



NANA



February 24, 2012

Representative Reggie Joule
State Capitol Room 410
Juneau AK, 99801

Subject: Alaska Arctic Policy Commission

Dear Representative Joule,

On behalf of the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation (ASRC), NANA Regional Corporation, the North Slope Borough (NSB), and the Northwest Arctic Borough (NWAB) we submit these comments on HCR 23 for your consideration. As you know, both ASRC and NANA are Alaska Native regional corporations established pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 (ANCSA), and both are the largest private land owners within our respective regions. Collectively we represent over 20,000 Alaska Native shareholders. The NSB and NWAB are the municipal governments representing areas as large as the states of Minnesota and Indiana, combined. Collectively, both boroughs represent areas encompassing more than 130,000 square miles

We support HCR 23, because it empowers our communities to continue to balance the subsistence and economic needs of our communities. It is essential that our corporations have the ability to provide benefits to our shareholders while our boroughs preserve the right and ability to provide services to our communities. Our organizations, along with our business partners, must maintain the ability to use our resources in a responsible manner if we are to maintain our culture and traditions.

The Arctic Policy Commission, as proposed, includes a variety of stakeholders. We encourage you to consider adding language that designates a representative named by each of our organizations to the commission. Our people have thrived in the Arctic since time immemorial and the future sustainability of our region is critical to all of our residents.

We sincerely appreciate your work on/with the Northern Waters Task Force (NWTF). The work acutely highlights the changing Arctic, especially in the areas of governance, oil and gas development, marine transportation, fisheries, infrastructure and research.

In the harsh conditions of Northern Alaska, small differences mark the line between life and death, success and failure. If we are impeded in our work to develop jobs and cash income for the benefit of our residents, if our goods transported by commercial shipping are delayed or deterred, if our resources cannot be developed, if our traditional and subsistence way of life is threatened, or if economic partners cease their work in Northern Alaska, our communities will suffer the health, social and economic consequences. This legislation charges the proposed commission with developing an Arctic policy and a strategy for its implementation. Because our organizations are a consistent presence in the Arctic, we will bear responsibility for ensuring the policy is implemented on the ground in the Arctic. Additionally,

we bear the brunt of the risks associated with increased activities in the Arctic. This is why it is important to include the perspectives of our organizations on this commission. Therefore, we respectfully request all of our organizations are offered a seat at the table.

Again, we sincerely thank you for all of the hard work you and your staff dedicate on behalf of our regions. We are thankful for such great representation in the Alaska Legislature.

Quyanaqpak, Taikuu,

ARCTIC SLOPE REGIONAL CORPORATION



Rex Rock, Sr.
President and CEO

NANA REGIONAL CORPORATION



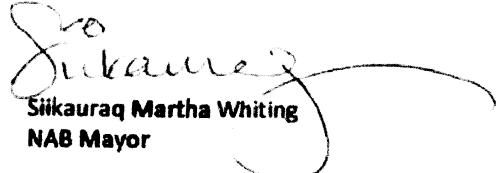
Marie Greene
President and CEO

NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH



Charlotte E. Brower
NSB Mayor

NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH



Siikauraq Martha Whiting
NAB Mayor