



Sponsor Statement

House Joint Resolution 34: National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska

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 that could provide thousands of jobs and billions of dollars of revenue for local communities, the state, and the nation.

The most recent Integrated Activity Plan for the NPR-A was finalized by the Department of Interior in 2020, following a multi-year planning process that included extensive input and consultation with the State of Alaska, the North Slope Borough, North Slope tribes, Alaska Native corporations, and impacted communities. That plan opened over 18 million acres of the Reserve to responsible oil and gas leasing that has the potential to

- Generate over \$4.75 billion in state, federal, and local government revenues
- Create over 3,600 direct and 2,750 indirect jobs annually
- Increase throughput and extend the life of the Trans Alaska Pipeline System
- Strengthen national security, bolster the US economy, and provide affordable energy to US customers

However, in January of this year, the Department of the Interior elected to revert to the 2013 NPR-A Integrated Activity Plan, which would remove nearly 7 million acres – or roughly 28 percent of the entire Reserve – from oil and gas leasing.

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 34 urges the Department of the Interior to maximize the area available for oil and gas leasing and development within the NPR-A while conserving and protecting valued fish, wildlife, subsistence, and cultural resources.