

H B

371


LETTER OF INTENT
FOR CSHB 371
January 19, 1984


The House Resources Committee has considered CSHB 371, providing for approval of the Agreement between the State of Alaska and Tesoro Alaska Petroleum Company for the sale of a portion of Alaska's royalty oil. This Agreement must be approved by the legislature under the provisions of AS 38.06.055(a) which provides that "the commissioner of natural resources may not enter into a sale, exchange, or other disposition of oil or gas or of the rights or waiver of the rights to receive future production of royalty oil or gas under AS 38.05.183 without the prior approval of the legislature."


Section 19.1 of the Agreement provides that the Agreement may be "supplemented, amended or modified at any time, but only by written instrument duly executed by the parties to this Agreement." In making any such changes to the Agreement pursuant to this section, the Commissioner would be acting on behalf of the State of Alaska as one of the parties to the Agreement.

The Committee recognizes that a supplement, amendment, or modification of the Agreement could be a further "sale, exchange, or other disposition" within the meaning of AS 38.06.055(a). The Committee is also cognizant that pursuant to Section 20.1 of the Agreement, the Commissioner has the right to "grant" (consent to) an assignment of the Agreement.

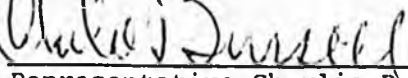
It is the intent of the Committee that it be understood that approval of CSHB 271 does not constitute prior approval of any supplement, amendment or modification or any assignment that would be a further "sale, disposition, exchange, or other disposition" within the meaning of AS 38.06.055(a) and that it is expected that any such action by the Commissioner must first be preceded by compliance with the procedures for obtaining the prior approval of the legislature.

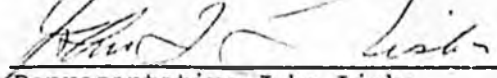

Representative John Ringstad
Co-Chairman, Resource Committee


Representative Dick Shultz
Co-Chairman, Resource Committee



Representative Rick Uehling
Vice-Chairman, Resource Committee

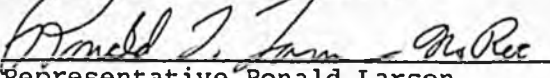
Representative John Cowdery
Member, Resource Committee


Representative Charlie Bussell
Member, Resource Committee


Representative John Liska
Member, Resource Committee

Representative Anthony Vaska
Member, Resource Committee


Representative Peter Goll
Member, Resource Committee


Representative Ronald Larson
Member, Resource Committee

adopted by House 2/16/84

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No.: (S HB 371/F-18)
 Title: sale of Prudence Bay
royalty oil to Tesoro
 Sponsor: Rules Committee
 Requestor: Governor
 Date of Request: 4-19-83

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected: Natural Resources
 Program Category Affected: Management of Energy Resources
 ERU, Program or Subprogram(s) Affected: Oil and Gas Management

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89
OPERATING						
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 SUPPLIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS						
800 MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
CAPITAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
REVENUE						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

SOURCE OF FUNDS TO OFFSET FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL:

ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page for analysis

Prepared By: Sharon L. Barton Phone: 465-2400
 Division: Commissioner's Office Date: 1-12-84

Approved by Commissioner: Mrs D Anna Doughty Date: 1/12/84
 Agency: Department of Natural Resources

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)

April 14, 1983

The Honorable Joe L. Hayes
Speaker of the House
Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Under the authority of art. III, sec. 18, of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill which provides for legislative approval of a royalty oil contract between the state and Tesoro Alaska Petroleum Company for the sale of Prudhoe Bay royalty oil.

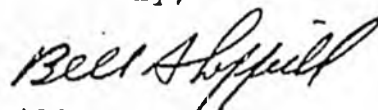
This contract is described in the findings entitled "Proposed Disposition of Royalty Oil, Tesoro Alaska Petroleum Company" issued by the Department of Natural Resources on March 16, 1983. Copies of these findings have been made available to the legislature and the public for review.

This contract is being submitted for legislative approval for two reasons. First, although this and the previous administration have consistently taken the position that the statutory requirement of legislative approval of royalty oil contracts is unconstitutional (AS 38.06.055), as a matter of comity I respect the legislature's desire to have a direct voice in major disposals of royalty oil. Therefore, this contract contains provisions requiring approval by the legislature before it becomes effective. Second, this bill would ratify the agreement for the sale of oil. This ratification would cure any procedural defect that may have occurred in the process of entering into this contract.

Although we believe that all necessary steps have been taken, the statutes and regulations governing the disposal of royalty oil represent often conflicting desires and goals, both procedural and substantive. For example, even if statutorily requiring legislative approval were constitutional, the present statutes provide, on the one hand, that the legislature is to approve the contract by enacting legislation (AS 38.06.055(a)), but, on the other

...submitted for legislative review at the time of
[sic] resolution for legislative approval of a proposed
disposition of royalty oil and gas is introduced in the
legislature" (AS 38.06.070(c)). Since legislative approval
is required anyway as a matter of contract, I believe it
only prudent to present this contract for legislative
approval and ratification at this time.

Sincerely,



Bill Sheffield
Governor