## SEAN PARNELL Governor



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## STATE OF ALASKA OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

February 8, 2010

Alaska State Legislature Alaska State Capitol Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Legislators,

As the new Alaska in-state gas line project manager, I am pleased to have the opportunity to introduce myself. I am honored by the appointment, and humbled by the responsibility of helping to provide adequate information to evaluate the many energy resource options that Alaska is so fortunate to have. I am keenly aware that energy development in this state is at a crossroads, and that the decisions we make will have a significant impact on the fiscal well-being of our state and its citizens. For this reason, we must be diligent in our pursuit of fact-based analysis and forecasts, and tenacious in our efforts to incorporate long-term stability to create a well-balanced energy future.

Since my appointment by Governor Parnell in January, I have spent a great deal of time reviewing project status and work plans, managing critical project risks, incorporating present and potential options, meeting with the Governor and his staff, and meeting with Legislators who are committed to ensuring that natural gas remains a significant element of our developing in-state energy portfolio.

In-state gas project activities that occurred during the month of December include:

- The Corps of Engineers Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) scoping meetings were held from December 8 through 17. The communities where public hearings were held include: Glennallen, Delta Junction, Nenana, Fairbanks, Denali National Park and McKinley Village, Anchorage, Wasilla, and Barrow. The website for the EIS materials and schedule can be found at <a href="http://www.asapeis.com">http://www.asapeis.com</a>. The Wetlands Field Report was completed and work continues on wetlands pre-mapping for the alternative Richardson Highway Stand Alone Route.
- The collection of previously prepared information and documents for the In-state Project Library is nearing completion.
- The Initial Project Description derived from the results of the Alternative Analysis was compiled and presented to the Legislature. The final Project Description will include elements such as the Geographical Information System, Library, Mapping, and Cost of Service products.

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The project expenses for the month of December are \$354,765. Total expenditures for calendar year 2009 are \$2,664,244.

I look forward to working with the Alaska State Legislature to secure Alaska's energy future. Please feel free to contact me at 907-257-1352, if I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Robert Swenson

West Summer

Project Manager

Alaska In-State Natural Gas Line