North Slope Alaska and Arctic OCS Oil and Gas Potential



Dan Sullivan, Commissioner February 2011

DNR Briefing Presentations

- Northern Alaska and Arctic OCS Resource Estimates
 Kevin Banks, Director, Division of Oil and Gas
- Arctic Alaska Conventional Oil & Gas Exploration Potential
 Bob Swenson, Director and State Geologist, Division of Geological and Geophysical Survey
- Source-Reservoired Oil Resources--Alaskan North Slope
 Paul L. Decker, Petroleum Geologist, Division of Oil and Gas

GOOD NEWS Alaska Oil and Gas Resource Potential: "World Class"

- 33 Percent of Undiscovered, Technically Recoverable Oil Resources in the Arctic.
- 13 Percent of Undiscovered, Technically Recoverable Gas Resources in the Arctic.
- 40 Billion Barrels of Oil; 230 Tcf of gas
 (Based on the mean estimates from ranges reported by USGS/BOEMRE.)
- Does not Include unconventional resources.

This resource potential lies in the Arctic "backyard" of the largest petroleum consuming market in the world.

Alaska's Challenges

- Biggest Challenge: TAPS Low Flow
 The best way to address this critical factor is to increase throughput.
- Federal Government Anti-Development Posture
 The Federal government has turned from the role of environmental protection to putting up a "Off Limits" sign for resource development.
- High Cost
 For example, exploration drilling in Alaska is between 3-8 times the cost of drilling in the North Dakota.
- Environment
 Harsh climate, resource conflicts, seasonal limits to exploration and development activities.
- Lack of Infrastructure

Addressing the Challenges We need all the policy tools to meet these challenges.

- Fiscal Competitiveness
- Federal Cooperation
- Permitting Timeliness and efficiencies
 - Both State and Federal Governments
- Increase Infrastructure development
- Continued identification of the Resource
- Domestic and International Promotion of Alaska
- Accelerated Development of Unconventional Resource
- Encourage All Players of All Sizes
- Access to Markets