with Sealaska to make this happen.”

The bill represents hundreds of community meetings with local business owners, conservation groups, government leaders and Sealaska shareholders.

Under the bill, 70,075 acres will be returned to Native ownership through Sealaska, including:

- 490 acres of cultural significance with 76 sacred sites
- 1,099 acres for small economic development opportunities
- 68,486 acres for natural resource development

“Sealaska is responsible for providing meaningful economic and social benefits to shareholders,” said Rosita Worl, who chairs the Sealaska Lands Committee. “The board advocated for this legislation to support economic and cultural sustainability as well as economic diversity beyond timber development and this legislation will help us achieve these objectives.”

“I participated in almost all stakeholder meetings to find support and consensus for our bill,” said Sealaska VP General Counsel and Corporate Secretary Jaeleen Araujo. “I want to thank the tribes, Native leaders, local communities and others who engaged in this process to secure this land for the Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian people.”

Sealaska’s current land base of 290,000 acres, together with the acreage in the new legislation, represents less than two percent of the Tongass National Forest or a fraction of the traditional homelands of Southeast Alaska Natives.

Under ANCSA Section 7(i) revenue sharing provisions Sealaska will continue to share its natural resource revenue with all Alaska Natives, regardless of where they live. Sealaska will also be able to contribute to the economy and help maintain a sustainable timber industry, built on strong land stewardship. Our scientific and Native values approach to land stewardship aims to provide both current and long-term benefits to our shareholders.

[Click here to view additional information](#)

Sealaska, Values In Action

Sealaska is the regional Native institution established under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 (ANCSA). More than 22,000 Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian shareholders own Sealaska. Sealaska's purpose is to strengthen people, culture and homelands through Values In Action.

Contact

Dixie Hutchinson, Sealaska Communications Manager 907.209.1022 cell
Dixie.Hutchinson@sealaska.com

ANILCA Training

8:00 am – 4:30 pm, March 4-5, 2015

Location: BLM Campbell Creek Science Center
Anchorage, Alaska



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

Course includes:

- Summary of Alaska's land history from Territorial days to present
- Context of ANILCA's passage – including major constituents, issues of the day, and the "Great Compromise"
- Overview of the ANILCA statute
- Key access provisions of ANILCA, including access for traditional activities, subsistence, inholdings, and transportation & utility systems
- Subsistence on federal lands
- Wilderness reviews and management
- ANILCA implementation, including federal land planning
- Case Studies

\$575 includes copy of ANILCA & Amendments; Alaska in Maps - A Thematic Atlas; presentation documents; and a portable USB drive with relevant laws, regulations and other supporting documents. Discussion sessions on ANILCA issues take place both days during lunch – **lunch, coffee, and continental breakfast** provided.

DOI Employees Register HERE:

<https://gm2.geolearning.com/geonext/doi/login.geo>

Other Federal Employees Register HERE:

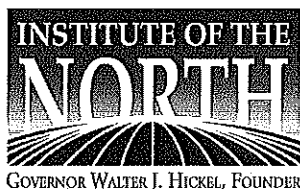
<https://doiu.doi.gov/>

All others (non-federal) Register with ION HERE:

<https://www.institutenorth.org/calendar/events/anilca-training/>

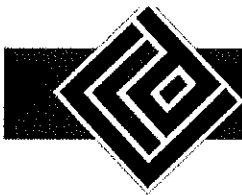
- Deadline for registration is Monday, February 23, 2015
- 35 participants minimum; 60 participants maximum

Contact: Kristina Baiborodova at 907-786-6360 or kbaiborodova@institutenorth.org



Presented by the
Institute of the North
1675 C. Street, Suite 106
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
www.institutenorth.org





RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

Membership Form

RDC is a statewide business association comprised of individuals and companies from Alaska's oil and gas, mining, forest products, tourism and fisheries industries. RDC's membership includes Alaska Native Corporations, local communities, organized labor, and industry support firms. RDC's purpose is to encourage a strong, diversified private sector in Alaska and expand the state's economic base through the responsible development of our natural resources.

To view a list of current members, please visit <http://www.akrdc.org/links/>

Name: _____ Title: _____

Company: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Mobile: _____

Email: _____ Website: _____
(corporate members only)

Referred by (if applicable): _____

Membership Levels

	<i>Corporate</i>	<i>Individual</i>
Platinum	\$3000 and up	\$500 and up
Gold	\$1500	\$300
Silver	\$750	\$150
Basic	\$500	\$75

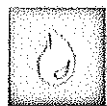
Please select the category in which your organization should be classified:

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications/Technology | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal/Consulting | <input type="checkbox"/> Timber |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communities | <input type="checkbox"/> Media | <input type="checkbox"/> Tourism |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Construction | <input type="checkbox"/> Mining | <input type="checkbox"/> Trade/Business Organization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering/Environmental | <input type="checkbox"/> Native Corporations | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance/Insurance | <input type="checkbox"/> Oil and Gas | <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities/Energy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Industry Services | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Government | <input type="checkbox"/> Support Services | |

Membership Amount \$ _____ Please Invoice Me Check Enclosed

Charge my card: _____ Exp. Date: _____

RDC is classified as a 501(c)(6) non-profit trade association. Membership dues and other financial support may be tax deductible as an ordinary business expense, but not as a charitable contribution. 15.9% of RDC support is non-deductible.



Oil & Gas



Forestry



Fisheries



Mining



Tourism

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