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November 12, 2015

Marc Stemp, Chairperson  
Yukon-Kuskokwim Economic Development Council  
101 A Main Street  
Bethel, AK 99559

Dear Mr. Stemp,

I am writing this letter in support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. I believe the work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy.

The ARDOR program was created in 1988, with the goal of supporting regional economic development organization's efforts to grow and strengthen their local economies. The 11 organizations that currently hold ARDOR status work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects across the state which have improved the local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

The Native Village of Napaimute is proud to support the ARDORs efforts to make Alaska a better place to live, work, and play. We believe that this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs at this time.

I hope that you will join us in supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars but an excellent resource for the state and private sector.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mark Leary  
Director of Development and Operations  
The Native Village of Napaimute

Cc: Napaimute Traditional Council