Good Morning Representative Thompson,

I would appreciate your support of HB 100. It is most important for the following reasons which I know you are aware of.

·         Jobs - with oil and gas prices low it’s only a matter of time before job losses mount in the oilfield.  It could be important to mention that Agrium’s “economic reach” goes well beyond Kenai and into many communities throughout the State.

·         Business - its not just about hiring people to do KNO work, it’s also about the cash infusion from doing it.  There are a large number of indirect jobs generated by a facility like KNO.

·         Cook Inlet - just a few years ago we were looking at importing natural gas to energize the rail-belt.  New exploration and production have saved us from that, but now it’s time to establish a steady market for explorers, and Agrium is steady market.  Absent a gas buyer like Agrium giving explorers a reason to invest, the rail-belt is going to wind up in the same situation it was in a few years ago.

·         State benefits - we want the state of Alaska seen as a good place to do business, and the state wants to add value to it’s natural resources.  It’s appropriate for the state to partner with companies like Agrium to attract private investment.

Respectfully,

Jay Goold

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