



Sponsor Statement

House Joint Resolution 6

In 1923, a large swath of land on Alaska’s North Slope was set aside by the federal government for the purpose of providing a potential supply of oil for the United States Navy. Later redesignated the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska (NPR-A), this 23.5-million-acre area has become a critical source of oil and gas production in Alaska and holds vast potential for future development.

On the horizon is one of the biggest Alaska oil development prospects in two decades, the Willow Project. The Willow Project, located in the Bear Tooth Unit of the NPR-A, would tap into reserves of an estimated 600 million barrels of oil, and at peak production, produce 180,000 barrels per day. Not only would this project be meaningful for private sector investment and growth in Alaska, it would:

- Generate billions of dollars in local, federal, and state government revenues
- Honor the years of consultation and stated wishes of the leadership and residents of the North Slope region
- Create thousands of direct and indirect jobs annually
- Increase throughput and extend the life of the Trans Alaska Pipeline System

On February 1st, 2023, after years of rigorous vetting and public process, the Willow Master Plan Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was released, allowing for a path for a final record of decision. In this final supplemental EIS, there is one viable alternative plan, Alternative E, which allows for three drill sites, and thus economic viability for the project.

The Willow Project has nearly unprecedented support from communities on the North Slope, Alaska Native leaders, labor unions, and stakeholders across the political spectrum. Additionally, Alaska’s entire United States Congressional delegation stands unanimously in support of the project.

With the goal of realizing the enormous benefits development of oil and gas in the NPR-A would bring to local communities, tribal governments, the state, and the nation, House Joint Resolution 6 urges the Department of the Interior to support the responsible development of resources in the NPR-A and issue a positive final record of decision for the Willow Project.