

ASTAR Project Update

Senate Resources Committee

Presentation by Heidi Hansen, Deputy Commissioner
Alaska Department of Natural Resources
February 9, 2018



ASTAR PROJECT

- OVERVIEW -

In partnership with the North Slope Borough and in collaboration with area communities and other key stakeholders, **Arctic Strategic Transportation and Resources project (ASTAR)** seeks to identify, evaluate, and advance community infrastructure and regional connectivity projects that offer the greatest benefits to the region.



ASTAR PROJECT

- PARTICIPATING STATE AGENCIES -

- Department of Natural Resources
 - Office of Project Management and Permitting
 - Division of Mining, Land and Water
 - Support Services Division
 - Division of State Parks and Outdoor Recreation
 - Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys
 - Division of Oil and Gas
- Department of Health and Social Services
- Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development
- Department of Transportation and Public Facilities



ASTAR PROJECT

- DESIRED OUTCOMES -

- Increased cultural connectivity
- Reduction in cost of living in area communities
- Decreased rehabilitation costs for NPR-A legacy wells
- More efficient development of natural resources
- Increased economic activity providing job opportunities for the region

Unlike previous infrastructure projects in the region, ASTAR's review will encompass **the entire North Slope region**, including the NPR-A, ANWR and other federal lands and waters.



ASTAR PROJECT

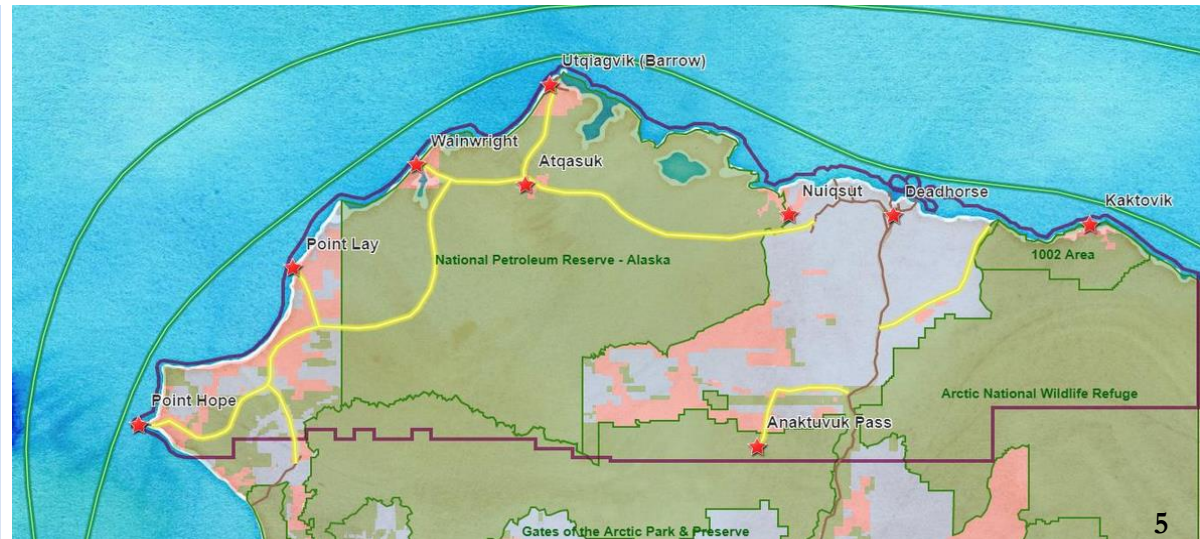
- CUMULATIVE BENEFITS -

ASTAR seeks to advance projects providing the greatest cumulative benefits to North Slope people and communities.

- By identifying tangible cumulative benefits for specific infrastructure projects, ASTAR will inform state and local discussions with federal agencies regarding their land management activities in the region.

Projects advanced by ASTAR will be assessed for:

- Funding sources
- Project sponsors
- Obstacles and challenges
- Permitting and data gaps



ASTAR PROJECT

- PROOF OF CONCEPT -

- The ASTAR team is coordinating with the North Slope Borough on a pilot project for community snow roads connecting North Slope communities to the state road system.
- The Borough has submitted applications for state and federal permits for the proposed Community Winter Access Trails project connecting Utqiagvik, Atqasuk, Wainwright, Nuiqsut and Anaktuvuk Pass to the state road system using improved snow trails.
- This “**proof of concept**” project for ASTAR will provide:
 - Valuable data collection opportunities
 - Regulatory experience for future projects
 - A foundation for assessing the value and impact of delivering goods and services via a corridor and road network in the region
- State and federal permitting processes are currently underway.

ASTAR PROJECT

- 2018 WORK HIGHLIGHTS -

Contracts:

ASTAR is using Alaska-based contractors hired to provide:

- Project management support
 - Data analyses, management and GIS analyses and integration
 - Stakeholder outreach and coordination
 - Economics and socioeconomics
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- After competitive bidding and the required protest period, ASRC Energy Services Alaska, Inc. and Resource Data, Inc. were selected. Contract negotiations are underway.



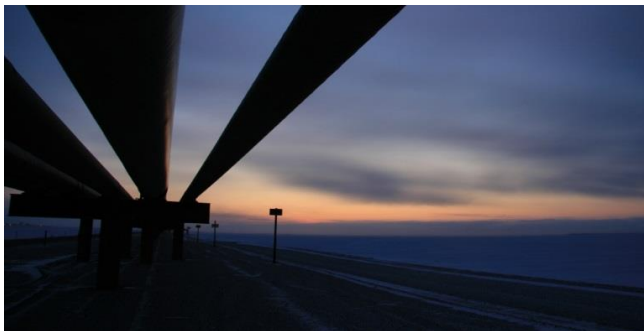
ASTAR PROJECT

- 2018 WORK HIGHLIGHTS -

Construction Materials Survey:

One of the crucial pieces of planning for infrastructure is understanding materials sources in the region.

- Information on construction materials is scarce, and in general, construction materials are difficult to locate west of the Colville River.
- The survey will be a state-led program including regional and local partnerships with entities having complementary data or interests. DNR's Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys will lead this effort.
- Work will include office data compilation, limited field investigations in 2018 and 2019, and subsequent publication of all maps and reports.



ASTAR PROJECT

- BUDGET -

Fiscal Year	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020
DNR Personal Services	948,306	875,540	789,000
DNR Travel	199,140	26,000	15,000
RSAs - Multiple Departments	110,500	110,500	110,500
Contractual Services	1,273,750	1,950,000	834,000
Other Services	10,000	7,500	7,500
Computers and Supplies	14,000	14,000	14,000
Fiscal Year Totals:	\$2,555,696	\$2,980,540	\$1,764,000
FY2017 – FY2020 Multi-Year Operating:	\$7,300,236		