# Cook Inlet Natural Gas: The Way Forward

Study conducted by Petrotechnical Resources of Alaska

Sponsored by:

ENSTAR Natural Gas Chugach Electric Association Municipal Light & Power



## Why Do Utilities Care About Cook Inlet Gas?

#### ENSTAR

- Cook Inlet gas provides 100% of supply
- 2009 consumption: 32.5 Bcf

#### Chugach

- Cook Inlet gas used for 90% of generation
- 2009 consumption: 26 Bcf

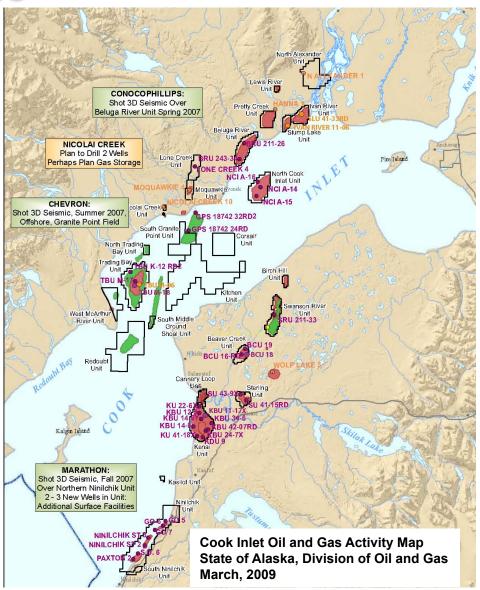
#### ML&P

- Cook Inlet gas used for 88% of generation
- 2009 consumption: 10.8 Bcf



#### Cook Inlet Fields

BRU 27% of 2010 production TBU 18% NCI 16% Kenai and Ninilchik ~10% each





### Gas Under Contract/Ownership

#### ENSTAR

- 100% of needs met through 2010
- Approximately 25% unmet needs beginning 2011

#### Chugach

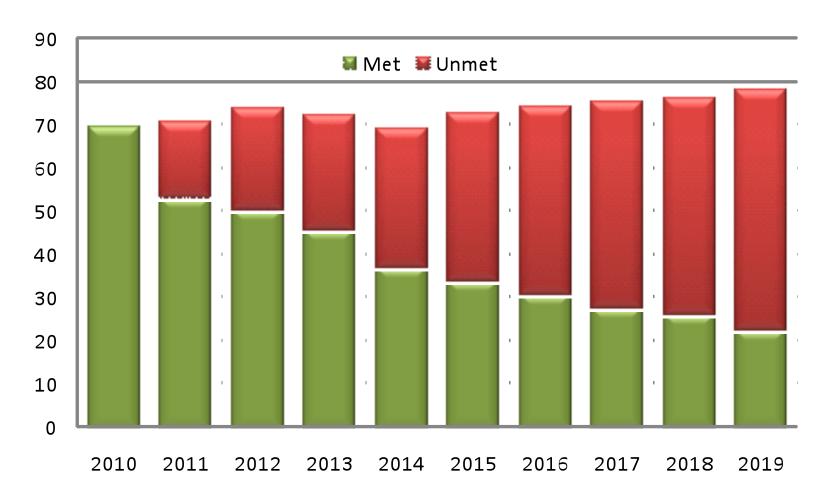
- 100% of needs met to spring 2011
- 50% met through 2014; 60% in 2015; 29% in 2016

#### ML&P

 Share of Beluga field estimated to meet majority of needs through 2015



#### Combined Utility Met and Unmet Gas Demand



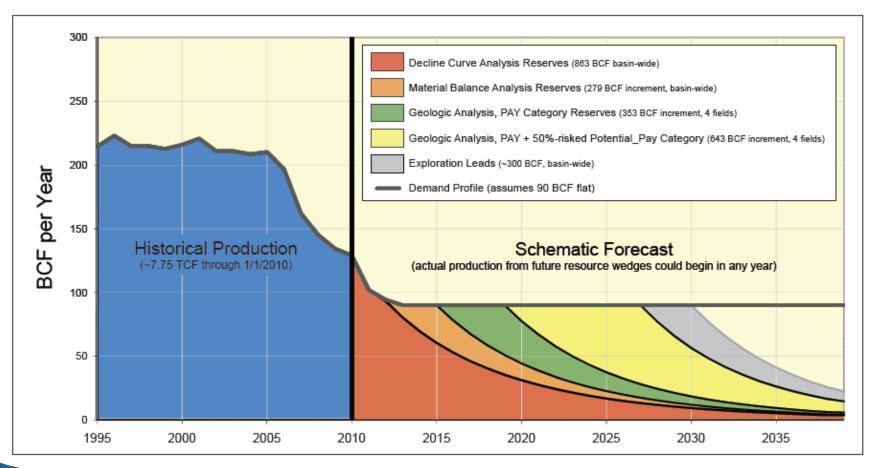


## **Supply Concepts**

- Reserves
  - Proven
  - Probable
  - Possible
- Annual supply
- Deliverability (seasonal demand)
  - Storage
    - Needed by winter 2011-2012
    - Agreement in progress



## **Annual Supply**



Source: AK DNR December 2009 Study



## Cook Inlet Gas Study



## The Study

- Commissioned by ENSTAR, Chugach and ML&P
- Performed by PRA
- Completed March 2010

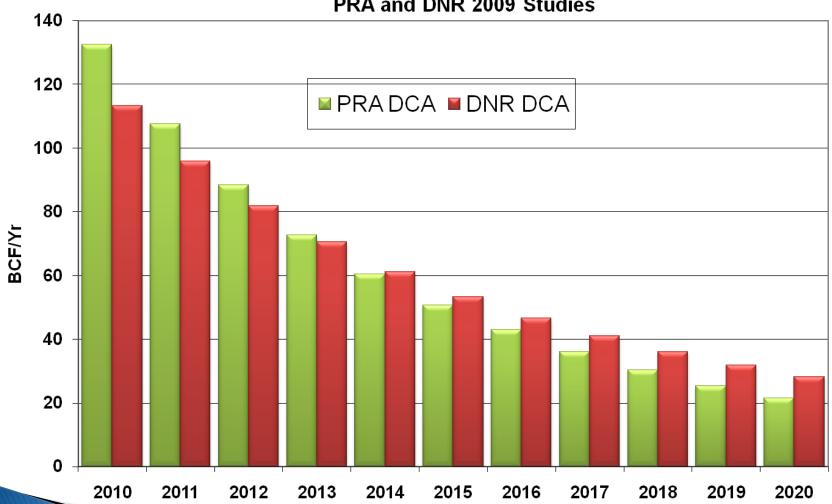


## Study Objectives

- Review DNR reserves analysis
- Review the deliverability of Cook Inlet gas wells drilled from 2001-2009
- Forecast deliverability of existing and future gas wells
- Analyze timing required for delivery of non-Cook Inlet gas sources



## Cook Inlet Gas Production Forecast from Decline Curve Analysis PRA and DNR 2009 Studies





## Methodology

- Field-level decline curve analysis
- Individual well decline curve analysis
  - Initial Production
  - Production profile
- ▶ IP progression through time
- Calculate activity required to meet demand
- POD review
- Analysis of business drivers



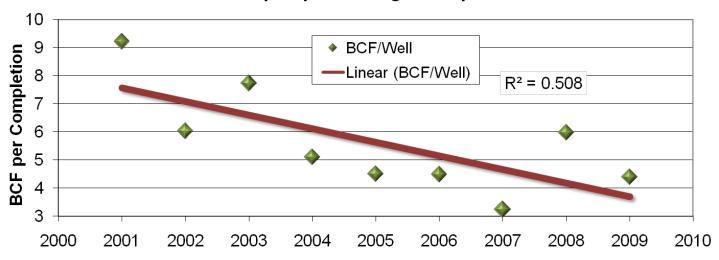
## Cook Inlet Drilling Results

Period	Gas Wells Drilled	Gas Wells Completed	Initial Production (MMCF/day)
2001-2009	128	105	3.6 per well
2007-2009	34	34	3.1 per well



## Cook Inlet Gas Development

#### Cook Inlet Gas Development 2001-2009 BCF Developed per Average Completed Well





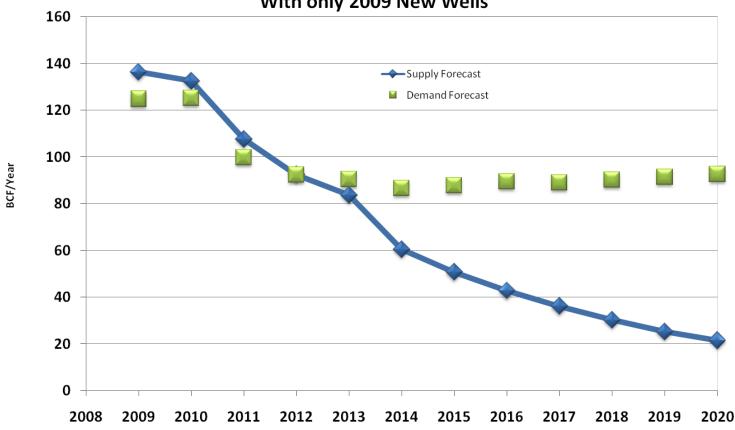
#### The Problem

- Both PRA and DNR conclude from decline curves we have annual supply problems by 2013 if no new wells are drilled
- PRA study concludes that significant development activity is required



## **Annual Supply**

#### Cook Inlet Supply and Demand PRA Forecast December 2009 With only 2009 New Wells



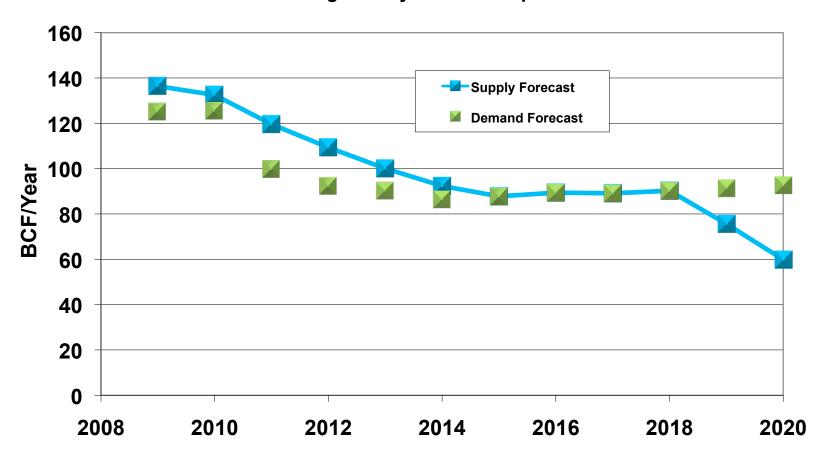


#### Scenarios

With development drilling continuing at the same pace as in 2007-2009, supply is sufficient to meet demand until 2018, assumes 136 new wells being drilled



## Cook Inlet Supply and Demand PRA Forecast December 2009 Assumes 2007-09 Drilling Activity of 13.6 Completions/Yr 2010 to 2019





## 136 Wells Completed 2010 to 2019 (2007-09 Level of 13.6 Completions/Yr)



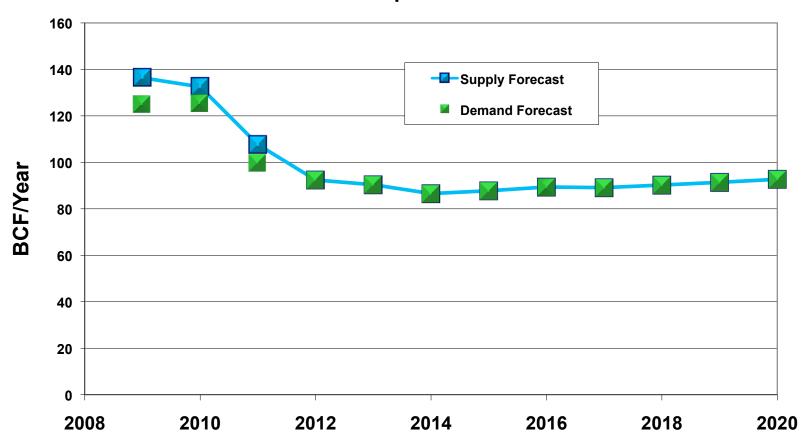


#### Scenarios

If current trends in drilling success rates continue, an estimated 185 new wells must be drilled to meet utility needs between now and 2020

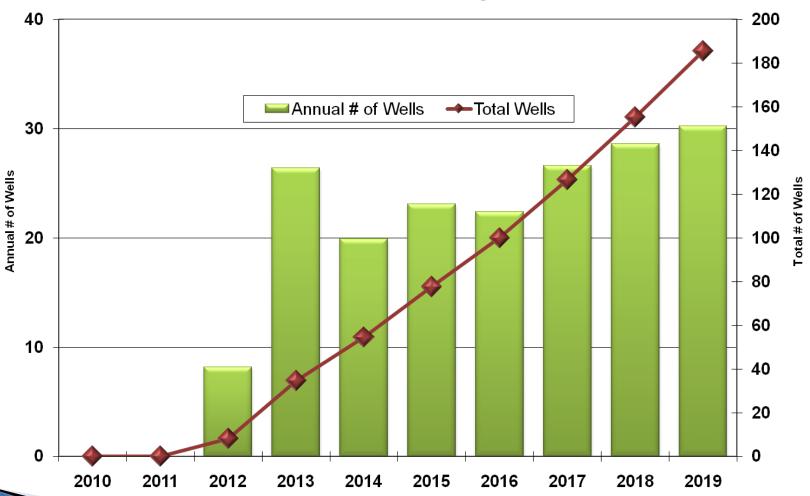


## Cook Inlet Supply and Demand PRA Forecast December 2009 Includes 185 Wells Completed to Meet Demand to 2020





#### 185 Wells Completed 2012 to 2019 Meet Demand Through 2020





#### The Cost

- ▶ The estimated cost of drilling & development in the past decade was \$1 – \$1.2 billion
- The estimated cost of drilling & development in the coming decade is \$1.9 - \$2.8 billion
- Higher production costs will lead to higher prices for energy



#### **Caveats**

- Near-term drilling <u>must</u> be successful or gas resources from outside the Cook Inlet could be required as early as 2013
- If near-term drilling does not keep pace with demand, the only viable option is LNG imports; that option requires immediate action
- LNG imports could be necessary for several years until an in-state gas line is available



## Where Must We Go From Here?



#### Immediate Actions Needed

- New gas supply agreements between Cook Inlet Utilities and producers
- Predictable timelines and standards for RCA approval of agreements
- Utilities must secure storage
- Continue customer awareness, conservation and curtailment plans

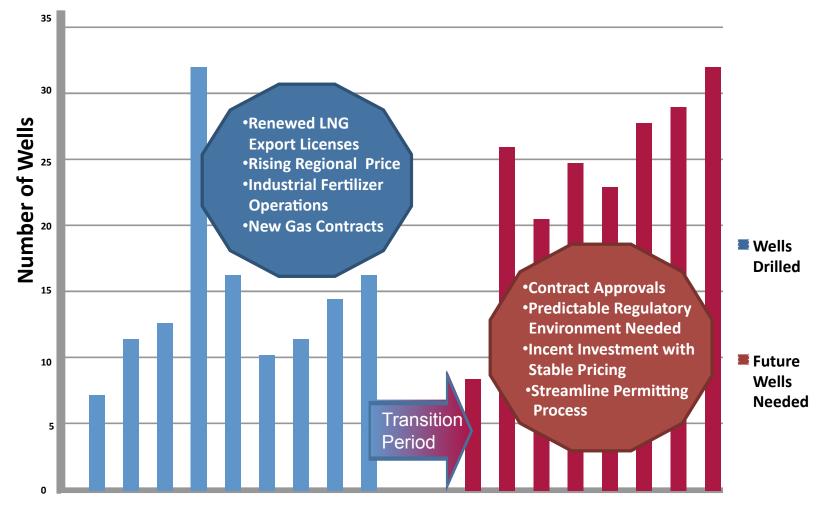


### Immediate Actions Needed (cont.)

- Land management processes must be streamlined
- Determine how gas will come to the region to meet long-term needs of consumers
- Attract exploration & development companies



#### Wells Drilled, Wells Required & Influencing Factors

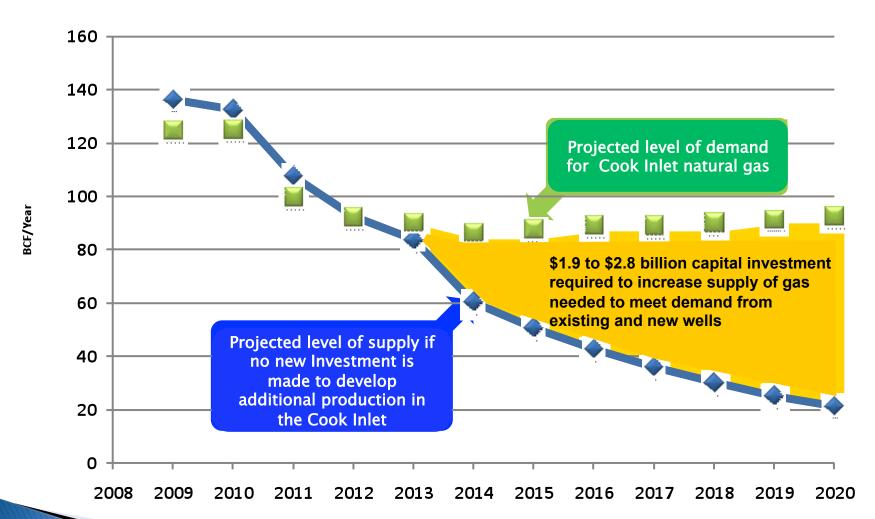


2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019





## Summary





10

**Bcf** per Year

## The Way Forward

- Increase drilling in Cook Inlet
  - Streamline resource development processes
  - Timely contract approval to incent drilling
- Facilitate natural gas storage
- To backstop drilling program, develop LNG import options for 2013
- In-state gas line offers long term solutions



## Example Decline Curve (BRU)

#### **BELUGA RIVER UNIT Gas Production**

