

HJR

39

# Alaska State Legislature

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POUCH V  
JUNEAU, ALASKA. 99811  
(907) 465-4907

## Senate Committee on Resources

MEMORANDUM

May 10, 1985

TO: All Members  
Senate Resources Committee

FROM: Staff *AF*  
Senate Resources Committee

RE: HJR 39 Relating to the foreign export of Alaskan crude oil.

HJR 39 requests the U.S. Congress to enact laws providing for the export of crude oil from Alaska. The resolution also calls upon the Alaskan congressional delegation to use their best efforts for the passage of legislation permitting the foreign export of Alaskan crude oil.

# Federal study advises lifting oil export ban

by David Ramsey  
Times Washington Bureau

Washington — Lifting the ban on Alaska oil exports could provide an important incentive to develop arctic resources, according to a new congressional study.

But selling Alaska oil abroad could also threaten national security and harm the U.S. maritime industry at a time when for-

ign markets for the oil are uncertain.

Those are among the conclusions of a hefty 18-month study of oil and gas technologies in the arctic slated for release later today.

Prepared by the congressional Office of Technology Assessment, the report also calls for stepped up study of the arctic. See Tapping, page A-10

Thursday, May 9, 1985, The Anchorage Times

## Tapping arctic resources is key issue

Continued from page A-1

which it says could play a key role in providing the nation's future energy requirements.

"Experts believe that major new oil and gas supplies may be located in the arctic and deepwater frontiers," says the nearly 230-page report.

"The country will need this oil and gas to fill energy requirements at the end of the century — a mere 15 years away."

The study, to which a number of Alaskans contributed, is the subject of a House subcommittee hearing today. It was requested

by the House Interior and Merchant Marine committees.

Many of its recommendations are expected to be controversial with both those urging increased arctic mineral exploration and others concerned with both damage to the environment and arctic people.

For example, the study urges longer lease terms — up to 10 years — for some arctic and deepwater oil and gas leases. That would give oil companies longer to explore difficult-to-develop areas.

It also recommends the creation of several new government boards to review offshore leasing

plans, study controversial issues such as Alaska oil exports and share data on everything from sea ice to weather.

The study says current restrictions on the export of Alaska oil increase Lower 48 oil product prices and curtail some of the incentive to explore for other arctic oil.

Lifting the ban, imposed by Congress with authorization of the trans-Alaska oil pipeline, also could "substantially improve" the foreign trade deficit, it says.

But study authors admit selling Alaska oil abroad has drawbacks including increasing U.S. dependence on foreign oil, weak-

ening overall U.S. national security, economic damage to the ailing American maritime industry and financial losses to Panama through which Alaska oil is currently transported.

The OTA is a joint House-Senate research agency currently chaired by Alaska Sen. Ted Stevens. A 19-member panel advised the agency on the study which included several Alaskans such as Arctic Slope Regional Corp. President Jacob Adams, North Slope Borough attorney Sanford Sagalkin and state budget official Bob Grogan.

car telephones from production, but existing law prevents the sale.

bly go protectionist."

## Maritime Unions Blockade Oil Sales To Japan—One Solution to Trade Flap

By EDUARDO LACHICA

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

WASHINGTON—The U.S. could cut billions of dollars from its problem trade deficit with Japan by selling Alaskan oil to its energy-short ally.

Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone has offered to buy as much of the 1.6-million-barrel-a-day North Slope production as the U.S. will allow. For every 100,000 barrels Japan would buy, the U.S. could shave \$1 billion off its \$37 billion trade deficit with the Japanese.

This tidy solution to the nation's No. 1 trade conflict counts among its proponents Interior Secretary Donald Hodell, Ambassador to Japan Mike Mansfield and even some environmental groups that say it would reduce the threat of oil spills in U.S. waters. Its most ardent ally is Sen. Frank Murkowski (R-Alaska), who has led the fight to amend the Export Administration Act, which restricts such exports.

But dogged lobbying by the maritime unions, which contributed \$2 million to the 1983-1984 campaign coffers of scores of congressmen, persuaded the Senate to shoot down the Murkowski amendment 70-20, thereby effectively banning Alaskan oil exports.

Nearly 90% of seagoing American crews depend for their livelihood on the tanker routes between Alaska and the U.S.

mainland. And while union leaders are receptive to discussion, they seem disinclined to take any action.

The Reagan administration has been somewhat circumspect on the whole subject. "It (the administration) hasn't lobbied a single member of Congress as far as we know," says Howard Marlowe, executive director of the Coalition to Keep Alaska Oil. The group is funded by maritime unions and shipping and pipeline companies.

State Department aides explain that the administration does favor Alaskan oil exports to Japan, but not "immediately." The administration appears content instead to press for less-controversial coal sales while waiting for a consensus favoring oil exports to emerge.

The administration's position has been a puzzle from the start. U.S. Trade Representative William Brock wanted to put it on the agenda of a U.S.-Japan working group formed to discuss increasing U.S. energy exports. But the first day the group met in Tokyo, Allen Wallis, the undersecretary of state for economic affairs, dropped the item from the agenda.

"You could see the Japanese faces fall apart," recalls a former U.S. member of that group. "They had earlier circulated a paper saying they were interested in that oil."

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p. 28

4-29-85

# Officials say oil ban study erroneous

By DAVID RAMSEUR  
News-Miner Bureau

WASHINGTON—A new report being circulated to state legislators around the country touts the merits of exporting Alaska oil but is so riddled with errors that some Alaska officials fear it may do more harm than good.

The report, by the National Conference of State Legislators, says lifting the federal ban on Alaska oil exports could increase federal revenues, stimulate Alaska oil development and enhance America's trade posture abroad.

But it contains errors that suggest Alaska would get substantially richer with no export ban and that removing the ban would put thousands of maritime industry employees out of work.

The report has been mailed to 100 state legislators around the country who next month are scheduled to meet here to consider a resolution on the issue.

State Rep. Terry Martin, R-Anchorage, who was largely responsible for production of the report, said Thursday he was disappointed with it and is organizing an effort to counter it.

That effort includes a correction sheet to be provided to the lawmakers and a public debate in early March between Alaska Sen. Frank Murkowski and Connecticut Rep. Stewart McKinney, a leading opponent of Alaska oil exports.

The eight-page report was requested by Martin at an NCSL conference last summer. It is to accompany a resolution a panel of the national group will consider during a conference here March 7-8.

If approved by the panel, the full NCSL will take it up at a Seattle convention in August.

Martin, minority leader of the Alaska House, had hoped to use the resolution to aid the state's effort to remove the federal oil export ban.

But Martin, here for a three-day NCSL conference, said Thursday the report creates the wrong impression about the oil export issue.

For example, it says removing the ban could cost the jobs of 200,000 maritime industry workers and the loss of \$300 million in federal tax dollars.

But maritime industry officials have estimated the direct job loss at only 1,700 with perhaps another 5,200 "lost job opportunities" in related fields.

The report, relying on a federal General Accounting Office study, also says Alaska would receive 60 percent of new tax revenues generated by lifting the ban.

In fact, Alaska tax laws limit the state take to about 30 percent while the federal government would get about 60 percent.

The report, which also contains a number of typographical errors, has been sent to the 100 members of NCSL's energy committee, all legislators from states across the country.

Martin said he already has begun countering the report with a mailing he made earlier this month to hundreds of state officials throughout the nation.

He said interest in the issue is increasing and said proponents of lifting the ban are picking up new allies.

# Sheffield sees no help ending oil ban

By DAVID RAMSEUR  
News-Miner Bureau

WASHINGTON—Alaska appears unlikely to get much help from the Reagan White House this year in its efforts to permit the sale of Alaska oil abroad, Gov. Bill Sheffield said Monday following a brief Sunday night conversation with the president.

"He smiled and shrugged his shoulders a little bit," Sheffield said of Reagan, but promised no assistance in lifting the federal ban on Alaska oil exports.

According to the governor, the president reminded him that he asked Congress to remove the ban last year but the effort was opposed by the U.S. maritime industry.

Despite Sheffield's plea for help this year, he said the president offered no assistance.

"I got no indication that they would" push to change the law this year, Sheffield said.

The governor said he spoke

with Reagan about Alaska oil exports Sunday night during the after-dinner coffee and drinks portion of a White House banquet for the nation's governors.

Sheffield and other state chief executives are here for a three-day conference of the National Governors' Association, which wraps up today.

Sheffield is scheduled to remain in Washington until Thursday for meetings with top federal officials.

Among those was a late Monday session with Interior Secretary Donald Hodel and six other governors on certain federal offshore oil revenues.

Alaska stands to collect up to \$1 billion of the funds but a Sheffield aide this morning reported little progress at the meeting.

At a Monday briefing for reporters, the governor expressed frustration over the oil export issue. Last year, he said, it seemed half the Reagan cabinet

supported lifting the ban on Alaska oil sales abroad but did little to push the issue.

"It was frustrating as hell— at best," the governor said.

And he said this year appears to be little different.

He reported telling the president the election is over and in his second term Reagan could take on the politically unpopular issue. But he said he got little response.

Sheffield said permitting the sale of Alaska oil to countries such as Japan could help offset the trade imbalance and lead to the export of other Alaska goods such as coal, minerals and natural gas.

On other issues, Sheffield said:

- Alaska will file suit against the federal government unless a settlement is reached over disposition of the so-called "8g" outer continental shelf oil revenues.

The governors of seven coast-

tal states including Sheffield met Monday with Hodel on the issue. But a Sheffield aide said they agreed only to meet again and present Hodel a new proposal by March 31.

- He plans to meet individually with Hodel to push for a 10-year delay on the proposed North Aleutian federal offshore oil sale. Former Interior Secretary William Clark postponed the sale until August of this year but Sheffield wants a longer delay to study its impact on Bristol Bay fisheries.

- He and other governors are upset with Reagan budget cuts which will curtail programs in their states.

"We're out there on the firing line and we have to go home and increase taxes or cut budgets or take up the slack where the federal government drops off," Sheffield said. "It's hard to do that if you don't have any input into what they cut."

## Stevens says Big Oil would fight to keep ban

JUNEAU (AP)—A much-ballyhooed campaign to lift the ban prohibiting export of Alaska oil will likely face opposition from the oil industry, U.S. Sen. Ted Stevens said Monday.

Stevens—in a meeting with reporters after a joint speech to the Alaska Legislature—said low oil prices and a glutted world market should work to discourage any effort to lift the federal prohibition.

"I think we may find real opposition from producers to lifting the ban," he said.

U.S. Sen. Frank Murkowski, R-Alaska, and Republican Congressman Don Young both told state lawmakers recently they thought a push to get the ban lifted could gain steam over the next couple of years.

Stevens—who said Reagan Administration officials support lifting the ban—acknowledged the idea might gain some momentum in Congress this session, especially through committee work slated by Murkowski and Young.

"But even if we could get the ban lifted, it might not mean the export of any oil," Stevens said.

An overabundance of oil and steadily dropping prices means it

wouldn't be profitable for oil companies to ship oil to Pacific Rim countries or other world markets right now, Stevens said.

The federal ban was im-

plemented in 1973 when U.S. fuel prices skyrocketed during an export embargo imposed by oil-producing countries of the Middle East.

# U.S. House votes to ban oil exports

By BETTY MILLS

Daily News correspondent

ADN # 4/17/85

WASHINGTON — The House Tuesday adopted legislation which extends for five years the virtual ban on exporting Alaska oil.

The provision is included in a reauthorization of the Export Administration Act which cleared the House by voice vote after a 45-minute debate. The Alaska oil issue was only mentioned once.

Under the bill, oil produced on the North Slope can be sold abroad only if the president determines it is in the national interest and would result in lower costs to consumers. Congress must approve any such transaction.

These restrictions will remain in place until September 30, 1990.

The bill now goes to the Senate, where approval is expected shortly.

The legislation also includes an amendment sponsored last year by Alaska Sen. Frank Murkowski which orders a nine-month White House study on Alaska oil policy. The review will focus on the impact of Alaska oil exports on national security, foreign policy, employment in the maritime industry, consumers, the trade deficit and overall energy development.

The president is to develop recommendations concerning the producing and distribution of North Slope oil and submit a report to Congress within nine months of enactment of the bill.

The Alaska delegation and Gov. Bill Sheffield have pressed for a removal of the tight restrictions on exporting Alaska oil — which costs the state hundreds of millions of dollars in lost revenues.

But maritime interests and members of the House from the Northeast and Midwest have combined to retain the virtual ban on exports.

Of the 1.2 million barrels produced each day at Prudhoe Bay, about half is shipped through the Panama Canal to the Gulf and East Coasts, at additional transportation costs.

In 1973, when Congress approved the Trans Alaska

Pipeline System, it required that the oil flowing through the 800-mile pipeline be used in the United States. Congress has voted repeatedly to retain the restrictions on Alaska oil exports.

But supporters of the nine-month study provision hope a comprehensive analysis of the issue by the administration will cause Congress to remove the restrictions.

In a statement inserted in

the Congressional Record Rep. Don Young, R-Alaska, said the ban on exports "results in inefficiencies in transportation to East Coast refineries and increased chances of environmental damage from tanker traffic, the leading source of oil spills in the world. Additionally, the state of Alaska and the federal government have lost hundreds of millions of dollars in revenue."

# Oil export ban repeal 'up in air'

Empire 2/2/85

By JOHN CARTER

Empire Washington Bureau  
WASHINGTON -- Chances of getting congressional approval for the export of Alaska oil are slim this year, Capitol Hill observers said today.

"It's all kind of up in the air," an aide for Sen. Frank Murkowski said.

These remarks were echoed in statements by Rep. Don Young to the finance committees of the Alaska State House and Senate on Monday. Young told the committees it would be two years at the earliest before the ban could be removed.

Murkowski spearheaded a drive last

Continued on Page 12

# Oil export

Continued from Page 1  
year to have the export ban lifted as part of the Export Administration Act reauthorization. He failed in amending the bill to lift the ban, and it was never approved by Congress anyway, so the entire battle will come up again this session.

Murkowski was successful in getting the Senate to agree to a nine-month study of the impact of exporting Alaska oil. This study was included in the export bill and will not begin until the bill is approved by Congress.

"It's up in the air because of the South Africa issue which is included in the export bill," the aide said.

Some members of Congress are hoping to use the Export Administration Act as a vehicle to punish South Africa for its apartheid policies. There are

efforts to separate South Africa provisions from the export bill, but no one's really pushing to get the bill moving, the aide said.

Even if the export bill comes up for consideration again, getting Congress to agree to lift the export ban will be difficult.

Attitudes have to change about exporting oil," the aide said.

The export act failed to pass the conference committee after differing versions were passed by both the House

and Senate last year. The Senate version included Murkowski's study, but that issue was not the roadblock stopping the conference committee from reaching a compromise, Murkowski said.

"The bill contained trade restrictions on South Africa which I use objected to. The conferees held on this issue," Murkowski said.

If the bill passes this session, Mur-

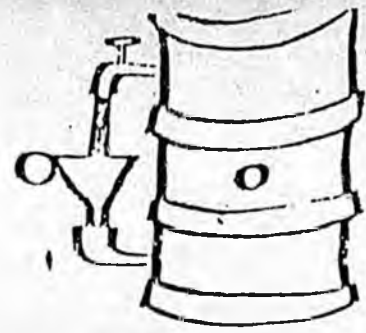
kowski's study will examine the ramifications of oil export.

It would examine the impact on our allies in the Pacific, the impact on employment and on the maritime industry," Alaska's junior senator said.

The report would look at the benefits to refiners and consumers. I think it will show that there could be significant reduction to the trade deficit if we sell our oil overseas," he said.

Current law prohibits the sale of North Slope oil to anyone except American refiners. The oil is shipped on American vessels and maritime industry officials fear lifting the ban would hurt their business.

A report prepared for Gov. Bill Sheffield by his Washington office last month noted "a major effort to modify the North Slope oil export restriction floundered in the face of maritime industry opposition."



By Zarko Kuzabak

Bill Sheffield

# Free Alaska's Oil

American energy consumers have a large stake in the existing federal restrictions on the export of Alaska crude oil. Because Congress must soon act on an extension of the ban, its rationale and costs deserve scrutiny. I share the considered opinion of most economists and of the federal Department of Energy that the United States would produce more oil at lower prices if the export restrictions were lifted.

The origins of the oil export ban lie in the December 1973 authorization for construction of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System, a project that currently carries some 20 percent of U.S. oil production. Energy security concerns became paramount in the wake of the October 1973 OPEC embargo, and Congress chose to restrict the destination of oil shipped through the pipeline. At that time, when U.S. ability to obtain any imported oil was in question, the restrictions made political sense.

The energy supply picture for the United States has changed during the past 10 years, however. About half of Alaska's oil production of 1.6 million barrels a day is in excess of West Coast needs. As a result, this oil must move to the larger market of the Gulf of Mexico and the East Coast. Unfortunately, this journey is an expensive one, costing four times as much as the tanker run to California. This additional transportation cost means reduced federal tax revenues and reduced incentives for expanding Alaska oil production. Higher trade deficits and diminished national security also result from the ban on our allies.

America's Pacific Rim allies, in close proximity to Alaska, would very much like to purchase this surplus oil to diversify their sources away from the Middle East, but are prohibited from doing so by federal law. The ban is particularly unfair because no other U.S. oil production is barred from export, and the United States currently ships overseas in excess of 700,000 barrels a day of domestically produced refined petroleum products.

Along with Alaska's congressional delegation, I have proposed that Congress relax the existing export ban on Alaska oil to allow 200,000 barrels a day to be shipped to Japan on U.S.-flag tankers. Most knowledgeable observers agree that the federal government and energy consumers in the United States would experience significant benefits from the adoption of this proposal:

- The federal Treasury would realize almost \$200 million per year in increased tax revenues as a result of the higher value of oil shipped to the Pacific Rim.
- The oil industry would have a greater incentive to develop currently marginal fields on Alaska's high-cost North Slope and to explore for additional oil and gas in northern Alaska.
- The pricing power of OPEC would be moderated by the entry of Alaskan oil into Asian markets.
- U.S. national security interests would be protected by diversifying the energy supply of key U.S. allies who currently must seek energy from OPEC and Russia.
- The existing trade deficit with Japan would be reduced while the United States

would gain a bargaining tool to use on other trade issues.

• Opportunities for financially troubled countries, such as Venezuela and Mexico, to sell oil to the United States would be expanded by providing possibilities for cost-efficient oil exchanges.

In light of these convincing arguments, why does the export ban remain in effect? The Alaska oil trade currently supports a substantial portion of the U.S. merchant marine fleet. Any action that reduces the amount of time Alaska oil must spend in U.S. tankers is therefore fiercely opposed by the owners and workers supported by these ships. To accommodate their concerns, the proposal I am making would sharply limit exports, and would require the use of U.S.-flag tankers manned by American seamen and maintained in American shipyards.

Those of us who live in Alaska strongly believe in the importance of a healthy merchant marine, given our heavy reliance on waterborne commerce. Nevertheless, the Alaska oil export ban is an expensive and ineffective means of achieving it. In a recent draft report, the U.S. Department of Energy said most of the problems likely to confront the U.S. tanker fleet in the future will occur whether or not export restrictions are eased. To forgo substantial federal tax revenues, national trade benefits, improved national security and increased oil production primarily to protect narrow merchant marine interests is not sound public policy.

The writer is governor of Alaska.

TS: TINA M.F.H.

Jim Clark

FEB 27 1984  
ROBERTSON, MONAGLE,  
BARTON, OIL & BRADLEY  
ALASKA

# Let Alaska's Oil Flow Naturally

By law — indeed, five laws — the United States prohibits exports of Alaskan oil. The nominal reason is national security. The controlling reason is protectionist politics. The ban should be repealed.

Alaska's Senators, Frank Murkowski and Ted Stevens, want to amend the Export Administration Act to authorize at least some sales abroad. To win votes, they've conceded too much to protectionism. Nonetheless, because the House has already voted to extend this senseless embargo, their amendment offers the only hope for reducing its harm.

Alaska currently pumps out 1.6 million barrels a day. The idea behind the ban was that it's more efficient — and serves the national interest — to direct that oil to West Coast refineries, a short run down the coast. In fact, those refineries have been able to use only half of it. The rest goes through the Panama Canal and a Panama pipeline to refineries on the Gulf of Mexico, or all the way around South America to the Virgin Islands. What a waste, and discouragement, to Alaska's oil development.

The cost of the long-distance transportation runs as high as \$5.25 a barrel. Shipment to the logical buyers in the Pacific basin — Japan, South Korea and Taiwan — would cost \$1 or less.

The benefit would be twofold. Gulf and Caribbean refineries could get their crude oil at lesser cost from Mexico, Venezuela and Nigeria. And Alaskan oil across the Pacific would become more

competitive, and thus stimulate more exploration.

What about national security? It is said that the Arab oil embargo and resulting escalation of oil prices proved the value of holding on to every drop of American oil. So why let others buy it?

The question turns the issue upside down. Exporting Alaska's oil would enhance national security, not hurt it. The countries that would buy this oil are important allies whose access to oil is vital to American security interests. They have no oil of their own. An assured supply is especially necessary for Japan. By reducing Japanese dependence on the Middle East and also stimulating more production in Alaska, two important interests would be served.

The Murkowski-Stevens amendment would permit exports of 200,000 barrels a day and let the President stop all exports if ever the oil is needed in the United States. That's a reasonable concession to get the amendment approved but of no realistic consequence. If cut off by the Persian Gulf, Japan is not likely to be cut off also by America.

What is objectionable is the Murkowski-Stevens requirement that all exports be shipped in American vessels and that the vessels be maintained and repaired in American shipyards. These concessions, to win over the maritime unions, would increase the cost of shifting transportation patterns and reduce their value. But the ban offends economics in larger ways and violates security. Even at that price, it's worth relaxing.

NY Times 2/23/84

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INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

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COMMITMENT TO THIS COUNTRY. THE VULNERABILITY OF THE KOREAN ECONOMY AND ITS DEFENCE CAPABILITIES TO ANOTHER MIDDLE EASTERN CRISIS WOULD BE REDUCED ACCORDINGLY. I WISH YOU EVERY SUCCESS.

BEST REGARDS,

RICHARD L. WALKER  
AMBASSADOR  
WALKER

W PASS

STATE FOR EAP/K DLAMBERTSON

E.C. 12356: N/A  
TAGS: ENRG, EPET, ETRD, OREP, KC  
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR'S REPLY TO LETTER FROM SENATOR  
FRANK H. MURKOWSKI

DEAR FRANK:

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR LETTER OF JANUARY 27. YOUR VISIT WAS FAR TOO BRIEF. WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR RETURN IN APRIL.

I HEARTILY AGREE WITH THE SENTIMENTS EXPRESSED IN YOUR LETTER. WE UNDERSTAND THAT KOREA IS THE DEVELOPING COUNTRY MOST DEPENDENT ON IMPORTED OIL FROM THE MIDDLE EAST TO MEET ITS ENERGY REQUIREMENTS. DURING 1983 THESE IMPORTS AMOUNTED TO MORE THAN 139 MILLION BARRELS, OR 74 PERCENT OF KOREA'S TOTAL CRUDE OIL IMPORTS OF 186 MILLION BARRELS.

FOR A LONG TIME KOREA HAS BEEN TRYING TO DIVERSIFY ITS SOURCES OF IMPORTED CRUDE OIL IN ORDER TO REDUCE DEPENDENCE ON THE MIDDLE EAST. THE OIL SHOCKS OF THE 1970'S WERE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT FOR EVEN THIS VERY PROSPEROUS ECONOMY TO DIGEST. THE KOREANS HAVE BEEN TRYING, WITH LIMITED SUCCESS, TO INCREASE OIL IMPORTS FROM LATIN AMERICA AND INDONESIA. THEY HAVE BEEN CONSIDERABLY MORE SUCCESSFUL IN REDUCING THEIR DEPENDENCE ON IMPORTED CRUDE OIL BY BOOSTING THEIR NUCLEAR PLANT CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM AND SWITCHING FROM DIESEL TO COAL POWERED PLANTS FOR GENERATING ELECTRICITY. NEEDLESS TO SAY, HOWEVER, THESE PROJECTS ARE EXPENSIVE AND TAKE TIME.

DESPITE THESE BOLD EFFORTS, KOREA, FOR A LONG TIME TO COME, WILL NEED TO IMPORT LARGE AMOUNTS OF OIL. THE KOREANS WOULD LIKE VERY MUCH TO BUY EVEN A SMALL AMOUNT OF THEIR REQUIREMENTS FROM ALASKA IN ORDER TO REDUCE FURTHER THEIR DEPENDENCE ON THE MIDDLE EAST. I AGREE THAT EVEN LIMITED KOREAN IMPORTS OF ALASKAN OIL WOULD CONTRIBUTE IMPORTANTLY TO REDUCING OUR TRADE DEFICIT WITH THIS COUNTRY WHICH EXCEEDED DOLLARS 1.2 BILLION IN 1983, A RECORD HIGH. YOUR APPROACH TO THE ISSUE, TO OBTAIN A LIMITED EXEMPTION TO THE CURRENT BAN ON ALASKAN OIL EXPORTS, AND AUTHORIZATION FOR UNLIMITED EXPORTS AS NEW PRODUCTION COMES ON LINE, SEEMS TO ME TO BE QUITE SENSIBLE.

SELLING ALASKAN OIL TO KOREA OBVIOUSLY WOULD ENHANCE THE SECURITY OF AN IMPORTANT ASIAN ALLY AND WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH OUR MILITARY

UNCLASSIFIED

JACK GARR, UTAH, CHAIRMAN

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# United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND  
URBAN AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

M. DANNY WALL, STAFF DIRECTOR  
KENNETH A. McLEAH, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

February 7, 1984

The Honorable Frank Murkowski  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Frank:

It was good of you and Ted to discuss with me your proposed amendment to Section 7(d) of the Export Administration Act (EAA), that would authorize the export of 200,000 barrels a day of oil produced in Alaska. You made some rather cogent arguments in support of the amendment, but I find myself unable to support it for several reasons.

As you know, the renewal of the Export Administration Act has been a very controversial item and S. 979, the bill unanimously reported by the Banking Committee, is the result of compromises that forged a consensus view. The bill constitutes an integrated package of amendments to the EAA and includes a six-year extension on the prohibition of Alaskan oil. I am concerned that adding a 200,000 barrel a day exemption would complicate the consensus on our package. I believe my concern is real in light of the fact that 10 members of our Committee are among the 45 cosponsors of S. 1159, a bill to make the current ban on Alaskan oil exports permanent.

With these factors in mind, I do not believe that your amendment could be included in our bill without a roll call vote. Even if the amendment were passed in the Senate, which is unlikely, it is not an item that we could win in conference. I say this because a majority of the House members has already cosponsored a companion bill to S. 1159 that extends controls on the export of Alaskan oil for six more years.

I also have very serious doubts about the substance of your amendment. Selling 200,000 barrels a day of Alaskan oil to the Japanese would reduce our bilateral trade deficit with Japan by \$2 billion, and thus assist in disguising the true nature of our trade problem with the Japanese. As the AFL-CIO has persuasively argued before our Committee, authorizing oil exports to Japan would enable the Japanese to continue to take our raw materials while sending us their higher value-added manufactured goods. What we need to straighten out our trade problem with the Japanese is (a) for them to open up their markets to our manufactured exports, and (b) for us to reduce our budget deficit to

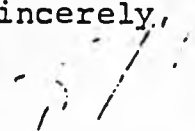
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TO: The Honorable Frank Murkowski  
February 7, 1984  
Page 2 of 2

bring down interest rates and the bloated value of our dollar which is destroying our ability to compete internationally.

I appreciate very much the points you made to me on this issue, and regret that because of the above considerations I cannot support your amendment.

Sincerely,

  
William Proxmire  
Ranking Minority Member

BILL SHEFFIELD  
GOVERNOR



STATE OF ALASKA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
JUNEAU

February 1, 1985

Mr. David A. Stockman  
Director  
Office of Management and Budget  
Old Executive Office Building  
Room 252  
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Mr. Stockman:

I am writing to ask for your assistance in amending existing federal restrictions on the export of Alaska North Slope crude oil. Recent estimates by the Federal Trade Commission of the additional Windfall Profits Tax revenues accruing to the federal government as a result of lifting the ban range from 200 million to one billion dollars per year. I believe that any measure offering revenues of such magnitude deserves serious scrutiny by the President and Congress.

The enhancement in federal tax revenues from the export of Alaska oil results from reduced transportation costs. Half of North Slope production -- 800,000 barrels a day -- must undergo an expensive and inefficient journey to the U.S. Gulf and East Coasts, due to the surplus of supply on the West Coast. Reducing the transportation costs increases the wellhead value of the oil, on which taxes are based. This increase in value would also provide the oil industry with a greater incentive to develop currently marginal fields on the high-cost North Slope and to explore for additional oil and gas in northern Alaska.

Eliminating or easing Alaska oil export restrictions would also have other important national and international benefits. The existing trade deficit with Japan would be reduced while the United States would gain a bargaining tool to use on other trade issues. Opportunities for financially troubled countries, such as Venezuela and Mexico, to sell oil to the United States would be expanded by displacing Alaska oil from the Gulf and East Coasts. Finally, national security interests would be enhanced by diversifying the energy supply of key United States allies away from OPEC.

Mr. David A. Stockman

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February 1, 1985

For the reasons stated above, groups as diverse as The Heritage Foundation, The Boston Globe, and The New York Times have endorsed the easing of restrictions on Alaska oil exports. However, the Administration has not conveyed a position on the issue to Congress. Your leadership in this matter is essential to ensuring that it receives proper consideration. In this regard, we have been advised by several members of Congress that the views of the Administration would be very important in their reexamination of the Export Administration Act provisions relating to Alaska oil.

I would like to meet with you to further discuss these issues in late February when I am in D.C. In the interim, please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you for your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,



Bill Sheffield  
Governor

cc: The Honorable Ted Stevens, U.S. Senate  
The Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senate  
The Honorable Don Young, U.S. House of Representatives  
Lee Verstandig, Assistant to the President



STATE OF ALASKA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
JUNEAU

December 26, 1984

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Mr. President:

Because you will soon be meeting with Prime Minister Nakasone of Japan, I thought it would be helpful to provide you with recent information on Alaska's efforts to expand our trade with Japan. I would also like to discuss the implementation of the Joint Statement on Japan-U.S. Energy Cooperation issued by Prime Minister Nakasone and you on November 11, 1983.

Oil Exports

The Joint Statement provided that "the U.S. will continue to keep under review the removal of restrictions on exports of domestic crude oil." Your administration has completed several analyses on the subject, including a report recently released by the Federal Trade Commission. To our knowledge, all of these investigations concluded that easing existing restrictions on the export of Alaska North Slope crude oil would result in significant national benefits, including greater federal tax revenues, a reduced trade deficit with Japan, and the production of more Alaska oil at lower prices.

The reauthorization of the Export Administration Act is still pending in Congress. I respectfully urge you to follow through on the results of your Administration's studies of oil exports and actively assist our efforts to ease existing restrictions on the export of Alaska oil. To do so would be entirely consistent with your Administration's support for free trade and U.S. energy development. I believe that it would be timely for you to do this during the 99th Congress, since Congress has expressed an interest in obtaining your views on the matter.

On September 30, 1983 I wrote to let you know of our willingness to offer a portion of the State's royalty oil for export to Japan. From our discussions with interested

December 26, 1984

reached for the 1985 fishing season which will increase the volume of product delivered by U.S. fishermen to Japanese processors in "over-the-side" joint venture operations. Even more importantly, the agreement also provides for the importation by Japan of approximately 7,000 and 20,000 metric tons of finished product which will be manufactured by U.S./Alaskan processors in 1985 and 1986, respectively. This sale of finished product to Japan, most likely surimi, will help stimulate a primary and secondary processing industry that will ultimately employ several thousand Americans.

Critical to the successful implementation of this agreement will be the ability of Japanese companies to import U.S. produced groundfish products. Current Japanese import quotas greatly restrict U.S. imports, while Japanese surimi exports to the U.S. are continuing to dramatically expand. Your insistence that the Government of Japan relax its fish-related tariff and import barriers would be useful in assuring the success of this industry-to-industry agreement which will have a beneficial impact on the U.S. balance of trade.

On another fish-related problem, recent studies have demonstrated that continued Japanese high-sea harvest of Alaska spawned salmon is seriously affecting the national harvest and management of this resource by Americans. We will be working through Alaska's Congressional delegation to encourage the U.S. State Department to initiate bilateral discussions with the Japanese which will be necessary to stop this deleterious practice.

#### Timber Exports

The timber industry in Alaska is geared to trade with Japan and the Pacific Rim. As a result, the Alaska industry is increasing its promotional activity in Japan. The State is working through its Alaska Asia Office in Tokyo to assist in the promotion of Alaska forest products and products made from Alaska timber in Japan.

To date, Alaska's spruce round logs and cants are selling well in Japan. However, there is a need to improve hemlock sales to Japan, as sales of hemlock products are currently reduced from previous years' totals. In another troubling area, South Africa, which has lower environmental standards and dramatically cheaper labor costs than Alaska, has captured an increasingly larger share of Japan's dissolving sulfite pulp markets from the United States, particularly



mw  
Alaska

b/d

April 1, 1985

Mr. William T. Archey  
Acting Assistant Secretary  
for Trade Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
Room 3898B  
14th Street between Constitution Avenue  
and E Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Re: Exportation of Cook Inlet Crude Oil

Dear Mr. Assistant Secretary:

We understand that the State of Alaska intends to seek authority to export 2.2 million barrels of Cook Inlet crude oil per year. As you are aware, any such sales could only occur following an application for and the issuance of a validated license pursuant to 15 C.R.F. § 377.

The Coalition to Keep Alaska Oil represents a broad and diverse group of entities, including labor, consumer, environmental, agricultural, and business organizations. The Coalition believes exports of our limited reserves of crude oil would be contrary to the consumer, economic, and security interests of the United States.

As you probably are aware, the State of Alaska has continually sought to export crude oil. Congress, however, has consistently placed restrictions on such exports. In 1973, when Congress passed the Trans-Alaska Pipeline Authorization Act, it established a clear-cut national policy that Alaskan crude oil should be used domestically. Congress reaffirmed and strengthened that policy in 1977 and 1979 by amending the Export Administration Act to restrict the export of Alaskan North Slope crude oil to certain limited cases and only pursuant to specific Presidential findings and subsequent Congressional approval. Most recently, in 1984, the U.S. Senate voted 70-20 against even limited exports of Alaskan North Slope crude oil and 272 Members of the House of Representatives co-sponsored legislation to indefinitely extend the restrictions contained in section 7(d) of the Export Administration Act of 1979. Pending legislation to reauthorize the Act would extend these restrictions for 5 years.

Mr. William T. Archey  
April 1, 1985  
Page Two

Exports of Cook Inlet crude oil are likely to be inconsistent with the national interest and to harm members of the Coalition. Given our continued concern about exports and the immediate and irreparable harm even limited exports are likely to cause, we request that we timely be advised of the receipt by the Department of Commerce of any application for a validated license to export Cook Inlet crude oil and that we be afforded an opportunity to comment while the application is being reviewed.

I myself or a member of the Coalition will telephone your office to arrange a mutually convenient time when we can meet to discuss our concerns and to agree upon a method for ensuring that your agency has an opportunity to consider our views should it receive a validated license application.

Sincerely yours,

Howard Marlowe, Director

HM:kac

cc: The Honorable Malcolm Baldrige  
The Honorable Donald P. Hodel



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
International Trade Administration  
Washington, D.C. 20230

16 APR 1985

Mr. Howard Marlowe  
Director  
Coalition to Keep Alaska Oil  
815 16th Street, N.W.  
Suite 309  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Mr. Marlowe:

Thank you for your April 1, 1985 letter regarding a possible request to export crude oil from Alaska's Cook Inlet.

Crude oil exports are restricted by five separate and often overlapping statutes. The Department reviews and acts on all export license applications in conformance with the provisions of the appropriate statutes and the Export Administration Regulations. These applications and the supporting documentation that accompany them are treated as company confidential as required by Section 12(c) of the Export Administration Act. Accordingly, we do not discuss the content of individual applications with those who are not parties in the proposed transactions. Thus, we would not be able to notify you of the receipt of an application to export Cook Inlet crude oil, nor would we be in a position to discuss the details of any such application or even comment on whether we had received an application.

However, the Department's Export Administration Regulations are drafted in a manner that effectively blocks the export of virtually all domestically produced crude with the exception of certain exchanges with adjacent foreign countries to facilitate transportation. Currently, the export restrictions embodied in these statutes can only be overcome through the issuance of a national interest finding. The President would be required to issue the finding for four of the five statutes. The Secretary of Commerce would be required to issue the finding under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (EPCA). As part of a national interest finding, we would be required to amend our regulations. Amendments of our regulations under the provisions of EPCA, the statute most applicable to Cook Inlet oil, would require a notice of proposed rulemaking before any final action is taken. You, of course, would have an opportunity to comment on our proposal at that time.



I appreciate your interest in the Department's short supply export control program. Mr. Walter J. Olson, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, would be pleased to meet with you and other representatives of the Coalition to hear your concerns. Mr. Olson may be reached on 377-5491.

Sincerely,



William T. Archey  
Acting Assistant Secretary  
for Trade Administration