

Alaska Oil and Gas Association



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Kara Moriarty, Deputy Director

February 3, 2011

Representative Charisse Millett
Alaska House of Representatives
State Capitol – Rm. 13
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Millett:

The 15 members of the Alaska Oil & Gas Association (AOGA) account for the majority of oil and gas exploration, development, production, transportation, refining and marketing activities in the state. We appreciate the opportunity to voice our support for HJR 11, which opposes the federal government designating the 1002 area of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) as wilderness.

When ANWR was created as part of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) in 1980, only 8% of the area, known as the “1002 area”, was set aside for oil and gas development. During the ANILCA debate, it was agreed that “no more” wilderness would be designated as over 8 million acres elsewhere in the refuge was designated as wilderness.

Development is permanently restricted on over 90% of ANWR and for the last twenty years, four out of five Alaskans consistently have supported opening ANWR to oil and gas exploration.

At a time when the Trans-Alaska Pipeline is only operating at one-third of its capacity, federal and state lands designated for oil and gas development should remain a viable option. Now is not the time to set aside more wilderness.

Thank you for sponsoring this resolution. We respectfully request the members of the 27th Legislature to join you by supporting HJR 11.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kara Moriarty".

KARA MORIARTY
Deputy Director