

SENATE BILL NO. 3001

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - THIRD SPECIAL SESSION

BY THE SENATE RULES COMMITTEE BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

Introduced: 7/12/06

Referred: Senate Special Committee on Natural Gas Development

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to the production tax on oil and gas and to conservation surcharges on**
2 **oil; relating to criminal penalties for violating conditions governing access to and use of**
3 **confidential information relating to the production tax; amending the definition of 'gas'**
4 **as that definition applies in the Alaska Stranded Gas Development Act; making**
5 **conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date."**

6 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

7 * **Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section
8 to read:

9 LEGISLATIVE INTENT. (a) It is the intent of the legislature through sec. 11 of this
10 Act to confirm by clarification the long-standing interpretation of AS 43.55.020(f) by the
11 Department of Revenue.

12 (b) It is the intent of the legislature that the division or other unit of the Department of
13 Environmental Conservation assigned responsibility for administration of the programs under

1 AS 46.08 that are principally supported by the conservation surcharges on oil levied under
2 AS 43.55.201 - 43.55.299 and 43.55.300 - 43.55.310

3 (1) reduce program costs, including personnel costs, as necessary to operate
4 within the revenue anticipated to be generated by those surcharges, in the amounts of those
5 surcharges as amended by secs. 26 and 28 of this Act; and

6 (2) request appropriations for exceptional program needs and expansions
7 beyond what can be provided from the estimated amounts collected from those surcharges
8 from alternative funding sources.

9 * **Sec. 2.** AS 43.05.230(f) is amended to read:

10 (f) A wilful violation of the provisions of this section **or of a condition**
11 **imposed under AS 43.55.040(1)(B)** is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000,
12 or by imprisonment for not more than two years, or by both.

13 * **Sec. 3.** AS 43.20.031(c) is amended to read:

14 (c) In computing the tax under this chapter, the taxpayer is not entitled to
15 deduct any taxes based on or measured by net income. **The taxpayer may deduct the**
16 **tax levied and paid under AS 43.55.**

17 * **Sec. 4.** AS 43.20.072(b) is amended to read:

18 (b) A taxpayer's business income to be apportioned under this section to the
19 state shall be the federal taxable income of the taxpayer's consolidated business for the
20 tax period, except that

21 (1) taxes based on or measured by net income that are deducted in the
22 determination of the federal taxable income shall be added back; **the tax levied and**
23 **paid under AS 43.55 may not be added back;**

24 (2) intangible drilling and development costs that are deducted as
25 expenses under 26 U.S.C. 263(c) (Internal Revenue Code) in the determination of the
26 federal taxable income shall be capitalized and depreciated as if the option to treat
27 them as expenses under 26 U.S.C. 263(c) (Internal Revenue Code) had not been
28 exercised;

29 (3) depletion deducted on the percentage depletion basis under 26
30 U.S.C. 613 (Internal Revenue Code) in the determination of the federal taxable income
31 shall be recomputed and deducted on the cost depletion basis under 26 U.S.C. 612

1 (Internal Revenue Code); and

2 (4) depreciation shall be computed on the basis of 26 U.S.C. 167
3 (Internal Revenue Code) as that section read on June 30, 1981.

4 * **Sec. 5.** AS 43.55.011 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

5 (e) There is levied on the producer of oil or gas a tax for all oil and gas
6 produced each month from each lease or property in the state, less any oil and gas the
7 ownership or right to which is exempt from taxation or constitutes a landowner's
8 royalty interest. Except as otherwise provided under (g) and (h) of this section, the tax
9 is equal to 20 percent of the production tax value of the taxable oil and gas as
10 calculated under AS 43.55.160.

11 (f) There is levied on the producer of oil or gas a tax for all oil and gas
12 produced each month from each lease or property in the state the ownership or right to
13 which constitutes a landowner's royalty interest, except for oil and gas the ownership
14 or right to which is exempt from taxation. The provisions of this subsection apply to a
15 landowner's royalty interest as follows:

16 (1) the rate of tax levied on oil is equal to five percent of the gross
17 value at the point of production of the oil;

18 (2) the rate of tax levied on gas is equal to 1.667 percent of the gross
19 value at the point of production of the gas;

20 (3) if the department determines that, for purposes of reducing the
21 producer's tax liability under (1) or (2) of this subsection, the producer has received or
22 will receive consideration from the royalty owner offsetting all or a part of the
23 producer's royalty obligation, other than a deduction under AS 43.55.020(d) of the
24 amount of a tax paid,

25 (A) notwithstanding (1) of this subsection, the tax is equal to

26 (i) for oil that is produced from a lease or property in
27 the Cook Inlet sedimentary basin, five percent of the gross value at the
28 point of production of the oil;

29 (ii) for oil, except oil described in (i) of this
30 subparagraph, 20 percent of the gross value at the point of production
31 of the oil; and

1 (B) notwithstanding (2) of this subsection, for gas the tax is
2 equal to 10 percent of the gross value at the point of production of the gas.

3 (g) For a month that ends before April 1, 2021, the total tax levied by (e) of
4 this section on gas produced from a lease or property in the Cook Inlet sedimentary
5 basin may not exceed

6 (1) for a lease or property that first commenced commercial production
7 of gas before April 1, 2006, the product obtained by multiplying (A) the amount of gas
8 produced during that month from the lease or property, times (B) the average rate of
9 tax that was imposed under this chapter on gas produced from the lease or property for
10 the 12-month period ending on March 31, 2006, times (C) the average prevailing value
11 for gas delivered in the Cook Inlet area for the 12-month period ending March 31,
12 2006, as determined by the department under AS 43.55.020(f);

13 (2) for a lease or property that first commences commercial production
14 of gas after March 31, 2006, the product obtained by multiplying (A) the amount of
15 gas produced during that month from the lease or property, times (B) the average rate
16 of tax that was imposed under this chapter on gas produced from all leases or
17 properties in the Cook Inlet sedimentary basin for the 12-month period ending on
18 March 31, 2006, times (C) the average prevailing value for gas delivered in the Cook
19 Inlet area for the 12-month period ending March 31, 2006, as determined by the
20 department under AS 43.55.020(f).

21 (h) For a month that ends before April 1, 2021, the total tax levied by (e) of
22 this section on oil produced from a lease or property in the Cook Inlet sedimentary
23 basin may not exceed

24 (1) for a lease or property that first commenced commercial production
25 of oil before April 1, 2006, the product obtained by multiplying (A) the amount of oil
26 produced during that month from the lease or property, times (B) the average rate of
27 tax that was imposed under this chapter on oil produced from the lease or property for
28 the 12-month period ending on March 31, 2006, times (C) the average prevailing value
29 for oil delivered in the Cook Inlet area for the 12-month period ending March 31,
30 2006, as determined by the department under AS 43.55.020(f);

31 (2) for a lease or property that first commences commercial production

1 of oil after March 31, 2006, the product obtained by multiplying (A) the amount of oil
2 produced during that month from the lease or property, times (B) the average rate of
3 tax that was imposed under this chapter on oil produced from all leases or properties in
4 the Cook Inlet sedimentary basin for the 12-month period ending on March 31, 2006,
5 times (C) the average prevailing value for oil delivered in the Cook Inlet area for the
6 12-month period ending March 31, 2006, as determined by the department under
7 AS 43.55.020(f).

8 (i) Notwithstanding any contrary provision of AS 38.05.180(i), AS 41.09.010,
9 AS 43.20.043, 43.55.025, or 43.55.170, tax credits under AS 38.05.180(i),
10 AS 41.09.010, AS 43.20.043, AS 43.55.025, and 43.55.170 that are allocated to gas
11 produced from leases or properties in the Cook Inlet sedimentary basin and that are
12 available to be applied against a tax levied by (e) of this section on gas produced from
13 leases or properties in the Cook Inlet sedimentary basin during a month may be
14 applied only against the tax levied by (e) of this section on that gas. The amount by
15 which the tax credits allocated to gas produced from leases or properties in the Cook
16 Inlet sedimentary basin and that the producer would otherwise be allowed to use for a
17 different month or transfer to another person that exceeds the amount of tax credits
18 whose application would reduce the tax levied by (e) of this section on that gas to
19 zero, if any, is considered the amount of excess tax credits and the excess tax credits
20 are subject to the following:

21 (1) for each lease or property for which a limitation under (g) or (h) of
22 this section on the tax levied by (e) of this section has the effect of reducing the
23 producer's tax below the amount of tax that would be levied in the absence of that
24 limitation, the producer shall calculate the amount of that reduction;

25 (2) the producer shall calculate the total of the reductions calculated
26 under (1) of this subsection for all affected leases or properties;

27 (3) the producer shall reduce the amount of excess tax credits by the
28 total calculated under (2) of this subsection, but not to less than zero;

29 (4) any amount of excess tax credits remaining after reduction under
30 (3) of this subsection may be used for a different month, transferred to another person,
31 or applied against a tax levied on oil or gas produced from a lease or property located

1 anywhere in the state to the extent otherwise allowed under applicable law governing
2 the tax credits.

3 (j) Allocation of credits under (i) of this section shall be made under
4 regulations adopted by the department that provide for reasonable methods of
5 allocating tax credits to gas produced from leases or properties in the Cook Inlet
6 sedimentary basin. The method of allocating tax credits available under AS 43.55.170
7 shall be based on the number of barrels of oil equivalent produced from a lease or
8 property.

9 * **Sec. 6.** AS 43.55.017(a) is amended to read:

10 (a) Except as provided in this chapter, the taxes imposed by this chapter are in
11 place of all taxes now imposed by the state or any of its municipalities, and neither the
12 state nor a municipality may impose a tax **on** [UPON]

13 (1) producing oil or gas leases;

14 (2) oil or gas produced or extracted in the state;

15 (3) the value of intangible drilling and **development costs, as**
16 **described in 26 U.S.C. 263(c) (Internal Revenue Code), as amended through**
17 **January 1, 1974** [EXPLORATION EXPENSES].

18 * **Sec. 7.** AS 43.55.020(a) is repealed and reenacted to read:

19 (a) Ninety-five percent of the total tax levied by AS 43.55.011(e) and (f), net
20 of any credits applied under this chapter, is due on the last day of each calendar month
21 on oil and gas produced from each lease or property during the preceding month. The
22 remaining portion of the tax levied by AS 43.55.011(e) and (f), net of any credits
23 applied under this chapter, is due on March 31 of the year following the calendar year
24 during which the oil and gas were produced. An unpaid amount of tax that is not paid
25 when due in accordance with this subsection becomes delinquent. An overpayment of
26 tax with respect to a month may be applied against the tax due for any later month.
27 Notwithstanding any contrary provision of AS 43.05.280, interest on an overpayment
28 is allowed only from a date that is 90 days after the later of (1) the March 31 described
29 in this subsection, or (2) the date that the statement required under AS 43.55.030(a)
30 and (e) to be filed on or before that March 31 is filed. Interest is not allowed if the
31 overpayment was refunded within the 90-day period.

1 * **Sec. 8.** AS 43.55.020(b) is amended to read:

2 (b) The production tax on oil **and** [OR] gas shall be paid by or on behalf of the
3 producer.

4 * **Sec. 9.** AS 43.55.020(d) is amended to read:

5 (d) In making settlement with the royalty owner **for oil and gas that is**
6 **taxable under AS 43.55.011**, the producer may deduct the amount of the tax paid on
7 **taxable** royalty oil **and** [OR] gas, or may deduct **taxable** royalty oil or gas equivalent
8 in value at the time the tax becomes due to the amount of the tax paid. **Unless**
9 **otherwise agreed between the producer and the royalty owner, the amount of the**
10 **tax paid under AS 43.55.011(e) on taxable royalty oil and gas for a month, other**
11 **than oil and gas the ownership or right to which constitutes a landowner's**
12 **royalty interest, is considered to be the gross value at the point of production of**
13 **the taxable royalty oil and gas produced during the month multiplied by a figure**
14 **that is a quotient, in which**

15 (1) **the numerator is the producer's total tax liability under**
16 **AS 43.55.011(e) for the month of production; and**

17 (2) **the denominator is the total gross value at the point of**
18 **production of the oil and gas taxable under AS 43.55.011(e) produced by the**
19 **producer from all leases and properties in the state during the month.**

20 * **Sec. 10.** AS 43.55.020(e) is repealed and reenacted to read:

21 (e) Gas flared, released, or allowed to escape in excess of the amount
22 authorized by the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission is considered, for the
23 purpose of AS 43.55.011 - 43.55.180, as gas produced from a lease or property. Oil or
24 gas used in the operation of a lease or property in the state in drilling for or producing
25 oil or gas, or for repressuring, except to the extent determined by the Alaska Oil and
26 Gas Conservation Commission to be waste, is not considered, for the purpose of
27 AS 43.55.011 - 43.55.180, as oil or gas produced from a lease or property.

28 * **Sec. 11.** AS 43.55.020(f) is amended to read:

29 (f) If oil or gas is **produced but not sold, or if oil or gas is produced and**
30 **sold under circumstances where the sale price does not represent the prevailing value**
31 **for oil or gas of like kind, character, or quality in the field or area from which the**

1 product is produced, the department may require the tax to be paid upon the basis of
 2 the value of oil or gas of the same kind, quality, and character prevailing for that field
 3 or area during the calendar month of production or sale [FOR THAT FIELD OR
 4 AREA].

5 * **Sec. 12.** AS 43.55 is amended by adding a new section to read:

6 **Sec. 43.55.024. Tax credits for certain losses and expenditures.** (a) A
 7 producer or explorer may take a tax credit for a qualified capital expenditure as
 8 follows:

9 (1) notwithstanding that a qualified capital expenditure may be a
 10 deductible lease expenditure for purposes of calculating the production tax value of oil
 11 and gas under AS 43.55.160(a), unless a credit for that expenditure is taken under
 12 AS 38.05.180(i), AS 41.09.010, AS 43.20.043, or AS 43.55.025,

13 (A) a producer or explorer that incurs a qualified capital
 14 expenditure may also elect to take a tax credit against a tax due under
 15 AS 43.55.011(e) in the amount of 20 percent of that expenditure;

16 (B) for a calendar year for which the producer makes a
 17 substitution under AS 43.55.160(f), instead of taking a tax credit at a rate
 18 authorized by (A) of this paragraph as to each separate qualified capital
 19 expenditure after it has been incurred, a producer that incurs a qualified capital
 20 expenditure during that year and that wishes to apply a credit based on that
 21 expenditure against a tax due under AS 43.55.011(e) shall calculate and apply
 22 every month an annualized tax credit in an amount equal to 1 2/3 percent of the
 23 total qualified capital expenditures incurred during that year and for which the
 24 tax credit is taken for that year;

25 (2) a producer or explorer may take a credit for a qualified capital
 26 expenditure incurred in connection with geological or geophysical exploration or in
 27 connection with an exploration well only if the producer or explorer provides to the
 28 department, as part of the statement required under AS 43.55.030(a) for the month for
 29 which the credit is sought to be taken, the producer's or explorer's written agreement

30 (A) to notify the Department of Natural Resources, within 30
 31 days after completion of the geological or geophysical data processing or

1 completion of the well, or within 30 days after the statement is filed, whichever
2 is the latest, of the date of completion and to submit a report to that department
3 describing the processing sequence and provide a list of data sets available;

4 (B) to provide to the Department of Natural Resources, within
5 30 days after the date of a request, specific data sets, ancillary data, and reports
6 identified in (A) of this paragraph;

7 (C) that, notwithstanding any provision of AS 38, the
8 Department of Natural Resources shall hold confidential the information
9 provided to that department under this paragraph for 10 years following the
10 completion date, after which the department shall publicly release the
11 information after 30 days' public notice.

12 (b) A producer or explorer may elect to take a tax credit in the amount of 20
13 percent of a carried-forward annual loss. A credit under this subsection may be applied
14 against a tax due under AS 43.55.011(e). For purposes of this subsection, a carried-
15 forward annual loss is the amount of a producer's or explorer's adjusted lease
16 expenditures under AS 43.55.160 for a previous calendar year that was not deductible
17 in any month under AS 43.55.160(a) and (b).

18 (c) A credit or portion of a credit under this section may not be used to reduce
19 a person's tax liability under AS 43.55.011(e) for any month below zero, and any
20 unused credit or portion of a credit not used under this subsection may be applied in a
21 later month.

22 (d) Except as limited by (j) of this section, a person entitled to take a tax credit
23 under this section that wishes to transfer the unused credit to another person may
24 apply to the department for a transferable tax credit certificate. An application under
25 this subsection must be on a form prescribed by the department and must include
26 supporting information and documentation that the department reasonably requires.
27 The department shall grant or deny an application, or grant an application as to a lesser
28 amount than that claimed and deny it as to the excess, not later than 60 days after the
29 latest of (1) March 31 of the year following the calendar year in which the qualified
30 capital expenditure or carried-forward annual loss for which the credit is claimed was
31 incurred; (2) if the applicant is required under AS 43.55.030(a) and (e) to file a

1 statement on or before March 31 of the year following the calendar year in which the
2 qualified capital expenditures or carried-forward annual loss for which the credit is
3 claimed was incurred, the date the statement was filed; or (3) the date the application
4 was received by the department. If, based on the information then available to it, the
5 department is reasonably satisfied that the applicant is entitled to a credit, the
6 department shall issue the applicant a transferable tax credit certificate for the amount
7 of the credit. A certificate issued under this subsection does not expire.

8 (e) A person to which a transferable tax credit certificate is issued under (d) of
9 this section may transfer the certificate to another person, and a transferee may further
10 transfer the certificate. Subject to the limitations set out in (a) - (c) of this section, and
11 notwithstanding any action the department may take with respect to the applicant
12 under (g) of this section, the owner of a certificate may apply the credit or a portion of
13 the credit shown on the certificate only against a tax due under AS 43.55.011(e).
14 However, a credit shown on a transferable tax credit certificate may not be applied to
15 reduce a transferee's total tax due under AS 43.55.011(e) on oil and gas produced
16 during a calendar year to less than 80 percent of the tax that would otherwise be due
17 without applying that credit. Any portion of a credit not used under this subsection
18 may be applied in a later period.

19 (f) Under standards established in regulations adopted by the department and
20 subject to appropriations made by law, the department, on the written application of
21 the person to whom a transferable tax credit has been issued under (d) of this section
22 and whose average amount of oil and gas produced a day taxable under
23 AS 43.55.011(e) is not more than 50,000 barrels of oil equivalent a day for the
24 preceding calendar year, shall issue a cash refund, in whole or in part, for the
25 certificate if the department finds

26 (1) after investigation and audit of the tax credit claim by the
27 department, that the applicant is entitled to the credit to the extent of the refund
28 amount;

29 (2) within 24 months after having applied for the transferable tax credit
30 certificate, that the applicant incurred a qualified capital expenditure or was the
31 successful bidder on a bid submitted for a lease on state land under AS 38.05.180(f);

1 (3) that the amount of the refund would not exceed the total of
2 qualified capital expenditures and successful bids described in (2) of this subsection
3 that have not been the subject of a finding made under this paragraph for purposes of a
4 previous refund;

5 (4) that the applicant does not have an outstanding liability to the state
6 for unpaid delinquent taxes under this title; and

7 (5) that the sum of the amount of the refund applied for and amounts
8 previously refunded to the applicant during the calendar year under this subsection
9 would not exceed \$25,000,000.

10 (g) The issuance of a transferable tax credit certificate under (d) of this section
11 does not limit the department's ability to later audit a tax credit claim to which the
12 certificate relates or to adjust the claim if the department determines that the applicant
13 was not entitled to the amount of the credit for which the certificate was issued. The
14 tax liability of the applicant under AS 43.55.011(e) and 43.55.017 - 43.55.180 is
15 increased by the amount of the credit that exceeds that to which the applicant was
16 entitled, or the applicant's available valid outstanding credits applicable against the tax
17 levied by AS 43.55.011(e) are reduced by that amount. If the applicant's tax liability is
18 increased under this subsection, the increase bears interest under AS 43.05.225 from
19 the date the transferable tax credit certificate was issued. For purposes of this
20 subsection, an applicant that is an explorer is considered a producer subject to the tax
21 levied by AS 43.55.011(e).

22 (h) The department may adopt regulations to carry out the purposes of this
23 section, including prescribing reporting, record keeping, and certification procedures
24 and requirements to verify the accuracy of credits claimed and to ensure that a credit is
25 not used more than once, and otherwise implementing this section.

26 (i) A person may not elect to take a tax credit under (a) or (j) of this section for
27 an expenditure incurred to acquire an asset (1) the cost of previously acquiring which
28 was a lease expenditure under AS 43.55.160(c) or would have been a lease
29 expenditure under AS 43.55.160(c) if it had been incurred on or after April 1, 2006; or
30 (2) that has previously been placed in service in the state. An expenditure to acquire an
31 asset is not excluded under this subsection if not more than an immaterial portion of

1 the asset meets a description under (1) or (2) of this subsection. For purposes of this
2 subsection, "asset" includes geological, geophysical, and well data and interpretations.

3 (j) For the purposes of this section,

4 (1) a producer's or explorer's transitional investment expenditures are
5 the sum of the expenditures the producer or explorer incurred on or after April 1,
6 2001, and before April 1, 2006, that would be qualified capital expenditures if they
7 were incurred on or after April 1, 2006, less the sum of the payments or credits the
8 producer or explorer received before April 1, 2006, for the sale or other transfer of
9 assets, including geological, geophysical, or well data or interpretations, acquired by
10 the producer or explorer as a result of expenditures the producer or explorer incurred
11 before April 1, 2006, that would be qualified capital expenditures, if they were
12 incurred on or after April 1, 2006;

13 (2) a producer or explorer may elect to take a tax credit against a tax
14 due under AS 43.55.011(e) in the amount of 20 percent of the producer's or explorer's
15 transitional investment expenditures, but only to the extent that the amount does not
16 exceed

17 (A) 1/10 of the producer's or explorer's qualified capital
18 expenditures that are incurred during the month for which the credit is taken, if
19 the producer or explorer does not make a substitution under AS 43.55.160(f);

20 (B) 1/120 of the producer's or explorer's qualified capital
21 expenditures that are incurred during the calendar year that includes the month
22 for which the credit is taken, if the producer or explorer makes a substitution
23 under AS 43.55.160(f);

24 (3) a producer or explorer may not take a tax credit for a transitional
25 investment expenditure

26 (A) for any month that ends the later of

27 (i) April 30, 2013; or

28 (ii) the seventh anniversary of the last day of the month
29 for which the producer first applies a credit under this subsection
30 against a tax due under AS 43.55.011(e), if the producer did not have
31 commercial production of oil or gas from a lease or property in the state

1 before April 1, 2006;

2 (B) more than once; or

3 (C) if a credit for that expenditure was taken under
4 AS 38.05.180(i), AS 41.09.010, AS 43.20.043, or AS 43.55.025;

5 (4) notwithstanding (d), (e), and (g) of this section, a producer or
6 explorer may not transfer a tax credit or obtain a transferable tax credit certificate for a
7 transitional investment expenditure.

8 (k) As a condition of receiving a tax credit under this section, a producer or
9 explorer that obtains the tax credit for or directly related to a pipeline, facility, or other
10 asset that is or becomes subject to regulation by the Federal Energy Regulatory
11 Commission or the Regulatory Commission of Alaska, or a successor regulatory body
12 shall at all times support and in all rate proceedings file to flow through 100 percent of
13 the tax credits to ratepayers as a reduction in the costs of service for the pipeline,
14 facility, or other asset.

15 (l) In this section, "qualified capital expenditure" means, except as otherwise
16 provided in (i) of this section, an expenditure that is a lease expenditure under
17 AS 43.55.160 and is

18 (1) incurred for geological or geophysical exploration; or

19 (2) treated as a capitalized expenditure under 26 U.S.C. (Internal
20 Revenue Code), as amended, regardless of elections made under 26 U.S.C. 263(c)
21 (Internal Revenue Code), as amended, and is

22 (A) treated as a capitalized expenditure for federal income tax
23 reporting purposes by the person incurring the expenditure; or

24 (B) eligible to be deducted as an expense under 26 U.S.C.
25 263(c) (Internal Revenue Code), as amended.

26 * **Sec. 13.** AS 43.55.025(a) is amended to read:

27 (a) Subject to the terms and conditions of this section, [ON OIL AND GAS
28 PRODUCED ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 2004, FROM AN OIL AND GAS LEASE,
29 OR ON GAS PRODUCED FROM A GAS ONLY LEASE,] a credit against the
30 production tax due under AS 43.55.011(e) [THIS CHAPTER] is allowed for
31 exploration expenditures that qualify under (b) of this section in an amount equal to

1 one of the following:

2 (1) 20 percent of the total exploration expenditures that qualify only
3 under (b) and (c) of this section;

4 (2) 20 percent of the total exploration expenditures for work performed
5 before July 1, 2007, and that qualify only under (b) and (d) of this section;

6 (3) 40 percent of the total exploration expenditures that qualify under
7 (b), (c), and (d) of this section; or

8 (4) 40 percent of the total exploration expenditures that qualify only
9 under (b) and (e) of this section.

10 * **Sec. 14.** AS 43.55.025(b) is amended to read:

11 (b) To qualify for the production tax credit under (a) of this section, an
12 exploration expenditure must be incurred for work performed on or after July 1, 2003,
13 and before July 1, 2016 [2007], except that an exploration expenditure for a Cook Inlet
14 prospect must be incurred for work performed on or after July 1, 2005, [AND
15 BEFORE JULY 1, 2010, AND EXCEPT THAT AN EXPLORATION
16 EXPENDITURE, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, SOUTH OF 68 DEGREES, 15
17 MINUTES, NORTH LATITUDE, AND NOT PART OF A COOK INLET
18 PROSPECT MUST BE INCURRED FOR WORK PERFORMED ON OR AFTER
19 JULY 1, 2003, AND BEFORE JULY 1, 2010,] and

20 (1) may be for seismic or geophysical exploration costs not connected
21 with a specific well;

22 (2) if for an exploration well,

23 (A) must be incurred by an explorer that holds an interest in the
24 exploration well for which the production tax credit is claimed;

25 (B) may be for either an oil or gas discovery well or a dry hole;
26 and

27 (C) must be for goods, services, or rentals of personal property
28 reasonably required for the surface preparation, drilling, casing, cementing,
29 and logging of an exploration well, and, in the case of a dry hole, for the
30 expenses required for abandonment if the well is abandoned within 18 months
31 after the date the well was spudded;

1 (3) may not be for testing, stimulation, or completion costs;
 2 administration, supervision, engineering, or lease operating costs; geological or
 3 management costs; community relations or environmental costs; bonuses, taxes, or
 4 other payments to governments related to the well; or other costs that are generally
 5 recognized as indirect costs or financing costs; and

6 (4) may not be incurred for an exploration well or seismic exploration
 7 that is included in a plan of exploration or a plan of development for any unit on
 8 May 13, 2003.

9 * **Sec. 15.** AS 43.55.025(f) is amended to read:

10 (f) For a production tax credit under this section,

11 (1) an explorer shall, in a form prescribed by the department and
 12 within six months of the completion of the exploration activity, claim the credit and
 13 submit information sufficient to demonstrate to the department's satisfaction that the
 14 claimed exploration expenditures qualify under this section;

15 (2) an explorer shall agree, in writing,

16 (A) to notify the Department of Natural Resources, within 30
 17 days after completion of seismic or geophysical data processing, completion of
 18 a well, or filing of a claim for credit, whichever is the latest, for which
 19 exploration costs are claimed, of the date of completion and submit a report to
 20 that department describing the processing sequence and providing a list of data
 21 sets available; if, under (c)(2)(B) of this section, an explorer submits a claim
 22 for a credit for expenditures for an exploration well that is located within three
 23 miles of a well already drilled for oil and gas, in addition to the submissions
 24 required under (1) of this subsection, the explorer shall submit the information
 25 necessary for the commissioner of natural resources to evaluate the validity of
 26 the explorer's claim that the well is directed at a distinctly separate exploration
 27 target, and the commissioner of natural resources shall, upon receipt of all
 28 evidence sufficient for the commissioner to evaluate the explorer's claim, make
 29 that determination within 60 days;

30 (B) to provide to the Department of Natural Resources, within
 31 30 days after the date of a request, specific data sets, ancillary data, and reports

1 identified in (A) of this paragraph;

2 (C) that, notwithstanding any provision of AS 38, information
3 provided under this paragraph will be held confidential by the Department of
4 Natural Resources for 10 years following the completion date, at which time
5 that department will release the information after 30 days' public notice;

6 (3) if more than one explorer holds an interest in a well or seismic
7 exploration, each explorer may claim an amount of credit that is proportional to the
8 explorer's cost incurred;

9 (4) the department may exercise the full extent of its powers as though
10 the explorer were a taxpayer under this title, in order to verify that the claimed
11 expenditures are qualified exploration expenditures under this section; and

12 (5) if the department is satisfied that the explorer's claimed
13 expenditures are qualified under this section, the department shall issue to the explorer
14 a production tax credit certificate for the amount of credit to be allowed against
15 production taxes due under AS 43.55.011(e) [THIS CHAPTER; HOWEVER,
16 NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS SECTION, THE
17 DEPARTMENT MAY NOT ISSUE TO AN EXPLORER A PRODUCTION TAX
18 CREDIT CERTIFICATE IF THE TOTAL OF PRODUCTION TAX CREDITS
19 SUBMITTED FOR COOK INLET PRODUCTION, BASED ON EXPLORATION
20 EXPENDITURES FOR WORK PERFORMED DURING THE PERIOD
21 DESCRIBED IN (b) OF THIS SECTION FOR THAT PRODUCTION, THAT HAVE
22 BEEN APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT EXCEEDS \$20,000,000].

23 * **Sec. 16.** AS 43.55.025(h) is amended to read:

24 (h) A producer that purchases a production tax credit certificate may apply the
25 credits against its production tax liability under AS 43.55.011(e) [THIS CHAPTER].
26 Regardless of the price the producer paid for the certificate, the producer may receive
27 a credit against its production tax liability for the full amount of the credit, but for not
28 more than the amount for which the certificate is issued. A production tax credit
29 allowed under this section may not be applied more than once.

30 * **Sec. 17.** AS 43.55.025(i) is amended to read:

31 (i) For a production tax credit under this section,

1 (1) the amount of the credit that may be applied against the production
2 tax for each tax month may not exceed the total production tax liability **under**
3 **AS 43.55.011(e)** of the taxpayer applying the credit for the same month; and

4 (2) an amount of the production tax credit that is greater than the total
5 tax liability **under AS 43.55.011(e)** of the taxpayer applying the credit for a tax month
6 may be carried forward and applied against the taxpayer's production tax liability
7 **under AS 43.55.011(e)** in one or more immediately following months.

8 * **Sec. 18.** AS 43.55.030(a) is amended to read:

9 (a) The tax shall be paid to the department, and the person paying the tax shall
10 file with the department at the time the tax **or a portion of the tax** is required to be
11 paid a statement, under oath, on forms prescribed by or acceptable to the department,
12 giving, with other information required, the following:

13 (1) a description of **each** [THE] lease or property from which the oil
14 **and** [OR] gas **were** [WAS] produced, by name, legal description, lease number, or
15 [BY] accounting **codes** [CODE NUMBERS] assigned by the department;

16 (2) the names of the producer and the person paying the tax;

17 (3) the gross amount of oil **and the gross amount of** [OR] gas
18 produced from **each** [THE] lease or property, and the percentage of the gross amount
19 **of oil and gas** owned by each producer for whom the tax is paid;

20 (4) the **gross** [TOTAL] value **at the point of production** of the oil
21 **and of the** [OR] gas produced from **each** [THE] lease or property owned by each
22 producer for whom the tax is paid; [AND]

23 (5) the name of the first purchaser and the price received for the oil
24 **and for the** [OR] gas, **unless relieved from this requirement in whole or in part by**
25 **the department; and**

26 **(6) the producer's lease expenditures and adjustments as**
27 **calculated under AS 43.55.160** [IF SOLD IN THE STATE].

28 * **Sec. 19.** AS 43.55.030(d) is amended to read:

29 (d) Reports by or on behalf of the producer are delinquent the first day
30 following the day the tax is due. [EACH PRODUCER IS SUBJECT TO A PENALTY
31 OF \$25 A DAY FOR EACH LEASE OR PROPERTY UPON WHICH THE

1 REPORT IS NOT FILED. THE PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO FILE A REPORT IS
 2 IN ADDITION TO THE PENALTY FOR DELINQUENT TAXES, AND IS A LIEN
 3 AGAINST THE ASSETS OF THE PRODUCER.]

4 * **Sec. 20.** AS 43.55.030 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

5 (e) In addition to other required information, the statement required to be filed
 6 on or before March 31 of a year must show any adjustments or corrections to the
 7 statements that were required under (a) of this section to be filed for the months of the
 8 preceding calendar year during which the oil or gas was produced.

9 (f) For purposes of AS 43.05.260(a), the statement required to be filed on or
 10 before March 31 of a year is considered to be the return for the tax imposed by
 11 AS 43.55.011(e) and (f) for oil and gas produced each month of the preceding
 12 calendar year.

13 * **Sec. 21.** AS 43.55.040 is amended to read:

14 **Sec. 43.55.040. Powers of Department of Revenue.** Except as provided in
 15 AS 43.05.405 - 43.05.499, the department may

16 (1) require a person engaged in production and the agent or employee
 17 of the person, and the purchaser of oil or gas, or the owner of a royalty interest in oil
 18 or gas to furnish, **whether by the filing of regular statements or reports or**
 19 **otherwise**, additional information that is considered by the department as necessary to
 20 compute the amount of the tax; **notwithstanding any contrary provision of law, the**
 21 **disclosure of additional information under this paragraph to the producer**
 22 **obligated to pay the tax does not violate AS 40.25.100(a) or AS 43.05.230(a);**
 23 **before disclosing information under this paragraph that is otherwise required to**
 24 **be held confidential under AS 40.25.100(a) or AS 43.05.230(a), the department**
 25 **shall**

26 **(A) provide the person that furnished the information a**
 27 **reasonable opportunity to be heard regarding the proposed disclosure and**
 28 **the conditions to be imposed under (B) of this paragraph; and**

29 **(B) impose appropriate conditions limiting**

30 **(i) access to the information to those legal counsel,**
 31 **consultants, employees, officers, and agents of the producer who**

1 have a need to know that information for the purpose of
 2 determining or contesting the producer's tax obligation; and

3 (ii) the use of the information to use for that
 4 purpose;

5 (2) examine the books, records, and files of such a person;

6 (3) conduct hearings and compel the attendance of witnesses and the
 7 production of books, records, and papers of any person; and

8 (4) make an investigation or hold an inquiry that is considered
 9 necessary to a disclosure of the facts as to

10 (A) the amount of production from any oil or gas location, or of
 11 a company or other producer of oil or gas; and

12 (B) the rendition of the oil and gas for taxing purposes.

13 * **Sec. 22.** AS 43.55.080 is amended to read:

14 **Sec. 43.55.080. Collection and deposit of revenue.** Except as otherwise
 15 provided under art. IX, sec. 17, Constitution of the State of Alaska, the [THE]
 16 department shall deposit in the general fund the money collected by it under
 17 AS 43.55.011 - 43.55.180 [AS 43.55.011 - 43.55.150].

18 * **Sec. 23.** AS 43.55.135 is amended to read:

19 **Sec. 43.55.135. Measurement.** For the purposes of AS 43.55.011 - 43.55.180
 20 [AS 43.55.011 - 43.55.150], oil is [SHALL BE] measured in terms of a "barrel of oil"
 21 and gas is [SHALL BE] measured in terms of a "cubic foot of gas."

22 * **Sec. 24.** AS 43.55.150(a) is amended to read:

23 (a) For the purposes of AS 43.55.011 - 43.55.180 [AS 43.55.011 - 43.55.150],
 24 the gross value at the point of production is [SHALL BE] calculated using the
 25 reasonable costs of transportation of the oil or gas. The reasonable costs of
 26 transportation are [SHALL BE] the actual costs, except when the

27 (1) [WHEN THE] parties to the transportation of oil or gas are
 28 affiliated;

29 (2) [WHEN THE] contract for the transportation of oil or gas is not an
 30 arm's length transaction or is not representative of the market value of that
 31 transportation; and

1 (3) [WHEN THE] method of transportation of oil or gas is not
2 reasonable in view of existing alternative methods of transportation.

3 * **Sec. 25.** AS 43.55 is amended by adding new sections to article 1 to read:

4 **Sec. 43.55.160. Determination of production tax value of oil and gas.** (a)

5 Except as provided in (f) of this section, for purposes of AS 43.55.011(e), the
6 production tax value of the taxable (1) oil and gas produced during a month from a
7 lease or property in the state that includes land north of 68 degrees North latitude is
8 the gross value at the point of production of the oil and gas taxable under
9 AS 43.55.011(e) and produced by the producer from that lease or property, less the
10 producer's lease expenditures for the month applicable to that oil and gas, as adjusted
11 under (e) of this section; (2) oil and gas produced during a month from a lease or
12 property in the state outside the Cook Inlet sedimentary basin and south of 68 degrees
13 North latitude is the gross value at the point of production of the oil and gas taxable
14 under AS 43.55.011(e) and produced by the producer from that lease or property, less
15 the producer's lease expenditures for the month applicable to that oil and gas, as
16 adjusted under (e) of this section; (3) oil produced during a month from a lease or
17 property in the Cook Inlet sedimentary basin is the gross value at the point of
18 production of the oil taxable under AS 43.55.011(e) and produced by the producer
19 from that lease or property, less the producer's lease expenditures for the month
20 applicable to that oil, as adjusted under (e) of this section; (4) gas produced during a
21 month from a lease or property in the Cook Inlet sedimentary basin is the gross value
22 at the point of production of the gas taxable under AS 43.55.011(e) and produced by
23 the producer from that lease or property, less the producer's lease expenditures for the
24 month applicable to that gas, as adjusted under (e) of this section. However, a
25 production tax value calculated under this subsection may not be less than zero. If a
26 producer does not produce taxable oil or gas during a month, the producer is
27 considered to have generated a positive production tax value if a calculation described
28 in this subsection yields a positive number because the producer's adjusted lease
29 expenditures for a month are less than zero as a result of the producer's receiving a
30 payment or credit under (e) of this section or otherwise.

31 (b) For purposes of administration of (a) of this section,

1 (1) any adjusted lease expenditures that would otherwise be deductible
2 in a month but whose deduction would cause a production tax value calculated under
3 (a) of this section of taxable oil or gas produced during the month to be less than zero
4 may be added to the producer's adjusted lease expenditures for one or more other
5 months in the same calendar year; the total of any adjusted lease expenditures that are
6 not deductible in any month during a calendar year because their deduction would
7 cause a production tax value calculated under (a) of this section of taxable oil or gas
8 produced during one or more months to be less than zero may be used to establish a
9 carried-forward annual loss under AS 43.55.024(b);

10 (2) an explorer that has taken a tax credit under AS 43.55.024(b) or
11 that has obtained a transferable tax credit certificate under AS 43.55.024(d) for the
12 amount of a tax credit under AS 43.55.024(b) is considered a producer, subject to the
13 tax levied under AS 43.55.011(e), to the extent that the explorer generates a positive
14 production tax value as the result of the explorer's receiving a payment or credit
15 described in (e) of this section.

16 (c) For purposes of this section,

17 (1) a producer's lease expenditures for a period are the ordinary and
18 necessary costs upstream of the point of production of oil and gas that are incurred on
19 or after April 1, 2006, by the producer during the period and that are direct costs of
20 exploring for, developing, or producing oil or gas deposits located within the
21 producer's leases or properties in the state or, in the case of land in which the producer
22 does not own a working interest, that are direct costs of exploring for oil or gas
23 deposits located within other land in the state; in determining whether costs are lease
24 expenditures,

25 (A) the department shall give substantial weight to the typical
26 industry practices and standards in the state that determine the costs that an
27 operator is allowed to bill a working interest owner that is not the operator,
28 under unit operating agreements or similar operating agreements that were in
29 effect on or before December 1, 2005, and were subject to negotiation with at
30 least one working interest owner with substantial bargaining power, other than
31 the operator; and

1 (B) as to matters that are not addressed by the industry
2 practices and standards described in (A) of this paragraph or as to which those
3 practices and standards are not clear or are not uniform, the department shall
4 give substantial weight to the standards adopted by the Department of Natural
5 Resources that determine the costs, other than interest, that a lessee is allowed
6 to deduct from revenue in calculating net profits under a lease issued under
7 AS 38.05.180(f)(3)(B), (D), or (E);

8 (2) the Department of Revenue may authorize a producer, including a
9 producer that is an operator, to treat as its lease expenditures under this section the
10 costs, other than items listed in (d) of this section, paid by the producer that are billed
11 to the producer by an operator in accordance with the terms of a unit operating
12 agreement or similar operating agreement if the Department of Revenue finds that

13 (A) the pertinent provisions of the operating agreement are
14 substantially consistent with the Department of Revenue's determinations and
15 standards otherwise applicable under this subsection; and

16 (B) at least one working interest owner party to the agreement,
17 other than the operator, has substantial incentive and ability to effectively audit
18 billings under the agreement;

19 (3) an activity does not need to be physically located on, near, or
20 within the premises of the lease or property within which an oil or gas deposit being
21 explored for, developed, or produced is located in order for the cost of the activity to
22 be a cost upstream of the point of production of the oil or gas;

23 (4) the lease expenditures that are applicable to oil or gas produced
24 from a lease or property shall be determined under regulations adopted by the
25 department that provide for reasonable methods of allocating costs between oil and
26 gas and among leases or properties;

27 (5) "direct costs" include

28 (A) an expenditure, when incurred, to acquire an item if the
29 acquisition cost is otherwise a direct cost, notwithstanding that the expenditure
30 may be required to be capitalized rather than treated as an expense for financial
31 accounting or federal income tax purposes;

1 (B) payments of or in lieu of property taxes, sales and use
2 taxes, motor fuel taxes, and excise taxes;

3 (C) a reasonable allowance, as determined under regulations
4 adopted by the department, for overhead expenses directly related to exploring
5 for, developing, and producing oil or gas deposits located within leases or
6 properties or other land in the state.

7 (d) For purposes of (c) of this section, lease expenditures do not include

8 (1) depreciation, depletion, or amortization;

9 (2) oil or gas royalty payments, production payments, lease profit
10 shares, or other payments or distributions of a share of oil or gas production, profit, or
11 revenue;

12 (3) taxes based on or measured by net income;

13 (4) interest or other financing charges or costs of raising equity or debt
14 capital;

15 (5) acquisition costs for a lease or property or exploration license;

16 (6) costs arising from fraud, wilful misconduct, or gross negligence;

17 (7) fines or penalties imposed by law;

18 (8) costs of arbitration, litigation, or other dispute resolution activities
19 that involve the state or concern the rights or obligations among owners of interests in,
20 or rights to production from, one or more leases or properties or a unit;

21 (9) donations;

22 (10) costs incurred in organizing a partnership, joint venture, or other
23 business entity or arrangement;

24 (11) amounts paid to indemnify the state; the exclusion provided by
25 this paragraph does not apply to the costs of obtaining insurance or a surety bond from
26 a third-party insurer or surety;

27 (12) surcharges levied under AS 43.55.201 or 43.55.300;

28 (13) for a transaction that is an internal transfer or is otherwise not an
29 arm's length transaction, expenditures incurred that are in excess of fair market value;

30 (14) an expenditure incurred to purchase an interest in any corporation,
31 partnership, limited liability company, business trust, or any other business entity,

1 whether or not the transaction is treated as an asset sale for federal income tax
2 purposes;

3 (15) a tax levied under AS 43.55.011;

4 (16) the portion of costs incurred for dismantlement, removal,
5 surrender, or abandonment of a facility, pipeline, well pad, platform, or other
6 structure, or for the restoration of a lease, field, unit, area, body of water, or right-of-
7 way in conjunction with dismantlement, removal, surrender, or abandonment, that is
8 attributable to production of oil or gas occurring before April 1, 2006; the portion is
9 calculated as a ratio of the amount of oil and gas production in barrels of oil equivalent
10 associated with the facility, pipeline, well pad, platform, or other structure, lease, field,
11 unit, area, body of water, or right-of-way occurring before April 1, 2006, to the total
12 amount of oil and gas production in barrels of oil equivalent associated with that
13 facility, pipeline, well pad, platform, or other structure, lease, field, unit, area, body of
14 water, or right-of-way through the end of the calendar month before commencement
15 of the dismantlement, removal, surrender, or abandonment; a cost is not excluded
16 under this paragraph if the dismantlement, removal, surrender, or abandonment for
17 which the cost is incurred is undertaken for the purpose of replacing, renovating, or
18 improving the facility, pipeline, well pad, platform, or other structure;

19 (17) losses or damages resulting from an unpermitted oil discharge that
20 is not confined to a pad, platform, or other structure, or costs to contain, clean up, or
21 remediate such an unpermitted oil discharge to the extent that those costs exceed the
22 routine costs of operation for a producer or explorer that would otherwise be incurred
23 as lease expenditures in the absence of the unpermitted oil discharge; this paragraph
24 does not apply to the cost of developing and maintaining an oil discharge prevention
25 and contingency plan under AS 46.04.030;

26 (18) costs incurred to satisfy a work commitment under an exploration
27 license under AS 38.05.132.

28 (e) Unless the payment or credit has already been subtracted in calculating
29 billed costs under (c)(2) of this section, a producer's lease expenditures must be
30 adjusted by subtracting certain payments or credits received by the producer or by an
31 operator acting for the producer, as provided in this subsection. If one or more

1 payments or credits subject to this subsection are received by a producer or by an
2 operator acting for the producer during a month or, under (f) of this section, during a
3 calendar year, and if either the total amount of the payments or credits exceeds the
4 amount of the producer's lease expenditures or the producer has no lease expenditures,
5 the producer shall nevertheless subtract those payments or credits from the lease
6 expenditures or from zero, respectively, and the producer's adjusted lease expenditures
7 for that month or calendar year are a negative number and shall be applied to the
8 calculation under (a) of this section as a negative number. The payments or credits that
9 a producer shall subtract from the producer's lease expenditures, or from zero, under
10 this subsection are payments or credits, other than tax credits, received by the producer
11 or by an operator acting for the producer for

12 (1) the use by another person of a production facility in which the
13 producer has an ownership interest or the management by the producer of a production
14 facility under a management agreement providing for the producer to receive a
15 management fee;

16 (2) a reimbursement or similar payment that offsets the producer's
17 lease expenditures, including an insurance recovery from a third-party insurer and a
18 payment from the state or federal government for reimbursement of the producer's
19 upstream costs, including costs for gathering, separating, cleaning, dehydration,
20 compressing, or other field handling associated with the production of oil or gas
21 upstream of the point of production;

22 (3) the sale or other transfer of

23 (A) an asset, including geological, geophysical, or well data or
24 interpretations, acquired by the producer as a result of a lease expenditure or an
25 expenditure that would be a lease expenditure if it were incurred on or after
26 April 1, 2006; for purposes of this subparagraph,

27 (i) if a producer removes from the state, for use outside
28 the state, an asset described in this subparagraph, the value of the asset
29 at the time it is removed is considered a payment received by the
30 producer for sale or transfer of the asset;

31 (ii) for a transaction that is an internal transfer or is

1 otherwise not an arm's length transaction, if the sale or transfer of the
 2 asset is made for less than fair market value, the amount subtracted
 3 must be the fair market value; and

4 (B) oil or gas

5 (i) that is not considered produced from a lease or
 6 property under AS 43.55.020(e); and

7 (ii) the cost of acquiring which is a lease expenditure
 8 incurred by the person that acquires the oil or gas.

9 (f) In place of the adjusted lease expenditures for a month under (a) of this
 10 section, a producer may, at any time, elect to substitute, for every month of a calendar
 11 year, 1/12 of the producer's adjusted lease expenditures for the calendar year.

12 (g) The department shall specify or approve a reasonable allocation method
 13 for determining the portion of a cost that is appropriately treated as a lease expenditure
 14 under (c) of this section if a cost that would otherwise constitute a lease expenditure
 15 under (c) of this section is incurred to explore for, develop, or produce

16 (1) both an oil or gas deposit located within land outside the state and
 17 an oil or gas deposit located within a lease or property, or other land, in the state; or

18 (2) an oil or gas deposit located partly within land outside the state and
 19 partly within a lease or property, or other land, in the state.

20 (h) For purposes of AS 43.55.024(a) and (b) and only as to expenditures
 21 incurred to explore for an oil or gas deposit located within land in which an explorer
 22 does not own a working interest, the term "producer" in (b), (c), and (e) of this section
 23 includes "explorer."

24 (j) The department may adopt regulations that establish additional standards
 25 necessary to carrying out the purposes of this section, including the incorporation of
 26 the concepts of 26 U.S.C. 482 (Internal Revenue Code), as amended, the related or
 27 accompanying regulations of that section, and any ruling or guidance issued by the
 28 United States Internal Revenue Service that relates to that section.

29 (j) For purposes of this section,

30 (1) "explore" includes conducting geological or geophysical
 31 exploration, including drilling a stratigraphic test well;

1 (2) "ordinary and necessary" has the meaning given in 26 U.S.C. 162
2 (Internal Revenue Code), as amended, and regulations adopted under that section;

3 (3) "stratigraphic test well" means a well drilled for the sole purpose of
4 obtaining geological information to aid in exploring for an oil or gas deposit and the
5 target zones of which are located in the state.

6 **Sec. 43.55.170. Additional nontransferable tax credits.** (a) For a month for
7 which a producer's tax liability under AS 43.55.011(e) on oil and gas produced from
8 leases or properties outside the Cook Inlet sedimentary basin and south of 68 degrees
9 North latitude exceeds zero before application of any credits under this chapter, a
10 producer that is qualified under (e) of this section may apply a tax credit against that
11 liability of up to \$500,000.

12 (b) A producer may not take a tax credit under (a) of this section for any
13 month that ends the later of

14 (1) April 30, 2016; or

15 (2) the 10th anniversary of the last day of the month for which the
16 producer first has commercial oil or gas production before May 1, 2016, from at least
17 one lease or property in the state outside the Cook Inlet sedimentary basin and south of
18 68 degrees North latitude, if the producer did not have commercial oil or gas
19 production from a lease or property in the state outside the Cook Inlet sedimentary
20 basin and south of 68 degrees North latitude before April 1, 2006.

21 (c) For a month for which a producer's tax liability under AS 43.55.011(e)
22 exceeds zero before application of any credits under this chapter, other than a credit
23 under (a) of this section, but after application of any credit under (a) of this section, a
24 producer that is qualified under (e) of this section and whose average amount of oil
25 and gas produced a day and taxable under AS 43.55.011(e) is less than 100,000 barrels
26 of oil equivalent a day may apply a tax credit under this section against that liability. A
27 producer whose average amount of oil and gas produced a day and taxable under
28 AS 43.55.011(e) is

29 (1) not more than 50,000 barrels of oil equivalent may apply a tax
30 credit of up to \$1,000,000 for the month;

31 (2) more than 50,000 and less than 100,000 barrels of oil equivalent

1 may apply a tax credit of up to the following fraction of \$1,000,000 for the month:

$$2 \quad 1 - [2 \times (AP - 50,000)]/100,000,$$

3 where AP = the average amount of oil and gas, expressed as barrels of oil equivalent,
4 produced a day during the month and taxable under AS 43.55.011(e).

5 (d) A producer may not take a tax credit under (c) of this section for any
6 month that ends the later of

7 (1) April 30, 2016; or

8 (2) the 10th anniversary of the last day of the month for which the
9 producer first has commercial oil or gas production before May 1, 2016, from at least
10 one lease or property in the state, if the producer did not have commercial oil or gas
11 production from a lease or property in the state before April 1, 2006.

12 (e) On written application by a producer, including any information the
13 department may require, the department shall determine whether the producer
14 qualifies under this section for a calendar year. To qualify under this section, a
15 producer must demonstrate that its operation in the state or its ownership of an interest
16 in a lease or property in the state as a distinct producer entity would not result in the
17 division among multiple producer entities of any production tax liability under
18 AS 43.55.011(e) that would be reasonably expected to be attributed to a single
19 producer entity if the tax credit provisions of (a) or (c) of this section did not exist.

20 (f) A tax credit authorized by (a) of this section may not be applied to reduce a
21 producer's tax liability for any month under AS 43.55.011(e) on oil and gas produced
22 from leases or properties outside the Cook Inlet sedimentary basin and south of 68
23 degrees North latitude below zero. An unused portion of a tax credit authorized by (a)
24 of this section that could otherwise be applied for a month, but whose application
25 would cause the producer's tax liability for the month on oil and gas produced from
26 leases or properties outside the Cook Inlet sedimentary basin and south of 68 degrees
27 North latitude to be less than zero, may be applied for one or more other months in the
28 same calendar year to the extent otherwise allowed under this section.

29 (g) A tax credit authorized by (c) of this section may not be applied to reduce
30 a producer's tax liability under AS 43.55.011(e) for any month below zero. An unused
31 portion of a tax credit that could otherwise be applied for a month but whose

1 application would cause the producer's tax liability under AS 43.55.011(e) for the
 2 month to be less than zero may be applied for one or more other months in the same
 3 calendar year to the extent otherwise allowed under this section.

4 (h) An unused tax credit or portion of a tax credit under this section is not
 5 transferable and may not be carried forward to or used in a later calendar year.

6 **Sec. 43.55.180. Required reports.** (a) The Department of Revenue shall

7 (1) study

8 (A) the effects of the tax rates under AS 43.55.011(f) and of
 9 potential changes in those tax rates on state revenue and on oil and gas
 10 exploration, development, and production on private land; and

11 (B) the fairness of the tax rates under AS 43.55.011(f) and of
 12 potential changes in those tax rates for private landowners; and

13 (2) prepare a report on or before the first day of the 2013 regular
 14 session of the legislature on the results of the study made under (1) of this subsection,
 15 including a recommendation as to whether those tax rates should be changed; the
 16 department shall notify the legislature that the report prepared under this paragraph is
 17 available.

18 (b) The Department of Revenue shall

19 (1) study the effects of the credits authorized by AS 43.55.025 and
 20 43.55.170 on state revenue, on the encouragement of exploration, development, and
 21 production of oil and gas deposits located in the state, and on the encouragement of
 22 new entrants into the oil and gas industry in the state; and

23 (2) prepare a report on or before the first day of the 2015 regular
 24 session of the legislature on the results of the study made under (1) of this subsection,
 25 and shall include with the report a recommendation as to whether the legislature
 26 should extend the availability of the credits under AS 43.55.025 and 43.55.170; the
 27 department shall notify the legislature that the report prepared under this paragraph is
 28 available.

29 * **Sec. 26.** AS 43.55.201 is amended to read:

30 **Sec. 43.55.201. Surcharge levied.** (a) Every producer of oil shall pay a
 31 surcharge of \$**.01** [\$.02] per barrel of oil produced from each lease or property in the

1 state, less any oil the ownership or right to which is exempt from taxation.

2 (b) The surcharge imposed by (a) of this section is in addition to **the tax**
 3 **imposed by AS 43.55.011** and **is due on the last day of the month on oil produced**
 4 **from each lease or property during the preceding month. The surcharge** [SHALL
 5 BE PAID IN THE SAME MANNER AS THE TAX IMPOSED BY AS 43.55.011 -
 6 43.55.150; AND] is in addition to the surcharge imposed by AS 43.55.300 -
 7 43.55.310.

8 (c) A producer of oil shall make reports of production in the same manner and
 9 under the same penalties as required under **AS 43.55.011 - 43.55.180** [AS 43.55.011 -
 10 43.55.150].

11 * **Sec. 27.** AS 43.55.201 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

12 (d) Oil not considered under AS 43.55.020(e) to be produced from a lease or
 13 property is not considered to be produced from a lease or property for purposes of this
 14 section.

15 * **Sec. 28.** AS 43.55.300 is amended to read:

16 **Sec. 43.55.300. Surcharge levied.** (a) Every producer of oil shall pay a
 17 surcharge of **\$.04** [\$.03] per barrel of oil produced from each lease or property in the
 18 state, less any oil the ownership or right to which is exempt from taxation.

19 (b) The surcharge imposed by (a) of this section is in addition to **the tax**
 20 **imposed by AS 43.55.011** and **is due on the last day of the month on oil produced**
 21 **from each lease or property during the preceding month. The surcharge** [SHALL
 22 BE PAID IN THE SAME MANNER AS THE TAX IMPOSED BY AS 43.55.011 -
 23 43.55.150; AND] is in addition to the surcharge imposed by AS 43.55.201 -
 24 43.55.231.

25 (c) A producer of oil shall make reports of production in the same manner and
 26 under the same penalties as required under **AS 43.55.011 - 43.55.180** [AS 43.55.011 -
 27 43.55.150].

28 * **Sec. 29.** AS 43.55.300 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

29 (d) Oil not considered under AS 43.55.020(e) to be produced from a lease or
 30 property is not considered to be produced from a lease or property for purposes of this
 31 section.

1 * **Sec. 30.** AS 43.55.900(6) is repealed and reenacted to read:

2 (6) "gas" means

3 (A) all natural, associated, or casinghead gas;

4 (B) all hydrocarbons that

5 (i) are recovered by mechanical separation of well
6 fluids or by gas processing in a gas processing plant; and

7 (ii) exist in a gaseous phase at the completion of
8 mechanical separation and any gas processing in a gas processing plant;
9 and

10 (C) all other hydrocarbons produced from a well not defined as

11 oil;

12 * **Sec. 31.** AS 43.55.900(7) is repealed and reenacted to read:

13 (7) "gross value at the point of production" means

14 (A) for oil, the value of the oil at its point of production
15 without deduction of any costs upstream of that point of production;

16 (B) for gas, the value of the gas at its point of production
17 without deduction of any costs upstream of that point of production;

18 * **Sec. 32.** AS 43.55.900(10) is repealed and reenacted to read:

19 (10) "oil" means

20 (A) crude petroleum oil; and

21 (B) all liquid hydrocarbons that are recovered by mechanical
22 separation of well fluids or by gas processing in a gas processing plant;

23 * **Sec. 33.** AS 43.55.900 is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:

24 (17) "barrel of oil equivalent" means

25 (A) in the case of oil, one barrel;

26 (B) in the case of gas, 6,000 cubic feet;

27 (18) "Cook Inlet sedimentary basin" has the meaning given in
28 regulations adopted to implement AS 38.05.180(f)(4);

29 (19) "explorer" means a person who, in exploring for new oil or gas
30 reserves, incurs expenditures;

31 (20) "gas processing"

1 (A) means processing a gaseous mixture of hydrocarbons

2 (i) by means of absorption, adsorption, externally
3 applied refrigeration, artificial compression followed by adiabatic
4 expansion using the Joule-Thomson effect, or another physical process
5 that is not mechanical separation; and

6 (ii) for the purpose of extracting and recovering liquid
7 hydrocarbons;

8 (B) does not include gas treatment;

9 (21) "gas processing plant" means a facility that

10 (A) extracts and recovers liquid hydrocarbons from a gaseous
11 mixture of hydrocarbons by gas processing; and

12 (B) is located upstream of any gas treatment and upstream of
13 the inlet of any gas pipeline system transporting gas to a market;

14 (22) "gas treatment"

15 (A) means conditioning gas and removing from gas
16 nonhydrocarbon substances for the purpose of rendering the gas acceptable for
17 tender and acceptance into a gas pipeline system;

18 (B) includes incidentally removing liquid hydrocarbons from
19 the gas;

20 (C) does not include

21 (i) dehydration required to facilitate the movement of
22 gas from the well to the point where gas processing takes place;

23 (ii) the scrubbing of liquids from gas to facilitate gas
24 processing;

25 (23) "landowner's royalty interest" means

26 (A) a lessor's royalty interest under an oil and gas lease; or

27 (B) a royalty interest that is

28 (i) held by a surface owner of land from which oil or
29 gas is produced; and

30 (ii) granted in exchange for the right to use the surface
31 of that land or as compensation for damage to the surface of that land;

1 (24) "oil and gas lease" includes an oil and gas lease, a gas only lease,
2 and an oil only lease;

3 (25) "point of production" means

4 (A) for oil, the automatic custody transfer meter or device
5 through which the oil enters into the facilities of a carrier pipeline or other
6 transportation carrier in a condition of pipeline quality; in the absence of an
7 automatic custody transfer meter or device, "point of production" means the
8 mechanism or device to measure the quantity of oil that has been approved by
9 the department for that purpose, through which the oil is tendered and accepted
10 in a condition of pipeline quality into the facilities of a carrier pipeline or other
11 transportation carrier or into a field topping plant;

12 (B) for gas, other than gas described in (C) of this paragraph,
13 that is

14 (i) not subjected to or recovered by mechanical
15 separation or run through a gas processing plant, the first point where
16 the gas is accurately metered;

17 (ii) subjected to or recovered by mechanical separation
18 but not run through a gas processing plant, the first point where the gas
19 is accurately metered after completion of mechanical separation;

20 (iii) run through a gas processing plant, the first point
21 where the gas is accurately metered downstream of the plant;

22 (C) for gas run through an integrated gas processing plant and
23 gas treatment facility that does not accurately meter the gas after the gas
24 processing and before the gas treatment, the first point where gas processing is
25 completed or where gas treatment begins, whichever is further upstream.

26 * **Sec. 34.** AS 43.55.011(a), 43.55.011(b), 43.55.011(c), 43.55.012, 43.55.013, 43.55.016,
27 43.55.025(k)(1), 43.55.025(k)(3), 43.55.900(1), 43.55.900(8), 43.55.900(11), 43.55.900(12),
28 and 43.55.900(16) are repealed.

29 * **Sec. 35.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
30 read:

31 **APPLICABILITY.** (a) Sections 5, 7 - 10, 12, 13, 15 - 18, 20, 24, and 26 - 34 of this

1 Act and AS 43.55.160 and 43.55.170, enacted by sec. 25 of this Act, apply to oil and gas
2 produced after March 31, 2006.

3 (b) Section 11 of this Act applies to oil and gas produced before, on, or after the
4 effective date of sec. 11 of this Act.

5 * **Sec. 36.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
6 read:

7 **TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS.** (a) Notwithstanding any contrary provision of
8 AS 43.55.024(a), enacted by sec. 12 of this Act, for oil and gas produced after March 31,
9 2006, and before January 1, 2007, the phrase "every month an annualized tax credit in an
10 amount equal to 1 2/3 percent" in AS 43.55.024(a)(1)(B), enacted by sec. 12 of this Act, shall
11 be replaced by the phrase "every month during the period April 1, 2006, through
12 December 31, 2006, an annualized tax credit in an amount equal to 2.222 percent."

13 (b) Notwithstanding any contrary provision of AS 43.55.024(e), enacted by sec. 12 of
14 this Act, for oil and gas produced after March 31, 2006, and before January 1, 2007, the
15 phrase "a calendar year" in AS 43.55.024(e), enacted by sec. 12 of this Act, shall be replaced
16 by the phrase "the last nine months of the calendar year."

17 (c) Notwithstanding any contrary provision of AS 43.55.024(j)(2), enacted by sec. 12
18 of this Act, for oil and gas produced after March 31, 2006, and before January 1, 2007,

19 (1) the number "1/120" in AS 43.55.024(j)(2)(B), enacted by sec. 12 of this
20 Act, shall be replaced by the number "1/90";

21 (2) the phrase "calendar year" in AS 43.55.024(j)(2)(B), enacted by sec. 12 of
22 this Act, shall be replaced by the phrase "last nine months of the calendar year."

23 (d) Notwithstanding any contrary provision of AS 43.55.160(f), enacted by sec. 25 of
24 this Act, for oil and gas produced after March 31, 2006, and before January 1, 2007, the
25 phrase "for every month of a calendar year, 1/12 of the producer's adjusted lease expenditures
26 for the calendar year" in AS 43.55.160(f), enacted by sec. 25 of this Act, shall be replaced by
27 the phrase "for each of the last nine months of 2006, one-ninth of the producer's adjusted lease
28 expenditures for that nine-month period."

29 (e) For oil and gas produced before April 1, 2006, the provisions of AS 43.55, and
30 regulations adopted under AS 43.55, that were in effect before April 1, 2006, and that were
31 applicable to the oil and gas continue to apply to that oil and gas.

1 (f) Notwithstanding any contrary provision of AS 43.55.020(a), as repealed and
2 reenacted by sec. 7 of this Act, for oil and gas produced after March 31, 2006, and before the
3 first day of the first month that begins at least 270 days after the effective date of sec. 7 of this
4 Act,

5 (1) the amount of the taxes that would have been levied on the producer by
6 AS 43.55, as the provisions of that chapter read on March 31, 2006, is due on the last day of
7 each calendar month on the oil and gas that was produced from each lease or property during
8 the preceding month;

9 (2) the amount, if any, of the taxes levied by AS 43.55.011(e) and (f), enacted
10 by sec. 5 of this Act, net of any credits applied as allowed by law, that exceeds the amount
11 due under (1) of this subsection, is due on the last day of the first month that begins after the
12 last payment under (1) of this subsection is due.

13 (g) Notwithstanding any contrary provision of AS 43.55.030(a), as amended by sec.
14 18 of this Act, for oil and gas produced after March 31, 2006, and before the first day of the
15 first month that begins at least 270 days after the effective date of sec. 18 of this Act, the
16 person paying the tax shall file with the Department of Revenue, at the time an amount of tax
17 is due

18 (1) under (f)(1) of this section, the statement required under former
19 AS 43.55.030(a), as that subsection read on March 31, 2006; and

20 (2) under (f)(2) of this section, the statements required under AS 43.55.030(a),
21 as amended by sec. 18 of this Act.

22 (h) Notwithstanding any contrary provision of AS 43.55.201(a) or (b), as amended by
23 sec. 26 of this Act, or AS 43.55.300(a) or (b), as amended by sec. 28 of this Act, for oil
24 produced after March 31, 2006, and before the first day of the first month that begins at least
25 270 days after the effective date of secs. 26 and 28 of this Act,

26 (1) the amount of the surcharges that would have been imposed on the
27 producer under AS 43.55, as the provisions of that chapter read on March 31, 2006, is due on
28 the last day of each calendar month on oil produced from each lease or property during the
29 preceding month;

30 (2) the amount, if any, of the surcharges imposed under AS 43.55.201(a), as
31 amended by sec. 26 of this Act, and AS 43.55.300(a), as amended by sec. 28 of this Act, that

1 exceeds the amount due under (1) of this subsection, is due on the last day of the first month
2 that begins after the last payment under (1) of this subsection is due.

3 (i) Notwithstanding any contrary provision of AS 43.55.201(c), as amended by sec.
4 26 of this Act, or AS 43.55.300(c), as amended by sec. 28 of this Act, for oil produced after
5 March 31, 2006, and before the first day of the first month that begins at least 270 days after
6 the effective date of secs. 26 and 28 of this Act, at the time an amount of surcharge is due

7 (1) under (h)(1) of this section, the producer shall file the report of production
8 required under former AS 43.55.201(c) and 43.55.300(c), as those provisions read on
9 March 31, 2006; and

10 (2) under (h)(2) of this section, the producer shall file the report of production
11 required under AS 43.55.201(c), as amended by sec. 26 of this Act, and AS 43.55.300(c), as
12 amended by sec. 28 of this Act.

13 (j) For purposes of taxes to be calculated and due under (f)(1) of this section and
14 statements to be filed under (g)(1) of this section, regulations that were adopted by the
15 Department of Revenue under AS 43.55, as the provisions of that chapter read on March 31,
16 2006, and that were in effect on that date apply to those taxes and statements.

17 * **Sec. 37.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
18 read:

19 **TRANSITION: RETROACTIVITY OF REGULATIONS.** Notwithstanding any
20 contrary provision of AS 44.62.240, a regulation adopted by the Department of Revenue to
21 implement, interpret, make specific, or otherwise carry out the provisions of secs. 5, 7 - 10,
22 12, 13, 15 - 18, 20, 24 - 34, and 36 of this Act may apply retroactively as of April 1, 2006, if
23 the Department of Revenue expressly designates in the regulation that the regulation applies
24 retroactively to that date.

25 * **Sec. 38.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
26 read:

27 **REVISOR'S INSTRUCTION.** The revisor of statutes is instructed to change the
28 heading of

29 (1) AS 43.55 from "Oil and Gas Production Taxes and Oil Surcharge" to "Oil
30 and Gas Production Tax and Oil Surcharge";

31 (2) article 1 of AS 43.55 from "Oil and Gas Properties Production Taxes" to

1 "Oil and Gas Production Tax";

2 (3) AS 43.55.011 from "Oil production tax" to "Oil and gas production tax";

3 (4) AS 43.55.025 from "Tax credit for oil and gas exploration or gas only
4 exploration" to "Alternative tax credit for oil and gas exploration";

5 (5) AS 43.55.150 from "Determination of gross value" to "Determination of
6 gross value at the point of production."

7 * **Sec. 39.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
8 read:

9 RETROACTIVITY OF PROVISIONS OF ACT. Sections 5, 7 - 10, 12, 13, 15 - 18,
10 and 24 - 38 of this Act are retroactive to April 1, 2006.

11 * **Sec. 40.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).