Lynne Smith

From:

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Sent:

Thursday, January 31, 2013 6:57 PM

To:

Sen. Peter Micciche

Subject:

Thank you!

Senator Micciche and TAPS Throughput Committee members,

I want to thank you for taking the time for public testimony, and I appreciate your leadership in reaching out to the public. In addition I would like to thank you for reminding the administration and your consultants that the public is watching and we do not understand terminology. I've been studying oil and gas for five years, and for the first time I will not need a translator this evening to rewatch the PFC presentation today. A huge difference from last session where I needed a tutor.

What I will tell you as someone who is with the public every week... the public blames "big oil" for their high energy costs, and they do not understand how complex our tax structure is, and they are tired of the rhetoric. One thing I hear every week is that we need "a gasline" and that will be our Hail Mary. These Alaskans do not fully understanding that natural gas will never replace oil as a high value revenue source. Your committee has a lot of work to do to find solutions to increasing oil production, and I hope the public will become more informed and engage.

Oil tax reform is a huge decision, and Alaskans from every pocket of this state should have a say. Please do not be discouraged by low public turnout this week. The committee made time to listen, and the public will remember, and they will appreciate the committee's effort.

Regards,

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