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# NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH

## MAYOR'S OFFICE

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**Harry K. Brower Jr., Mayor**

February 16, 2023

Representative Josiah Patkotak

State Capitol Room 411

Juneau AK, 99801

To Whom it may concern:

I'm writing today in strong support of Representative Patkotak's resolution supporting the important Willow project. As Mayor of the North Slope Borough we continue to call on the Biden administration to issue its final approval for Willow. Moving ahead with Willow would mean economic certainty for our communities. Any move by the Biden administration to restrict Willow beyond the threshold for economic viability, including additional deferrals, would imperil not just the project, but the future of our region.

Through the North Slope Borough permitting process we exercise zoning and other oversight that has— in partnership with the State and Federal Government, led to some of the strictest environmental regulations in our nation and one of the best examples of responsible development in the world.

Willow will not only lead to jobs, but better schools, fire stations, health clinics, transportation infrastructure, and less dependency on Russian oil.

We are proud of the scrutiny these development projects like Willow face as that's what keeps our people healthy, our animals safe, and the environment pristine.

If the project can be developed responsibly like other fields have been, the North Slope Borough and the majority of our residents will continue to support it and all responsible development of our natural resources.

North Slope Borough is the regional municipal government for the northernmost region of Alaska and the largest municipality in the United States by size. The Borough's jurisdiction encompasses the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska. Approximately three-quarters of the Borough's nearly 10,000 residents are Iñupiat.

Mayor Harry K. Brower Jr.

*Harry Brower Jr.*

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