



Alaska State Legislature

The Honorable Kenneth L. Salazar, Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior, Room 6156
1849 C. Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240-0002

The Honorable Jo-Ellen Darcy
Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works)
108 Army Pentagon
Washington, DC 20310-0108

The Honorable Lisa Jackson, Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20460

February 28, 2011

Dear Secretary Salazar, Asst. Secretary Darcy, and Administrator Jackson:

We are writing to ask that you accept our public comments concerning the Army Corps of Engineers' denial of ConocoPhillips' recent application to access greatly needed oil reserves in the National Petroleum Reserve – Alaska (NPR-A). This oil is crucial to the viable, long term running of the Trans-Alaska Oil Pipeline. In Alaska, this view is shared by Democrats, like us, and Republicans. It is not a partisan issue.

There are environmentally responsible ways to access the CD-5 segment of NPR-A, and we believe Conoco's application meets these standards. Delay in development of this area is dangerous both to Alaska's economy and the nation's energy security. As you know, this area, unlike others, has been specifically dedicated for oil development.

By this letter we incorporate the comments by our congressional delegation, dated December 10, 2010, and the March 10, 2010 letter submitted by North Slope Borough Mayor, Edward Itta. Those letters are attached.

We hope to convey that this is an issue of bi-partisan, economic urgency to Alaskans. We respectfully request that this issue be resolved favorably as quickly as possible. We would be happy to provide further information or to meet with you at your convenience.

Best Regards,



Rep. Les Gara



Rep. Chris Tuck



Rep. Mike Doogan



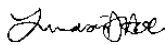
Rep. Berta Gardner



Rep. Max Gruenberg



Rep. David Guttenberg



Rep. Lindsey Holmes



Rep. Scott Kawaski



Rep. Beth Kurttula



Rep. Pete Peterson



Rep. Bob Miller



Sen. Hollis French



Sen. Bill Wielechowski



Sen. Johnny Ellis

Cc: Peter Rouse, Counselor to the President
Senator Lisa Murkowski
Senator Mark Begich
Congressman Don Young
Governor Parnell
Mayor Edward Itta
T.E. Johansen, President, ConocoPhillips Alaska
Julie Kitka, President, Alaska Federation of Natives