



CITY OF PETERSBURG
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March 17, 2011

To: Honorable Kyle Johansen, Alaska State Representative
Honorable Bill Stoltz, Alaska State Representative
Honorable Bill Thomas, Alaska State Representative
Honorable Peggy Wilson, Alaska State Representative

The City of Petersburg, Alaska, wholeheartedly supports the Alaska State Legislature's House Joint Resolution No. 20, "Urging the President of the United States, the United States Congress, and the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture not to implement protection of inventoried roadless areas under the "roadless rule" or otherwise restrict the development of necessary hydroelectric projects in the Tongass National Forest and the Chugach National Forest."

Petersburg's City Council strongly believes implementation of the Roadless Rule in Alaska's National Forests will adversely impact the permitting and construction of hydropower projects and interties, and has therefore drafted Resolution #1964, "A resolution urging Alaska Governor Parnell and Alaska's Federal Delegation to take whatever action is necessary to stop the implementation of the Roadless Rule on Alaska's National Forests." Please see the enclosed draft copy.

With the Obama administration's goal of having 25% of the energy generated in the United States come from renewable, "green", resources by 2025, and President Obama's pledge to encourage the development of renewable energy sources, implementation of the Roadless Rule on Alaska's National Forests does not make sense.

Sincerely,

Debra K. Thompson, Deputy City Clerk for Mayor Al Dwyer

Al Dwyer, Mayor

CITY OF PETERSBURG, ALASKA

RESOLUTION # 1964

A RESOLUTION URGING ALASKA GOVERNOR PARNELL AND ALASKA'S FEDERAL DELEGATION TO TAKE WHATEVER ACTION IS NECESSARY TO STOP THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ROADLESS RULE ON ALASKA'S NATIONAL FORESTS

WHEREAS, the 2010 Alaska Legislature passed an Energy Policy that set a goal of having 50% of the energy generated in Alaska come from renewable, "green", resources by 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Chugach and Tongass National Forests are, once again, being subjected to the implementation of the Roadless Rule; and

WHEREAS, US Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack announced that he alone has the sole authority to approve or disapprove permits for projects within the inventoried roadless areas of the Chugach and Tongass National Forests; and

WHEREAS, the inventoried roadless areas within the Chugach and Tongass National Forests make up the majority of remaining Forest Service lands outside of Wilderness or other areas already off limits to development; and

WHEREAS, a vast majority of potential hydroelectric projects that could be developed to supply renewable energy to Alaska's communities are located within inventoried roadless areas; and

WHEREAS, the inability to develop hydroelectric projects or the transmission lines necessary to transmit this power to Alaska's communities will result in continued diesel generation and resultant pollutants emitted into the environment; and

WHEREAS, the current version of the Roadless Rule will adversely impact the communities that reside within Alaska's National Forests and potential hydro-power and renewable energy projects in Southeast Alaska.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the City Council for the City of Petersburg, Alaska, strongly urges Alaska Governor Parnell and Alaska's Federal Delegation to take whatever action is necessary to stop the implementation of the Roadless Rule on Alaska's National Forests.

PASSED and **APPROVED** by the City Council of the City of Petersburg, Alaska on March 21, 2011.

Al Dwyer, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathy O'Rear, City Clerk