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Leadership to enhance, foster and promote economic development

April 16, 2015

Greetings,

KPEDD strongly supports the Agrium request for the scheduling of a hearing for HB 100. The State of Alaska faces many current challenges with low oil prices. Support for HB 100 in the Kenai Peninsula is related to adding jobs at a time when local Gas and Oil firms are laying workers off. This additional employment support would bolster cash circulation amongst local business, stopping a slowdown from becoming worse.

Encouraging Agrium to reopen will keep the exploration that has been revitalized in the Cook Inlet going which helps both industry and the gas utilities. Both have been looking for dependable and cost effective gas supplies. There are also two potential gas suppliers that would need an entity like Agrium to ensure that their projects have demand for their bringing gas to market. These projects also will be employing local hire and add to the circulation of money in our Peninsula economy for several years. The rail-belt needs dependable and affordable gas supplies which Agrium's demand would encourage additional drilling for supply.

I support the wise allocation of capital into projects that have a long time horizon, employ people to live and work locally and the benefits that come to the local economy. Given the current State of Alaska funding issues I respectfully request that you also consider HB 100 for inclusion into the last weeks crush of legislation.

Cordially Yours,

Rick A. Roeske
Executive Director



Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR)
The State of Alaska Department of Commerce, Community
and Economic Development certified KPEDD as an
ARDOR in 1989.



Economic Development District (EDD)
The U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic
Development Administration (EDA) recognized KPEDD
as an Economic Development District in 1988.