

## HB 124 Documents from AIDEA

Submitted to the House State Affairs Committee

### Stuart Relay

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**From:** Edra Lewis Morledge [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 20, 2026 1:33 PM  
**To:** Rep. Ashley Carrick; Rep. Andi Story; Rep. Rebecca Himschoot; Rep. Ky Holland; Rep. Sarah Vance; Rep. Kevin McCabe; Rep. Steve St. Clair  
**Cc:** House State Affairs; Cherie Bowman; Kaleigh Holm; Tammy Smith; Naresh Shrestha; Angela Stephl; Mark Lambert; Ayden Nichol; Timothy Treuer; Thatcher Brouwer  
**Subject:** (H)STA Committee - HB 124 Bill Hearing - AIDEA Back-up Documents  
**Attachments:** AIDEA S&P Global Ratings 12.23.25.pdf; AIDEA AA+ Bond Rating S&P 12.29.25.pdf; Resolution - AAP SAC 2.21.24.pdf; Resolution - Ambler Rd Proj SAC 12.06.23.pdf; PFM Memo 01.19.26.pdf; Resolution - Allakaket Village Council 1.2.24.pdf; Resolution - Hughes Ambler Access 3.21.24.pdf; Resolution - Native Village Kobuk 3.17.25.pdf; Resolution - Ruby 2024-05.pdf; Resolution - Native Village of Shungnak 5.14.24.pdf; Resolution - WFDWG & SAC 06.14.23.pdf; EO 14153 Unleashing Alaska's Resource Potential 01.20.25.pdf; Sen. Sullivan - OBBB 1-Page 08.05.25.pdf; Voice of the Arctic ANWR CRA Press Release 12.4.25.pdf; Resolution - WFDWG & SAC 12.7.23.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up

**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good afternoon,

Attached, please find back-up documents for HB 124 regarding AIDEA's operations and projects, as well as federal and local support for AIDEA's role in natural resource and economic development. I will be sending AIDEA's 2025 annual report separately, as it is a large file.

Thank you!

Edra Morledge  
(907) 723-2370



## PRESS RELEASE

AIDEA Office of Communications & External Affairs

907.771.3000

21-2025

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 29, 2025

### **AIDEA Earns AA+ Bond Rating from S&P, Highlighting Financial Strength and Alaska Commitment**

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — The Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA) has received an [AA+ bond rating from S&P Global Ratings](#), underscoring the agency's robust financial health.

The AA+ rating is the highest AIDEA has ever received. It places AIDEA among the top state-affiliated development banks nationwide, matching or exceeding the ratings of most peers. The new rating will foster a strong ability to finance job creation and economic growth across Alaska.

With the AA+ rating, AIDEA can leverage its financial resources more effectively, expanding support for impactful projects and key initiatives statewide. The rating also enables AIDEA to offer funds at lower costs and interest rates, benefiting Alaska businesses and communities. This milestone will help us further our mission to stimulate job creation, investment and sustainable economic opportunity for all Alaskans.

**AIDEA's Acting Board Chairman, Bill Kendig said** “AIDEA's AA+ bond rating from S&P is a milestone we're proud of. It reflects the exceptional work of Executive Director Randy Ruaro and his staff, and it affirms our disciplined financial management and strategic investments that strengthen Alaska's communities and businesses.”

“AIDEA has successfully built a strong financial foundation, delivering record returns over the past two years. This performance earned AIDEA a prestigious AA+ bond rating which is higher than the State of Alaska and equal to the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation,” **said Randy Ruaro, AIDEA's Executive Director.** “Strategic investments in major resource development projects, such as the Red Dog road and port, generate returns of 10% or more for AIDEA and substantial additional revenue for the state through dividends, taxes, and royalties. Combined returns to AIDEA and the state can reach or exceed 22%. Investments in resource development projects are essential for Alaska's financial stability and growth.”

#### **About AIDEA:**

The Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority is a public corporation of the State of Alaska. AIDEA's purpose is to promote, develop, and advance the general prosperity and economic welfare of the people of Alaska.

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[Alaska Industrial Development & Export Authority | S&P Global Ratings](#)

[S&P Global RatingsDirect Research Update for AIDEA](#)

## Research Update:

# Alaska Industrial Development & Export Authority Series 2026 A And B Bond Anticipation Notes Rated 'AA+'; Outlook Stable

December 23, 2025

## Overview

- S&P Global Ratings assigned its 'AA+' rating to [Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority](#) (AIDEA)'s \$25 million series 2026A revolving fund bond anticipation notes (BANs) and \$50 million series 2026B revolving fund BANs.
- The outlook is stable.

## Rationale

### Security

The BANs are revolving fund obligations as well as general obligations of the authority for which the full faith and credit of AIDEA's revolving fund and other legally permitted funds are pledged, although repayments from various AIDEA loans to underlying borrowers are the intended primary source of payments for the BANs. We rate the notes to the strength of available revolving fund resources as described in the 2025 amended and restated master trust agreement (MTA). AIDEA expects to permanently finance the BANs within the five-year window. AIDEA is issuing the 2026A BANs to reimburse projects that are already part of its loan and project portfolio. The 2026B BANs will provide interim financing for a power transmission interties project, with funds drawn flexibly over a three-year period.

### Credit highlights

Our rating primarily reflects the significant loss coverage cushion afforded by AIDEA's large level of excess pledged loan repayments and sizeable pledged reserves relative to debt service requirements.

AIDEA is a long-running quasi-governmental entity created by [Alaska](#) in 1967 to promote economic development in the state by providing financing and investment. It remains highly tied

### Primary Contact

**John Kennedy**  
Chicago  
1-312-233-7088  
john.kennedy  
@spglobal.com

### Secondary Contact

**Peter V Murphy**  
New York  
1-212-438-2065  
peter.murphy  
@spglobal.com

to the state government, with occasional direct state allocations for projects. It lends mainly to commercial enterprises and provides project finance, resulting in relatively high assumed defaults rates in our credit stress scenarios. Even so, limited debt service requirements mean the funds can currently absorb 100% assumed default rates while still making debt service payments from cash-like reserve accounts pledged to bondholders. We understand AIDEA's financing pipeline includes several larger projects (in the hundred-million-dollar range) for which it expects to issue additional debt under the MTA in the near-to-medium term. We expect that robust loss coverage capabilities will continue to support our highest financial profile assessment.

The 'AA+' rating reflects our assessment of the following characteristics:

- A strong market position, given that the program was created under state statute and receives occasional direct allocations from the state, in addition to the authority providing dividends back to the state;
- Robust overcollateralization, which is capable of withstanding S&P Global Ratings' loss coverage scenario, based on credit quality of the asset pool and consolidated cash flows, run at our 'AAA' category stress level;
- Healthy operating performance, with no defaults or delinquencies in the past 12 months; and
- Generally strong-to-adequate financial policies and practices, although some loan oversight responsibilities are delegated to originators.

## Outlook

The stable outlook reflects AIDEA's role as a well-established state program providing financing to commercial enterprises, along with the healthy coverage provided by pledged resources. We believe the strong loss coverage can help mitigate risks associated with lending to more volatile sectors than most similarly rated peers.

### Downside scenario

We could lower the rating if loss coverage substantially deteriorates, particularly if our view of operating performance weakens through occurrence of pledged loan defaults or delinquencies.

### Upside scenario

We do not believe a higher rating is likely at this time given the program plans to issue an undetermined but potentially material amount of additional debt in the next few years, as well as its portfolio of relatively high-risk loans compared with similarly rated long-term municipal pools.

## Credit Opinion

### Enterprise Risk Profile: Very Strong

Our enterprise risk profile assessment reflects the low industry risk profile for municipal pools and the programs' very strong market position. The authority was created in 1967, and the governor appoints its board members. There are also two ex-officio members: the commissioner of the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development; and the commissioner of the State Department of Revenue. The authority has several programs through which it carries out its economic development activities. It conducts most of its business through

its various programs in the revolving fund, the net income of which serves as the source of repayment on the bonds. We believe the effectiveness of its financing tools to promote economic development mitigates risk of statutory disruption or possible declining program demand over the long term.

## Financial Risk Profile: Extremely Strong

We assess the program's loss coverage score (LCS) as extremely strong based on our view of overcollateralization under our loss coverage stress test. The cash flow pattern can withstand the highest default stress and passes our largest obligor test with sufficient reserves. Revenue available to pay debt service primarily includes loan payments, project revenue, and income from investments. Under a no-default scenario with a permanent financing for the BANs, total revenue is projected to cover annual debt service by at least 6.87x each year. There are also significant cash and investments on hand available to cover any excessive defaults or delinquencies. At the end of each fiscal year, the authority routinely pays a dividend to the State of Alaska. It makes the payment two years in arrears, so its \$17.0 million dividend from AIDEA's fiscal 2025 is approved for payment to the state in fiscal 2027. The MTA restricts transfers if projected asset coverage is less than 1.5x, and there is a parity additional bonds test of 1.2x. Pledged assets include equity-like holdings in certain projects, although we exclude projected returns in our loss coverage projections.

The pledged loan pool had no defaults or delinquencies in fiscal 2025. Loan nonperformance has so far been rare despite lending to commercial enterprises in somewhat volatile sectors such as tourism and energy production. AIDEA's loan portfolio consists of 245 loans across various programs, the majority of which are participation loans. In the loan participation program (LPP), AIDEA works through an originating and servicing lender that maintains at least 10% loan retention. Underlying borrowers must also contribute at least 25% equity to the approved projects.

We view financial policies and practices as ranging from strong to adequate. This assessment is based on the following factors:

- Each new transaction is reviewed by program staff against specific underwriting criteria, and borrowers are required to submit three years of audits and other disclosure information. However, in rare instances, the board may exercise discretion over loan applications.
- Staff collects and reviews post-funding reporting including covenant compliance. For loans in the LPP, the loan originator or servicer is the primary monitoring organization for the obligation.
- Loan agreements provide lockbox-style revenue collection, and all loans include a suite of remedies. AIDEA typically works through the loan servicer but can use modifications, waivers, or collateral enforcement in the event of loan defaults.
- Management prioritizes loans based on its statutory mission and has frequent meetings to review a project pipeline in a process that includes credit and eligibility considerations.
- A formal investment policy covers both internal funds (invested to preserve principal and ensure liquidity) and external funds (invested to achieve returns within relatively conservative risk parameters).

## Credit Snapshot

- Program description: AIDEA was created in 1967 to serve as a development finance authority, with a mission to provide access to financing for Alaska commercial enterprises and development projects. The revolving fund bond program encompasses many funds and accounts that facilitate financing or investment. The largest sub-program is the LPP.
- Flow of funds: The MTA organizes pledged and nonpledged accounts across a bond fund and revolving fund, which are cross-collateralized. The MTA coverage covenants include the transfer restriction and additional bond test described above.
- Summary statistics: The pledged pool includes 245 loans extended to 207 borrowers. We include approximately \$413 million in internal funds reserves (pro forma after planned funded loans) as available to absorb defaults and pay debt service, if necessary. Following this transaction, the \$75 million in BANs will be the only parity debt currently outstanding under the MTA.

## Ratings List

### New Issue Ratings

US\$25,000,000 Alaska Industrial Development And Export Authority, Alaska, Revolving Fund Revenue BAN, Series 2026, dated: January 15, 2026, due: May 31, 2031

Long Term Rating	AA+/Stable
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### New Rating

### Water & Sewer

Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority, AK State Revolving Fund	AA+/Stable
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The ratings appearing below the new issues represent an aggregation of debt issues (ASID) associated with related maturities. The maturities similarly reflect our opinion about the creditworthiness of the U.S. Public Finance obligor's legal pledge for payment of the financial obligation. Nevertheless, these maturities may have different credit ratings than the rating presented next to the ASID depending on whether or not additional legal pledge(s) support the specific maturity's payment obligation, such as credit enhancement, as a result of defeasance, or other factors.

Certain terms used in this report, particularly certain adjectives used to express our view on rating relevant factors, have specific meanings ascribed to them in our criteria, and should therefore be read in conjunction with such criteria. Please see Ratings Criteria at <https://disclosure.spglobal.com/ratings/en/regulatory/ratings-criteria> for further information. A description of each of S&P Global Ratings' rating categories is contained in "S&P Global Ratings Definitions" at <https://disclosure.spglobal.com/ratings/en/regulatory/article/-/view/sourceId/504352>. Complete ratings information is available to RatingsDirect subscribers at [www.capitaliq.com](http://www.capitaliq.com). All ratings referenced herein can be found on S&P Global Ratings' public website at [www.spglobal.com/ratings](http://www.spglobal.com/ratings).

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## Memorandum

**To:** Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority  
Randy Ruaro, *Executive Director*  
Mark Davis, *Special Counsel*  
Kent Sullivan, *General Counsel*  
Geoff Johns, *Chief Investment Officer*

**From:** Thomas Toepfer, *Managing Director*, PFM Financial Advisors LLC  
Jessican Cameron Mitchell, *Managing Director*, PFM Financial Advisors LLC  
Matt Schnackenberg, *Managing Director*, PFM Financial Advisors LLC  
Matt Schoenfeld, *Senior Managing Consultant*, PFM Financial Advisors LLC

**Date:** January 19, 2026

**Re:** Financial and Credit Rating Considerations of HB 124

**pfm**

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107 Spring Street  
Seattle, WA 98104

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pfm.com

### Background

The Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA) is a public corporation of the state of Alaska and exists as a separate and independent political subdivision within the Department of Commerce (AS 44.88.020).

AIDEA's statutory mission is to **create economic development and jobs**, to fight unemployment which the legislature found to be a "serious menace to the health, safety, and general welfare" of Alaskans in areas of high unemployment and the entire state. AIDEA pursues this mission through its Loan Participation Program and the Direct Finance Program, along with a number of other financial tools (AS 44.88.080).

AIDEA does not receive operating appropriations from the state. Instead, it manages a self-sustaining revolving fund that finances high-impact economic development projects, collects loan repayments, recycles those funds into new loans, and provides an annual dividend to the state. Since its inception, AIDEA has paid more than half a billion dollars in dividends to the state. AIDEA currently holds a AA+ credit rating from S&P Global Ratings - stronger than the state's own rating - and leverages this strength to secure low-cost capital that supports economic development across the state.

The proposed bill HB 124 would jeopardize (1) AIDEA's ability to provide strong annual dividends to the state, (2) its capacity to deliver high-impact economic development projects—ultimately reducing job opportunities for Alaskans, and (3) its strong credit rating.

### AIDEA Dividend Statute and Rules Based Payments to the Treasury

For 30 years, the Alaska Legislature has followed a tradition of a rules-based system for payments from AIDEA to the state treasury in the form of a dividend formula.



In 1996, the legislature passed Senate CS for CS for HB 526 (FIN) AM S. **The bill established the AIDEA dividend statute in law.** Per AS 44.88.080 AIDEA pays an annual dividend to the Treasury of at least 25% but not more than 50% of unrestricted net income. The legislature has control over how the dividend funds are used through the appropriations process.

The legislature intended this rules-based system to provide the Board of AIDEA with some authority to set a dividend amount between the “goal posts” of 25% and 50% net income, while insulating AIDEA from ad hoc draws above and beyond the dividend amount declared by the Board.

Section 1 of HB 526 entitled “FINDINGS, POLICY, and INTENT” sets out a legislative finding that (emphasis added):

“It is the policy and intent of the legislature that the financial integrity of the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority remain secure so the authority can continue to fulfill its vital economic development mission for the state. The legislature finds that this Act fulfills this intent.”

Consistently, following a rules-based system for fund transfers from AIDEA to the Treasury is a basic best practice for the Legislature to follow and is required to provide the financial stability AIDEA needs to invest, survive, and grow over time.

### **Proposed HB 124 – Introduces Significant Credit Risk and Limits AIDEA’s Ability to Deliver High-Impact Economic Development Projects**

HB 124 attempts to limit the value of AIDEA’s funds and accounts to not exceed \$500 million. It reaches beyond the dividend payment formula stating that “..the amount of unexpended and unobligated money required to reduce the aggregate value of all funds and accounts in the authority to \$500,000,000 lapses into the general fund.” The language not only equates to a one time significant appropriation from AIDEA’s revolving fund to the State’s general fund, it creates ongoing credit risk of additional annual appropriation well in excess of the dividend formula prescribed in HB 526. Additionally, HB 124 requires legislative approval for AIDEA investments over \$10 million. The proposed legislation presents a significant risk to AIDEA’s ability to conduct its business, to its credit rating and to its ability to leverage its cash flows to borrow and invest in impactful, job creating economic development projects. HB 124 Section 8 undermines AS 44.88.080 and the Legislature’s intent of financial integrity described above.

#### *Impact on AIDEA Credit Rating and Borrowing Cost*

In December 2025, **AIDEA received a “AA+” credit rating from S&P Global Ratings, one notch above the States rating of “AA”.** S&P cited AIDEA’s strong market position and the economic development agency of the state, **resulting in consistent dividend payments back to the State, robust collateralization of existing loans, healthy operating performance, and strong-to-adequate financial policies and practices.**<sup>1</sup> The strength of this rating enables AIDEA

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<sup>1</sup> S&P Global Ratings, “Alaska Industrial Development & Export Authority Series 2026 A And B Bond Anticipation Notes Rated ‘AA+; Outlook Stable, December 23, 2025’



to borrow at very low interest rates, supporting investments that generate tax revenue and create jobs across the state.

Capping AIDEA's funds as proposed in HB 124 would set a precedent that assets in the revolving fund can be diverted during any legislative session, creating significant uncertainty for the fund and its bond investors. This instability would weaken AIDEA's credit rating, increasing borrowing costs and placing additional strain on its financial resources. As a reminder, after the legislature appropriated a \$2 million draw from AIDEA's revolving fund in 2019, Moody's Ratings reacted severely, downgrading AIDEA's credit rating by two notches from Aa3 to A2. The rating agency voiced concern that the state could divert funds or "push funding burden" onto AIDEA. **Moody's stated that factors that could lead to further downgrades was if the state would force AIDEA "to absorb financial burdens".**

In the current market, we estimate that a two notch downgrade from S&P's AA+ to AA- increases interest rates for AIDEA by approximately 0.20% on average (10 bps per notch downgrade). Diverting additional funds from AIDEA could further impact AIDEA credit rating and its future cost of borrowing.

Rating agencies evaluate AIDEA's creditworthiness, and banks and investors conduct their own independent credit reviews and assessments as well. As stated in PFM's memo supporting the initial legislation for AS 44.88.080, "any removal of revenues from AIDEA degrades the security of future payments to bondholders".<sup>2</sup> Ad hoc draws (on reserves) or redirecting AIDEA revenues (beyond the dividend payments) will significantly weaken AIDEA financial integrity and hurt its ability to access the debt capital markets including direct bank lending.

#### *Impact on Revolving Loan Capacity*

Diverting funds from AIDEA to pay for state government services impacts AIDEA's stability and is damaging for future AIDEA operations. For instance, AIDEA provides loans as economic drivers for job creation in Alaska, and the interest earned, and principal repaid on these loans can be reinvested in additional loans (revolving loan pool). We calculate that an initial \$1 million 20-Year loan from AIDEA<sup>3</sup> with reinvestment of interest earnings and amortizing principal into new loans, would generate \$3.2 million of additional loans and \$2.0 million of interest income of which about \$505,000<sup>4</sup> would be remitted to the State in the form of dividends over 20 years. In simple terms, for every \$1 million of funds, AIDEA can make over \$4.2 million of loans in a 20-year timeframe. Diverting \$1 million from AIDEA today will reduce AIDEA reach, job creation and economic impact as well as future dividends to the State which only compounds with time.

#### *Impact on Direct Investments and Partnerships*

Ensuring AIDEA funds are not diverted is critical for AIDEA to advance its mission of jobs and economic development. AIDEA often partners with project proponents or investors on projects that require substantial investments or guarantees. Currently, AIDEA has hundreds of millions of dollars of projects in its pipeline including the Ambler Access Road and the West Susitna Access

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<sup>2</sup> See PFM's 1996 memo attached.

<sup>3</sup> Assumed interest rate of 6.63%

<sup>4</sup> Assumes 25% of interest earned is remitted as dividend to the State



Road. AIDEA must be able to maintain certainty of its reserves to be able to make these types of substantial investments. If AIDEA's funds are diverted through HB 124 it will limit the investments AIDEA can make and impact the trust and creditworthiness AIDEA has with its partnerships with investors, banks, and others.

Moreover, HB 124's proposed requirement for legislative approval of investments over \$10 million would (A) lengthen the timeline needed to execute investments and advance projects – potentially increasing project costs in an environment of rising material and labor expenses, and (B) reduce developers' willingness to partner with AIDEA on new investment opportunities.

### **Summary**

HB 124 and the diversion of funds from AIDEA outside the dividend formula will result in significant negative financial consequences, including potential negative credit rating impacts and higher cost of borrowing, reduced lending capacity, a reduction of future dividend payments to the state, and limit AIDEA's ability to make major infrastructure investments either in terms of direct investments or in partnerships.

## Presidential Documents

### Executive Order 14153 of January 20, 2025

### Unleashing Alaska's Extraordinary Resource Potential

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered:

**Section 1. Background.** The State of Alaska holds an abundant and largely untapped supply of natural resources including, among others, energy, mineral, timber, and seafood. Unlocking this bounty of natural wealth will raise the prosperity of our citizens while helping to enhance our Nation's economic and national security for generations to come. By developing these resources to the fullest extent possible, we can help deliver price relief for Americans, create high-quality jobs for our citizens, ameliorate our trade imbalances, augment the Nation's exercise of global energy dominance, and guard against foreign powers weaponizing energy supplies in theaters of geopolitical conflict.

Unleashing this opportunity, however, requires an immediate end to the assault on Alaska's sovereignty and its ability to responsibly develop these resources for the benefit of the Nation. It is, therefore, imperative to immediately reverse the punitive restrictions implemented by the previous administration that specifically target resource development on both State and Federal lands in Alaska.

**Sec. 2. Policy.** It is the policy of the United States to:

- (a) fully avail itself of Alaska's vast lands and resources for the benefit of the Nation and the American citizens who call Alaska home;
- (b) efficiently and effectively maximize the development and production of the natural resources located on both Federal and State lands within Alaska;
- (c) expedite the permitting and leasing of energy and natural resource projects in Alaska; and
- (d) prioritize the development of Alaska's liquified natural gas (LNG) potential, including the sale and transportation of Alaskan LNG to other regions of the United States and allied nations within the Pacific region.

**Sec. 3. Specific Agency Actions.** (a) The heads of all executive departments and agencies, including but not limited to the Secretary of the Interior; the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere; and the Secretary of the Army acting through the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Public Works, shall exercise all lawful authority and discretion available to them and take all necessary steps to:

- (i) rescind, revoke, revise, amend, defer, or grant exemptions from any and all regulations, orders, guidance documents, policies, and any other similar agency actions that are inconsistent with the policy set forth in section 2 of this order, including but not limited to agency actions promulgated, issued, or adopted between January 20, 2021, and January 20, 2025; and
- (ii) prioritize the development of Alaska's LNG potential, including the permitting of all necessary pipeline and export infrastructure related to the Alaska LNG Project, giving due consideration to the economic and national security benefits associated with such development.

(b) In addition to the actions outlined in subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary of the Interior shall exercise all lawful authority and discretion available to him and take all necessary steps to:

(i) withdraw Secretarial Order 3401 dated June 1, 2021 (Comprehensive Analysis and Temporary Halt on All Activities in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Relating to the Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program);

(ii) rescind the cancellation of any leases within the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, other than such lease cancellations as the Secretary of the Interior determines are consistent with the policy interests described in section 2 of this order, initiate additional leasing through the Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program, and issue all permits, right-of-way permits, and easements necessary for the exploration, development, and production of oil and gas from leases within the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge;

(iii) rescind the final supplemental environmental impact statement entitled “Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement,” which is referred to in “Notice of Availability of the Final Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, Alaska” 89 *Fed. Reg.* 88805 (November 8, 2024);

(iv) place a temporary moratorium on all activities and privileges granted to any party pursuant to the record of decision signed on December 8, 2024, entitled “Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program Record of Decision,” which is referred to in “Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision for the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program, Alaska,” 89 *Fed. Reg.* 101042 (December 13, 2024), in order to review such record of decision in light of alleged legal deficiencies and for consideration of relevant public interests, and, as appropriate, conduct a new, comprehensive analysis of such deficiencies, interests, and environmental impacts;

(v) reinstate the final environmental impact statement entitled “Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program,” which is referred to in “Notice of Availability,” 84 *Fed. Reg.* 50472 (September 25, 2019);

(vi) reinstate the record of decision signed on August 21, 2020, entitled “Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program Record of Decision,” which is referred to in “Notice of 2021 Coastal Plain Alaska Oil and Gas Lease Sale and Notice of Availability of the Detailed Statement of Sale,” 85 *Fed. Reg.* 78865 (December 7, 2020);

(vii) evaluate changes to, including the potential rescission of, Public Land Order 5150, signed by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior on December 28, 1971, and any subsequent amendments, modifications, or corrections to it;

(viii) place a temporary moratorium on all activities and privileges granted to any party pursuant to the record of decision signed on June 27, 2024, entitled “Ambler Road Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement Record of Decision,” which is referred to in “Notice of Availability of the Ambler Road Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, Alaska,” 89 *Fed. Reg.* 32458 (April 26, 2024), in order to review such record of decision in light of alleged legal deficiencies and for consideration of relevant public interests and, as appropriate, conduct a new, comprehensive analysis of such deficiencies, interests, and environmental impacts; and reinstate the record of decision signed on July 23, 2020, by the Bureau of Land Management and United States Army Corps of Engineers entitled “Ambler Road Environmental Impact Statement Joint Record of Decision,” which is referred to in “Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision for the Ambler Mining District Industrial Access Road Environmental Impact Statement,” 85 *Fed. Reg.* 45440 (July 28, 2020);

- (ix) rescind the Bureau of Land Management final rule entitled “Management and Protection of the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska,” 89 *Fed. Reg.* 38712 (May 7, 2024);
- (x) rescind any guidance issued by the Bureau of Land Management related to implementation of protection of subsistence resource values in the existing special areas and proposed new and modified special areas in the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska, as published on their website on January 16, 2025;
- (xi) facilitate the expedited development of a road corridor between the community of King Cove and the all-weather airport located in Cold Bay;
- (xii) place a temporary moratorium on all activities and privileges granted to any party pursuant to the record of decision signed on April 25, 2022, entitled “National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska Integrated Activity Plan Record of Decision,” (NEPA No. DOI-BLM-AK-R000-2019-0001-EIS), in order to review such record of decision in light of alleged legal deficiencies and for consideration of relevant public interests and, as appropriate, conduct a new, comprehensive analysis of such deficiencies, interests, and environmental impacts;
- (xiii) rescind the Bureau of Land Management final rule entitled “Management and Protection of the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska,” 89 *Fed. Reg.* 38712 (May 7, 2024), and rescind the Bureau of Land Management notice entitled “Special Areas Within the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska,” 89 *Fed. Reg.* 58181 (July 17, 2024);
- (xiv) reinstate Secretarial Order 3352 dated May 17, 2017 (National Petroleum Reserve—Alaska), which is referred to in “Final Report: Review of the Department of the Interior Actions that Potentially Burden Domestic Energy,” 82 *Fed. Reg.* 50532 (November 1, 2017), and the record of decision signed on December 31, 2020, entitled “National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska Integrated Activity Plan Record of Decision,” which is referred to in “Notice of Availability of the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska Integrated Activity Plan Final Environmental Impact Statement,” 85 *Fed. Reg.* 38388 (June 26, 2020);
- (xv) reinstate the following Public Land Orders in their original form:
  - a. Public Land Order No. 7899, signed by the Secretary of the Interior on January 11, 2021;
  - b. Public Land Order No. 7900, signed by the Secretary of the Interior on January 16, 2021;
  - c. Public Land Order No. 7901, signed by the Secretary of the Interior on January 16, 2021;
  - d. Public Land Order No. 7902, signed by the Secretary of the Interior on January 15, 2021;
  - e. Public Land Order No. 7903, signed by the Secretary of the Interior on January 16, 2021; and
  - f. any other such Public Land Order that the Secretary of the Interior determines would further the policy interests described in section 2 of this order.
- (xvi) immediately review all Department of the Interior guidance regarding the taking of Alaska Native lands into trust and all Public Land Orders withdrawing lands for selection by Alaska Native Corporations to determine if any such agency action should be revoked to ensure the Department of the Interior’s actions are consistent with the Alaska Statehood Act of 1958 (Public Law 85-508), the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) (16 U.S.C. 3101 *et seq.*), the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 (43 U.S.C. 1601, *et seq.*), the Alaska Land Transfer Acceleration Act (Public Law 108-452), and the Alaska Native Vietnam-

era Veterans Land Allotment Program under section 1629g–1 of title 43, United States Code.

(xvii) rescind the record of decision “Central Yukon Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan,” signed on November 12, 2024, which is referred to in “Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan for the Central Yukon Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement, Alaska,” 89 *Fed. Reg.* 92716 (November 22, 2024);

(xviii) reimplement the draft resource management plan and environmental impact statement referenced in the National Park Service notice entitled “Notice of Availability for the Central Yukon Draft Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement, Alaska,” 85 *Fed. Reg.* 80143 (December 11, 2020);

(xix) rescind the National Park Service final rule entitled “Alaska; Hunting and Trapping in National Preserves,” 89 *Fed. Reg.* 55059 (July 3, 2024), and reinstate the National Park Service final rule entitled “Alaska; Hunting and Trapping in National Preserves,” 85 *Fed. Reg.* 35181 (June 9, 2020), in its original form;

(xx) deny the pending request to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to establish indigenous sacred site in the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge;

(xxi) immediately conduct a review of waterways in the State of Alaska and direct the Bureau of Land Management, in consultation with the State of Alaska, to provide recommendations of navigable waterways subject to the equal footing doctrine and the Submerged Lands Act of 1953, as amended, 43 U.S.C. 1301 *et seq.*, and prepare Recordable Disclaimers of Interest pursuant to section 315 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1745, to restore ownership of said waterways to the State as appropriate;

(xxii) direct all bureaus of the Department of the Interior to consider the Alaskan cultural significance of hunting and fishing and the statutory priority of subsistence management required by the ANILCA, to conduct meaningful consultation with the State fish and wildlife management agencies prior to enacting land management plans or other regulations that affect the ability of Alaskans to hunt and fish on public lands, and to ensure to the greatest extent possible that hunting and fishing opportunities on Federal lands are consistent with similar opportunities on State lands; and

(xxiii) identify and assess, in collaboration with the Secretary of Defense, the authorities and public and private resources necessary to immediately achieve the development and export of energy resources from Alaska—including but not limited to the long-term viability of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System and the associated Federal right-of-way as an energy corridor of critical national importance—to advance the Nation’s domestic and regional energy dominance, and submit that assessment to the President.

(c) In addition to the actions outlined in subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary of Agriculture shall place a temporary moratorium on all activities and privileges authorized by the final rule and record of decision entitled “Special Areas; Roadless Area Conservation; National Forest System Lands in Alaska,” 88 *Fed. Reg.* 5252 (January 27, 2023), in order to review such rule and record of decision in light of alleged legal deficiencies and for consideration of relevant public interests and, as appropriate, conduct a new, comprehensive analysis of such deficiencies, interests, and environmental impacts. Further, the Secretary of Agriculture shall reinstate the final rule entitled “Special Areas; Roadless Area Conservation; National Forest System Lands in Alaska,” 85 *Fed. Reg.* 68688 (October 29, 2020).

(d) In addition to the actions outlined in subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Assistant Secretary of the

Army for Civil Works, shall render all assistance requested by the Governor of Alaska to facilitate the clearing and maintenance of transportation infrastructure, consistent with applicable law. All such requests for assistance shall be transmitted to the Secretary of Defense, Secretary of the Interior, and Assistant to the President for Economic Policy for approval prior to initiation.

(e) The Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, under the direction of the Secretary of the Army, shall immediately review, revise, or rescind any agency action that may in any way hinder, slow or otherwise delay any critical project in the State of Alaska.

(f) The Secretary of Commerce, in coordination with the Secretary of the Interior, shall immediately review, revise or rescind any agency action that may in any way hinder, slow or otherwise delay any critical project in the State of Alaska.

**Sec. 4. General Provisions.** (a) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:

(i) the authority granted by law to an executive department or agency, or the head thereof; or

(ii) the functions of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.

(b) This order shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(c) This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.



THE WHITE HOUSE,  
*January 20, 2025.*



## The One Big Beautiful Bill



### Growing Alaska's Economy & Good-Paying Jobs



From my time serving as Alaska's Commissioner of Natural Resources to now serving as Alaska's U.S. Senator, I have always focused on unleashing Alaska's vast resource wealth to create sustainable, private sector economic growth and good-paying jobs. The OBBB renews the historic leasing program in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) Coastal Plain that we secured in the 2017 Tax Cuts & Jobs Act and expands leasing opportunities in the National Petroleum Reserve of Alaska (NPR-A) and Cook Inlet. The OBBB also dramatically increases the State of Alaska's share of revenues from federal leases. Finally, the OBBB restores practical permitting timelines to promote economic growth, create good-paying jobs, and strengthen the nation's energy security. Specifically, the OBBB:

- Mandates **4 lease sales** in ANWR in 10 years, minimum of 1.6 million acres. (State share increases from 50 to 70% after 2034).
- Mandates **5 lease sales** in NPR-A in 10 years, minimum of 20 million acres. (State share increases from 50 to 70% after 2034).
- Mandates **6 lease sales** in Cook Inlet in 10 years, minimum of 6 million acres. (State share increases from 27 to 70% after 2034).
- Streamlines NEPA regulatory process with new fee-base system.

Regarding other key resource sectors in Alaska, the OBBB also:

- Mandates **40 long-term timber harvest contracts** on public lands, likely including the Tongass National Forest in Southeast.
- Provides **\$5 billion** to grow America's critical minerals supply chains, including Alaska mining.
- Establishes a new **Energy Dominance Financing Program** that can be utilized to continue advancing the **Alaska LNG Project**.

### Building Up Our Alaska-based Military



As a retired Marine Corps Colonel and the Chairman of the Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee of the Senate Armed Services Committee, taking care of our troops, building up our Alaska-based military, and advancing a policy of "Peace Through Strength" have always been three of my highest priorities. The OBBB makes a historic investment in our military, including:

- **\$9 billion** for service member housing, child and health care.
- **\$9 billion** for air superiority, benefitting Eielson Air Force Base and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER).
- **\$25 billion** for a down payment on the new Golden Dome missile defense system, with **\$1.975 billion** for improved radars and **\$800 million** for next-generation interceptors—much of which will come to Alaska, the cornerstone of America's missile defense system.
- **\$115 million** to revitalize Arctic infrastructure, like the Naval Air Station at Adak in the Aleutians.
- **\$12 billion** for the Pacific Deterrence Initiative.
- **\$29 billion** for U.S. Navy shipbuilding.

Transformative legislation for Alaska's future

Sen. Sullivan's full letter to Alaskans on the OBBB:



### Delivering Tax Relief for Families & Small Businesses



As Alaska's U.S. Senator, I have always fought to ensure hard-working Alaskans are able to keep more of their paycheck, young families have the support they need to raise the next generation, and our small businesses are able to grow and hire more workers. Building on the tax relief in the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA), the OBBB:

- Avoids a **\$4.5 trillion** tax hike on all Americans (an increase of **\$2,380** on every Alaskan, and a 25% hike on 58,000+ businesses).
- Saves a family of four **\$7,600 - \$10,900** per year.
- Preserves a **doubled standard deduction**, indexed to inflation.
- Eliminates taxes on tips and overtime.
- Expands tax relief for small business—99% of Alaska businesses.
- Permanently boosts the **Child Tax Credit** to \$2,200.
- Enhances and improves the **Child & Dependent Care Tax Credit** and the **Employer Child Care Credit**.
- Increases **Dependent Flexible Spending Accounts** by \$2,500.
- Solidifies tax credits for **affordable housing, opportunity zones, and new markets**; and adds tax credit emphasis on economically disadvantaged and rural communities.
- Offers **charitable deductions** for those taking standard deduction.



### Strengthening Alaska's Health Care System



I've fought for years to increase **Alaska's Medicaid Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP)** to better reflect our high cost of living and health care delivery. My FMAP provision, valued at \$200 million in additional annual federal Medicaid dollars for Alaska, was initially included in the OBBB with White House and Senate Republican support. However, Sen. Chuck Schumer and Senate Democrats challenged my provision under the rules of budget reconciliation and successfully stripped it out. In response to this deliberate sabotage by Senate Democrats, my team and I quickly pivoted. We successfully negotiated a doubling of the OBBB's **Rural Health Transformation Fund to \$50 billion**. Between the fund's two formulas, Alaska is expected to receive approximately **\$280 million annually for 5 years** to help modernize our health care system, stabilize rural providers, improve patient outcomes, and reduce the state's Medicaid backlog.

Finally, the OBBB institutes a commonsense, **20-hour-per-week work, volunteer or study requirement** for able-bodied individuals utilizing Medicaid to ensure they are contributing to our communities. At the same time, the bill includes numerous exemptions from these work requirements, including: parents or guardians of children 14 and under, seniors, Alaska Native people, caregivers for incapacitated individuals, individuals who are medically frail or dealing with a substance use disorder, pregnant women, and individuals living in areas of high unemployment. The OBBB also grants states like Alaska with flexibility and a delayed deadline to ease the implementation of these new requirements.



## Making the Largest Investment in U.S. Coast Guard History

As Chairman of the Commerce Subcommittee in charge of the Coast Guard, I've fought to ensure that our Coast Guardsmen have the resources and infrastructure they need to fulfill their many critical missions and protect Alaska's coastal communities, especially in light of escalating Russian and Chinese incursions, including joint operations, near Alaska's airspace and waters. The OBBB provides a historic **\$25 billion** investment in the U.S. Coast Guard that includes:

- **16 new icebreakers**, 3 of which will be Polar Security Cutters (heavy).
- **22 new cutters**, including offshore patrol and fast response cutters.
- **40+ new helicopters**, 6 new C-130J aircraft.
- **\$4.379 billion** to repair and replace shoreside facilities and aging infrastructure, benefitting Alaska's coastal communities.
- **\$300 million** for homeporting of Juneau icebreaker, *USCGC Storis*.



## Securing the Border & Fighting the Flow of Deadly Fentanyl

Our southern border was, until very recently, in a state of chaos, a result of the Biden administration's open border policies. President Biden allowed about 11 million illegal immigrants to enter the U.S. I have long highlighted the deadly impacts of this crisis on urban and rural parts of Alaska, which has seen the highest increase in the rate of drug overdose deaths of any state in the country. Since taking office, President Trump has brought illegal border crossings down by 99%. To support the President's efforts, the OBBB allocates:

- **\$46 billion** for a southern border wall.
- **\$48 billion** in additional law enforcement funding.
- **\$8 billion** for Border Patrol vehicles; **\$6 billion** for new technology.



## Upgrading Alaska's Aviation Safety System

Alaska faces an aviation accident rate that is 2.35 times higher than the national average. The OBBB delivers major, long-overdue investments to address these challenges head-on, building on a broader federal aviation safety overhaul announced by President Trump and Secretary of Transportation Sean Duffy in 2025, which included the addition of 174 new weather stations specifically for Alaska. The OBBB makes a **\$12.5 billion** investment in a nationwide Air Traffic Control overhaul, including:

- **\$80 million** for 50+ Automated Weather Observing Systems (AWOS), 60+ Visual Weather Observing Systems (VWOS), 64+ weather camera sites.
- **\$40 million** for the FAA Alaska Aviation Safety Initiative (FAASI).



## Achieving Historic Savings for Our Children's Future

Last year, we paid out more in interest on our nation's **\$36 trillion** debt—upwards of **\$950 billion**—than we did to fund our military, about **\$870 billion**. This **\$950 billion** did not go to building bridges, roads, ports, or sewer projects in Alaska. This money went to bond holders, many of whom live in Asia, not America. The OBBB represents one of the largest spending reductions in history—**\$1.2 trillion**, and will reduce the deficit by **\$360 billion over ten years**, according to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office. Importantly, this bill accomplishes these savings principally by unleashing private sector growth, eliminating waste, fraud, and abuse, but not by cutting essential services.



## Protecting Alaska's Most Vulnerable Communities

My team and I worked hard to ensure the OBBB protects Alaska's most vulnerable communities, especially our seniors, Alaskans with disabilities, and those struggling to make ends meet. Among other provisions, the OBBB:

- Provides seniors with a **\$12,000 tax deduction** per couple.
- Includes a **2.5% "doc fix"** to strengthen Medicare access.
- Repeals Biden-era nursing home staffing mandates that threatened Alaska's long-term care facilities.
- Maintains 100% federal Medicaid coverage for Alaska Native people and exempts them from work requirements.
- Permanently extends the tax-free savings provisions for **Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) accounts** for individuals with disabilities, and expands home- and community-based services.
- Expands **telehealth access** by allowing copays to be covered outside of overall health insurance deductibles.

The OBBB also includes measures to ensure states are properly administering the **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)** and that benefits are reaching those who need them most. States that have high SNAP "error rates," like Alaska, are granted additional time and flexibility to come into compliance with new requirements and modernize their programs. Finally, as with Medicaid, the OBBB institutes commonsense work or volunteer requirements for SNAP, but also includes numerous exemptions.

## Just the Facts

Answering false claims made about the OBBB.

 **CLAIM:** The OBBB cuts Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security.

 **TRUTH:** The OBBB makes no changes to Medicare or Social Security. The major Medicaid reforms in the bill limit states' use of provider taxes and state-directed payments—a scheme to get enhanced federal Medicaid payments. Alaska is the only state that has never used provider taxes or state-directed payments, and is therefore not impacted by these reforms. The federal matching rates and funding formulas for Alaska's Medicaid remain consistent under the OBBB. In fact, because of the Rural Health Transformation Fund, Alaska will net hundreds of millions more dollars to support its Medicaid program than without the OBBB. It's also important to note, Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer tried to strip out nearly every provision beneficial for Alaska under the rules of budget reconciliation—including my FMAP provision to dramatically increase federal Medicaid dollars for Alaska. Therefore, it is simply a fact that the only people trying to cut Medicaid funding for Alaska throughout the OBBB process were Senator Schumer and Senate Democrats.

 **CLAIM:** The OBBB is a big tax cut for the wealthiest Americans.

 **TRUTH:** Millionaires and billionaires will pay the exact same marginal tax rate after enactment of the OBBB as they did before.

 **CLAIM:** The Medicaid/SNAP work requirements equal benefit cuts.

 **TRUTH:** If a young, able-bodied, childless adult chooses not to work, volunteer or study for 20 hours per week in order to be eligible for Medicaid or SNAP, that is their choice, but it is not a "cut." Likewise, if an Alaskan gets a good-paying job with private health coverage and graduates from Medicaid, that is also not a cut. Rather, that should be our collective goal as Alaskans.



**\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\***

December 4, 2025

Contact: [voiceoftheartic@marathonstrategies.com](mailto:voiceoftheartic@marathonstrategies.com)

### **North Slope Iñupiaq Leaders Support Congressional Joint Resolutions Nullifying the 2024 ANWR ROD Using The Congressional Review Act**

**Washington, D.C.** – Voice of the Arctic Iñupiat (VOICE) and its members are pleased to see the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives pass joint resolutions condemning the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) 2024 Record of Decision (ROD) for the Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) using the Congressional Review Act.

The 2024 ANWR ROD was drafted without proper legal consultation with the tribes and Alaska Native corporations representing the North Slope Iñupiat. The North Slope Iñupiat have stewarded the region for more than 10,000 years and a strong majority of elected Iñupiaq leaders opposed BLM's decision to finalize this deeply flawed policy. In 2017, VOICE's Board of Directors — which represents the majority of elected officials in the region, including those from Kaktovik, the only community located within ANWR — unanimously passed a resolution supporting responsible exploration and development on ANWR's Coastal Plain.

“These joint congressional resolutions are a positive sign that congressional decisionmakers support our Iñupiaq self-determination,” said **VOICE President & CEO Nagruk Harcharek**. “After enduring years of lopsided relations with both Congress and the federal government, our communities are cautiously optimistic for the people of Kaktovik following this vote – supported by our local and regional leaders – in our Indigenous homelands.”

Taxation on development infrastructure accounts for more than 95% of the region’s local tax base through the North Slope Borough. These funds strengthen North Slope Iñupiaq economic and cultural self-determination by providing essential community infrastructure and services including schools, health clinics, emergency services, modern sewer and water systems, and world-class wildlife management and research departments that support subsistence traditions. The proliferation of these services – and the economic opportunities they provide – is directly connected to significant increases in average Iñupiaq life expectancy from just 34 years in 1969 to 77 years today.

“The people of Kaktovik, the Kaktovikmiut, overwhelmingly support responsible development projects on our Coastal Plain homelands because they help our community provide for ourselves,” said **Kaktovik Mayor Nathan Gordon, Jr.** “Kaktovik is the only community within ANWR, but the federal government and Congress have disregarded our voices for generations. We are encouraged by this week’s votes in the House and Senate and urge elected officials in Washington to continue listening to our locally elected leaders and prioritizing policies that advance our self-determination.”

This announcement follows the Department of the Interior’s decision to revert to the 2020 Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program ROD, another action taken by Trump-Vance administration officials, which reflects meaningful engagement with North Slope Iñupiat elected leadership.

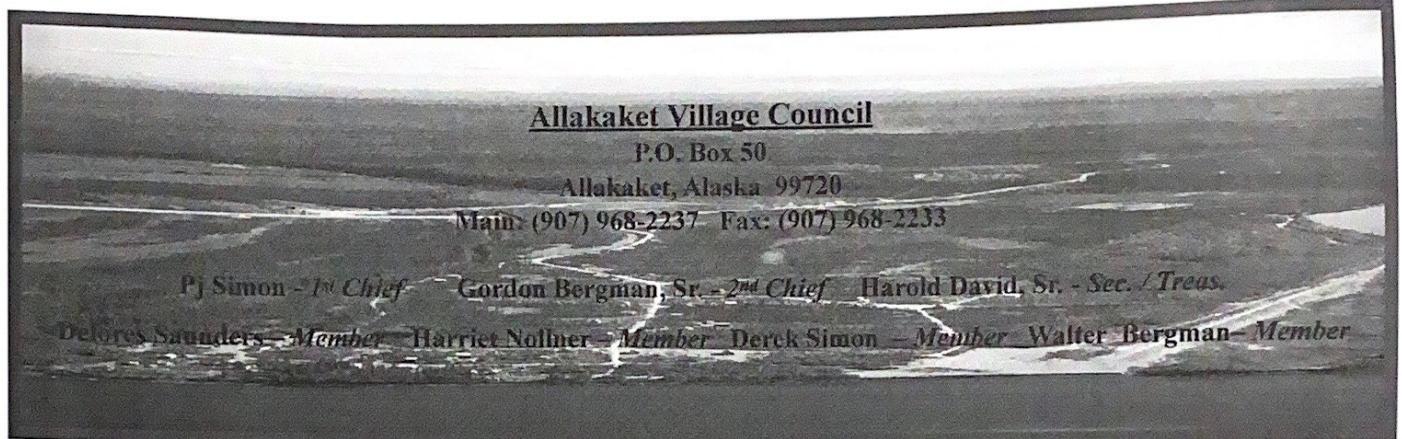
“I’m pleased that the current administration is making efforts to engage with the North Slope Iñupiat and prioritize our voices on all matters that impact our lands, communities, economy, and culture” said **whaling captain and Kaktovik Iñupiat Corporation President Charles “CC” Lampe**. “Moving forward, we are hopeful to continue this positive relationship built on mutual respect with both Congress and the executive branch.”

###

**About Voice of the Arctic Iñupiat (VOICE)**

VOICE is a nonprofit organization established in 2015 by the region’s collective elected Iñupiat leadership and is dedicated to preserving and advancing North Slope Iñupiat cultural and economic self-determination. Its members include local governments, Alaska Native Corporations, federally recognized tribes, and tribal non-profits across the North Slope of Alaska.

In 2017, VOICE’s board passed a resolution in support of opening the 1002 Area of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) to oil and gas exploration and development.



**Allakaket Village Council**

P.O. Box 50

Allakaket, Alaska 99720

Main: (907) 968-2237 Fax: (907) 968-2233

Pj Simon - *1<sup>st</sup> Chief*

Gordon Bergman, Sr. - *2<sup>nd</sup> Chief*

Harold David, Sr. - *Sec. / Treas.*

Delores Saunders - *Member* Harriet Nollner - *Member* Derek Simon - *Member* Walter Bergman - *Member*

**Resolution No. 2015-12-15-01**

WHEREAS, Allakaket Village is a federally recognized Tribe;

WHEREAS, Allakaket Village is governed by a Tribal Council and is the sole entity authorized to speak on behalf of the Tribe;

WHEREAS, the community of Allakaket is one of a few communities located close to the proposed Ambler Road and mines;

WHEREAS, the community of Allakaket suffers from poverty, high unemployment, expensive shipping and costs of groceries, fuel, and other supplies, lacks a water and sewer system, and does not have a road connection for medivacs in event of an emergency and bad weather for flying;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Allakaket Village Tribe's position on the Ambler Access Project is as follows:

**LIMITED ACCESS ONLY ROAD – THE “TRIBAL” ALTERNATIVE**

1. The Tribe supports a road (Alternative “A”) **only** if the road is limited to access by the mining companies, local communities and residents for shipping goods, supplies, and fuel, as well as emergency medivacs;

2. The Tribe understands AIDEA has only asked for a road that has limited access as described above, and urges the BLM (and other landowners) to use legal authority and impose limited access restrictions;

#### **MITIGATION MEASURES TO PROTECT SUBSISTENCE (Similar to Red Dog Mine)**

3. The Tribe supports adoption and use of subsistence mitigation measures from impacts of a road that are similar to, or exactly the same as the mitigation measures successfully used at the Red Dog road to protect caribou and other species for over 40 years;

#### **EMPLOYMENT, WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, AND VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT FUNDING**

4. The Tribe supports its members and the community having training opportunities, hiring preferences, small business opportunities, in construction of the road and work at the mines or for companies supporting the mines.
5. To reduce the cost of freight, the Tribe supports an ice road to connect the village with the road system , as well as barge access to the mouth of the Kanuti River. The Tribe's long-term vision is for a year-round road to connect to Allakaket so that Allakaket can be a hub for commercial and workforce development.

#### **OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND FUTURE GENERATIONS**

6. The Tribe believes young Alaskan Native Tribal members and future generations need to have opportunities to earn a good living and support their families as well as afford to stay in the community and practice subsistence.
7. Tanana Chiefs Conference and other opponents to responsible and balanced resource development (such as the Red Dog Mine) offer nothing for the future except continued poverty and despair. Tanana Chiefs Conference does not represent or speak for Allakaket Tribe on any issue unless specifically authorized to do so.
8. The right question to ask is not “what happens to our communities and Tribal members if a road is built and mining occurs” but “what happens to our communities and Tribal members if a road is not built and no jobs or opportunity exists for our children and future generations.”
9. The Tribe supports a road maintenance and operation plan whereby Tribal members are guaranteed employment.
10. The Tribe of Allakaket Village supports Alternative “A” as the “Tribal Alternative” that BLM should select.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was adopted by a quorum of the Allakaket Council at a meeting held on 12-15-2023 at the Allakaket Tribal Office with 4 present, 4 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining.

 01/02/2024

**Whereas, AIDEA agreed to form the SAC to consult directly and regularly with the subsistence (also known as customary and traditionally practices) communities, tribal governments, Alaska Native corporations, and Alaska Native non-profits through the SAC to determine measures for reducing impacts of the Ambler Road Project on subsistence uses;**

**Whereas, these subsistence mitigation measures could include the placement of subsistence user crossing ramps; sharing the results of road use monitoring; taking actions to resolve potential conflicts regarding subsistence uses and road construction and operation including security measures to keep the road private; designating a project liaison dedicated to receiving feedback from subsistence communities; and consulting with communities in the development of monitoring plans for subsistence resources;**

**Whereas, the SAC was formed in 2020 to formulate policy and conduct regular business with regard to Ambler Road Project to advise and minimize impacts on subsistence resources and activities;**

**Whereas, the SAC is a non-partisan group which is independent of the Project sponsor, the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority and which takes action through its Co-Chairs on behalf of the committee; and**

**Whereas, the SAC is committed to maintaining subsistence values and culture in order to support all subsistence related activities;**

**Whereas, the SAC was envisioned to assist with the oversight of the adaptive management plan and also fulfills a commitment in the Joint Record of Decision (JROD);**

**Whereas, an adaptive management plan is required in the JROD for proper management of the project such as monitoring, maintaining and repairing culverts over the life of the road;**

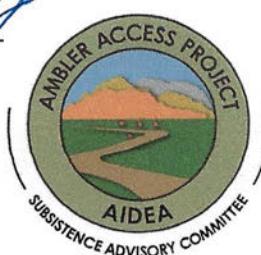
**Now, therefore, be it Resolved, that the Subsistence Advisory Committee:**

1. Urges the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to recognize the SAC as a source of experts related traditional uses of subsistence resources;
2. Encourages the BLM to work with the SAC in the development of mitigation measures related to subsistence that arise out of the construction and operation of the road;
3. Urges the BLM to focus on the BLM's mission to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations;
4. Urges the BLM to limit the scope of the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement analysis to those topics identified in the court-granted remand;
5. Urges the BLM to limit the NEPA analysis to the preferred alternative as contained within the 2020 Final EIS and JROD because it provides access to the Ambler Mining District because it crosses the GAAR as promised in ANILCA; and
6. Supports efficient completion of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process currently underway by the BLM.

Approved December 6, 2023, Fairbanks, Alaska

Co-Chairs: Larry Westlake Sr.  Fred Bifelt 

Members: Harding Sam, Gordon Bergman, Morgan Johnson, Henry Horner, Wilbur Howarth, Nellie Griest, Wayne Musser



**Hughes Village**  
**P,O, Box 45029**  
**Hughes, Alaska 99745**

**Resolution No. 24-08**

WHEREAS, the community of Hughes is one of the few communities located close to the proposed Ambler Road and potential mines and should have one of the biggest voices of input on whether it happens.

WHEREAS, the community of Hughes suffers from poverty, high unemployment, expensive shipping and costs of groceries, fuel, and other supplies, lacks adequate housing for all its residents, and does not have a road connection for medivacs in event of an emergency and bad weather for flying.

WHEREAS, Hughes Village is a federally recognized Tribe.

WHEREAS, Hughes Village is governed by a Tribal Council and is the sole entity authorized to speak on behalf of the Tribe.

WHEREAS, Hughes Village Tribe submits the following official comments into the record for the Ambler Access Project:

**LIMITED ACCESS ONLY ROAD – THE “TRIBAL” ALTERNATIVE**

1. The Tribe supports a road (Alternative “A”) only if the road is limited to access by the mining companies, local communities and residents for shipping goods, supplies, and fuel, as well as emergency medivacs;
  
2. The Tribe understands AIDEA has only asked for a road that has limited access as described above, and urges the BLM (and other landowners) to use legal authority and impose limited access restrictions;

## **MITIGATION MEASURES TO PROTECT SUBSISTENCE (Similar to Red Dog Mine)**

3. The Tribe supports adoption and use of subsistence mitigation measures from impacts of a road that are similar to, or exactly the same as the mitigation measures successfully used at the Red Dog road to protect caribou and other species for over 40 years;

## **EMPLOYMENT, WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, AND VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT FUNDING**

4. The Tribe supports its members and the community having training opportunities, hiring preferences, small business opportunities, in construction of the road and work at the mines or for companies supporting the mines.

## **OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND FUTURE GENERATIONS**

5. The Tribe believes young Alaskan Native Tribal members and future generations need to have opportunities to earn a good living and support their families as well as afford to stay in the community and practice subsistence.
6. Opponents to responsible and balanced resource development (such as the Red Dog Mine) offer nothing for the future except continued poverty and despair.

7. The right question to ask is not “what happens to our communities and Tribal members if a road is built and mining occurs” but “what happens to our communities and Tribal members if a road is not built and no jobs or opportunity exists for our children and future generations.”

THEREFORE, the Tribe of Hughes supports the Ambler Access Project.

Dated: This 21<sup>st</sup> day of March 2024.

Signed

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Shellyn Michael".

Native Village Kobuk  
PO Box 51039 Kobuk, AK  
99751  
Phone:(907)948-2203

Resolution 25-09

**WHEREAS;** the community of Kobuk is one of the few communities located close to the proposed Ambler Road and potential mines and should have one of the biggest voices of input on whether it happens.

**WHEREAS;** the community of Kobuk suffer from high unemployment, expensive shipping and costs of groceries, fuel, and other supplies, lacks of adequate housing for all it's residents, and does not have a road connection for medivacs in event of an emergency and bad weather for flying.

**WHEREAS;** Kobuk Traditional Council is a federally recognized Tribe.

**WHEREAS;** Kobuk Traditional Council is governed by a Tribal Council and is the sole entity authorized to speak on behalf of the Tribe.

**WHEREAS;** Kobuk Traditional Council wants the road to connect to KObuk.

**LIMITED ACCESS ONLY ROAD- THE “TRIBAL” ALTERNATIVE**

1. The Tribe supports a road but only if the road is limited to access by the mining companies, with controlled use of the local communities and residents for shipping goods, supplies, and fuel, as well as emergency medivacs;
2. The Tribe understands AIDEA has only asked for a road that has limited access as described above, and urges the landowners to use legal authority and impose limited access restrictions'
3. The Tribe supports AIDEA has delegated authority to it's subsistence committee who has adopted subsistence mitigation measures from impacts of a road that are similar to the mitigation measures successfully used at the Red Dog Road to protect caribou and other species for over 40 years;
4. The Tribe supports it's members and the community having training opportunities, hiring preferences, small business opportunities, in

Native Village Kobuk  
PO Box 51039 Kobuk, AK  
99751  
Phone:(907)948-2203

construction of the road and work at the mines or for companies supporting the mines;

5. The Tribe believes young Alaskan Native Tribal members and future generations need to have opportunities to earn a good living and support their families as well as afford to stay in the community and practice subsistence;
6. We now have to face the question of how do we continue our subsistence lifestyle without jobs, it is now so expensive as we need gas and equipment to do it with and what happens to our communities and Tribal members if a road is not built and no jobs or opportunity exists for our children and future generations.

THEREFORE, the Tribe of Kobuk supports the Ambler Access Project and Resource Development that is done with Subsistence priorities always coming first

This resolution was passed at a regular meeting held in NAtive Village of Kobuk on March 11, 2025, with a quorum of 7 council members present. There were 5 yays 2 nays.

President Henry Haver Doe

Date: 03/17/25

Native Village of Shungnak  
P.O. Box 73064  
Shungnak, Alaska 99773  
PH: (907) 437 2163 FX: (907) 437 2183

### **Resolution No. 24-06**

WHEREAS, the community of Shungnak is one of the few communities located close to the proposed Ambler Road and potential mines and should have one of the biggest voices of input on whether it happens.

WHEREAS, the community of Shungnak suffers from high unemployment, expensive shipping and costs of groceries, fuel, and other supplies, lacks adequate housing for all its residents, and does not have a road connection for medivacs in event of an emergency and bad weather for flying.

WHEREAS, Shungnak Village is a federally recognized Tribe.

WHEREAS, Shungnak Village is governed by a Tribal Council and is the sole entity authorized to speak on behalf of the Tribe.

WHEREAS, Shungnak Village Tribe submits the following official comments into the record for the Ambler Access Project:

#### **LIMITED ACCESS ONLY ROAD – THE “TRIBAL” ALTERNATIVE**

1. The Tribe supports a road but only if the road is limited to access by the mining companies, with controlled use of the local communities and residents for shipping goods, supplies, and fuel, as well as emergency medivacs;
2. The Tribe understands AIDEA has only asked for a road that has limited access as described above, and urges the landowners to use legal authority and impose limited access restrictions;
3. The Tribe supports that AIDEA has delegated authority to its Subsistence committee who has adopted Subsistence mitigation measures from

impacts of a road that are similar to the mitigation measures successfully used at the Red Dog Road to protect caribou and other species for over 40 years;

4. The Tribe supports its members and the community having training opportunities, hiring preferences, small business opportunities, in construction of the road and work at the mines or for companies supporting the mines.
5. The Tribe believes young Alaskan Native Tribal members and future generations need to have opportunities to earn a good living and support their families as well as afford to stay in the community and practice subsistence.
6. Opponents to responsible and balanced resource development (such as the Red Dog Mine) offer nothing for the future except continued poverty and despair and are not looking out for our children's future.
7. The big question is, how do we continue our Subsistence lifestyle that is now expensive, and we need gas and equipment to do and what happens to our communities and Tribal members if a road is not built and no jobs or opportunity exists for our children and future generations.”

THEREFORE, the Tribe of Shungnak supports the Ambler Access Project and Resource Development that is done with Subsistence always as the first priority and would like to enter discussions on how the Tribe can also benefit from being involved with construction and jobs and profits.

Dated: This 14th day of May 2024.

Signed Zud Snn President/Chair



## **RUBY TRIBAL COUNCIL**

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Kendra B. McCarty Bldg.  
P.O. Box 68210  
Ruby, Alaska 99768

Telephone: 907-468-4479  
Fax: 907-468-4474

### **RESOLUTION # 2024-05**

#### **A RESOLUTION OF THE RUBY TRIBAL COUNCIL IN SUPPORT OF THE AMBLER ACCESS PROJECT (AAP) AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.**

**WHEREAS:** the Ruby Tribal Council is a Federally Recognized Tribe with planning and approving authority for the Ruby Tribal Members/residents of Ruby; and

**WHEREAS:** the Ruby Tribal Council was formed for the purpose of exercising our sovereign right; and

**WHEREAS:** continued responsible resource extraction is essential to the future of the residents in the Northwest Arctic Borough and its provision of public services to the region's residents; and

**WHEREAS:** the Ambler Access Project would establish a private, industrial-access road to facilitate world-class resource extraction projects and critical supplies; and

**WHEREAS:** the Ruby Tribal Council has participated in meetings and consultation on the Ambler Access Project; and

**WHEREAS:** as Ruby Tribal Council has been involved in aspects related mineral development in the region; and

**WHEREAS:** as Ruby Tribal Council expect the Ambler Access project to create jobs and economic opportunities for the Interior region; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Ruby Tribal Council hereby expresses its support for the Ambler Access Project to ensure responsible development for the region that enables jobs and economic opportunities.

### **CERTIFICATION**

This resolution was duly adopted by the Ruby Tribal Council at a meeting held at Ruby, Alaska on March 4, 2024 with the following roll call vote:

*Donald Honea Jr.*-yes,      *Allyson McCarty*- yes,    *Dawn Greenway*-yes,  
*Allen Titus*-yes,                *Stewart Cleaver* –yes,    *Annie Honea*- yes,  
*Patrick McCarty*-yes



## RUBY TRIBAL COUNCIL

Kendra B. McCarty Bldg.  
P.O. Box 68210  
Ruby, Alaska 99768

Telephone: 907-468-4479  
Fax: 907-468-4474

### RESOLUTION # 2024-05

#### A RESOLUTION OF THE RUBY TRIBAL COUNCIL IN SUPPORT OF THE AMBLER ACCESS PROJECT (AAP) AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

A vote of: 7 for, 0 against and 0 abstain.

Patrick McCarty

Patrick McCarty, First Chief

Allyson McCarty

Allyson McCarty, Sec./Treasurer

Donald Honea Jr.

Donald Honea Jr., 2<sup>nd</sup> Chief

## RESOLUTION NO. 2023-01

Whereas, the Ambler Access Subsistence Advisory Committee (SAC) and the Workforce Development Working Group (WFDWG) are reviewing the Ambler Access Project:

Whereas, the Subsistence Advisory Committee is balancing and reviewing impacts to subsistence in the region and the Workforce Development Working Group is developing a plan and preparing the workforce for all phases of the project.

Impacts to subsistence include possible negative impacts, mitigation measures, like those in place on the Red Dog mine road, and possible positive impacts for residents of the region of good paying jobs and income to afford a subsistence lifestyle and being able to afford the high cost of living.

Whereas, depending on the findings and outcome of the study process, SAC and WFDWG supports a permanently limited access industrial road which also allow shipments of fuel, groceries, building and infrastructure supplies, and medivacs of residents.

Therefore, the committees urge and supports AIDEA's efforts to obtain title to the right of way to state land so that the Ambler Access Project could be held permanently as limited access.

Passed by vote this 14<sup>th</sup> day of June 2023



Co-Chair Larry Westlake Sr.



Co-chair Fred Bifelt

## Workforce Development Working Group Resolution 2023-05

Whereas the Workforce Development Working Group was formed in 2021 at the request of members of the communities closest to the road to provide input on workforce development, contracting, and general economic development in regards to the Ambler Access Project ("Project");

Whereas the Workforce Development Working Group is a non-partisan group that functions independently of the Project sponsor, the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA); and

Whereas the Workforce Development Working Group is committed to serving the Project area community members' interests to ensure that opportunities are made available to local communities and community members;

Whereas the project sponsors and mining companies have provided several years of economic benefit in the form of jobs and investment during the current pre-construction phase;

Whereas the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has issued a draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (D-SEIS) that introduces project uncertainty surrounding the existing and approved permits and authorizations from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and National Park Service;

Whereas these uncertainties have caused the project sponsors to cancel the 2024 field season, eliminating hundreds of job opportunities and tangible investment into our communities which will has had a negative affect on our communities.

Now, therefore, be it resolved,

That the Workforce Development Working Group:

1. Acknowledges the current high cost of essential good and services in area communities as a contributing factor the need to support job creation during every phase of the project;
2. Acknowledges the devastating and destructive results from lack of opportunity, meaningful engagement, employment, and the affordability of essential goods and services that manifest in high rates of self-harm;
3. Understands that the on-going SEIS process has impacted upcoming project plans and job opportunities;
4. Supports enhancement of and investment in community and individual pride through meaningful employment and local improvement projects such as those planned in association with the project;
5. Demand the BLM to efficiently complete the SEIS and expeditiously re-instate the Joint Record of Decision (JROD) to enable the AAP to continue pre-development activities that provide crucial job opportunities and economic opportunities for local residents and businesses;
6. Encourages the project sponsor, AIDEA, to continue to focus on job opportunities for local residents and shareholders;
7. Recommends the project sponsor, AIDEA, to continue to provide contracting/business opportunities for shareholder-owned companies; and
8. Insists that the project sponsor continue to identify and engage with the WDWG and local communities for future workforce development opportunities/training and specific projects that will support the readiness of the community for supporting the potential construction and operation of the AAP and economic development.

Approved December 7, 2023, Fairbanks, Alaska



Fred Bifelt  
SAC Co-Chair



Larry Westlake  
SAC Co-Chair

Members (list here):

Fred Bifelt, Larry Westlake, Gordon Bergman, Wayne Musser, Harding Sam, Nellie Griest, Henry Horner, Morgan Johnson, Wilbur Howarth, Stanley Ned, Elizabeth Cravahlo, Andy Baker, Shalon Harrington

