

**02/04/14
PRESENTATION:
ALASKA ARCTIC
POLICY
COMMISSION
PRELIMINARY
REPORT**

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ALASKA ARCTIC POLICY COMMISSION PRELIMINARY
REPORT</SUBJECT><COMM>SSTA28</COMM></TARGET>

Alaska Arctic Policy Commission
For Joint House/Senate State Affairs
Juneau, Alaska | February 4, 2014



Russian
Arctic

2,089,000

European
Arctic

1,280,000

American
Arctic

827,000

Arctic Council Chair



US National Strategy for the Arctic Region

Approved by the President on 12/15/11
The Arctic region is a vital area of national interest for the United States. It is a region of strategic importance, rich in natural resources, and a key area for international trade and cooperation. The United States has a long history of involvement in the Arctic region, and this strategy outlines our national interests and the actions we will take to protect and promote them.



Bering Strait

STRATEGIC SIGNIFICANCE
Ramparts from Russia, Saudi, and Mexico? Oil Pipeline?
- Shipping and aircraft for international landing on the ship. U.S. Coast Guard cutter for support and emergency duties in the U.S. waters. Arctic routes connecting to equator or south of all nations throughout Alaska.

Port Clarence

Nome

Anchorage

Juneau

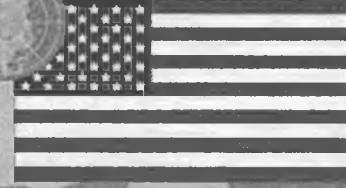
DC Giving More Attention to the Arctic



2013 to 2015



2015 to 2017



US National Strategy for the Arctic Region

Guiding Principles:

- Safeguard peace and stability
- Make decisions using best available information
- Pursue innovative arrangements
- Consult and coordinate with Alaska Natives

Three lines of effort:

- Advance United States Security Interests
- Pursue Responsible Arctic Region Stewardship
- Strengthen International Cooperation

Role of the AAPC in this process: Providing Alaskan expertise, highlighting priorities and emerging challenges, raising Awareness in Lower 48 about Arctic

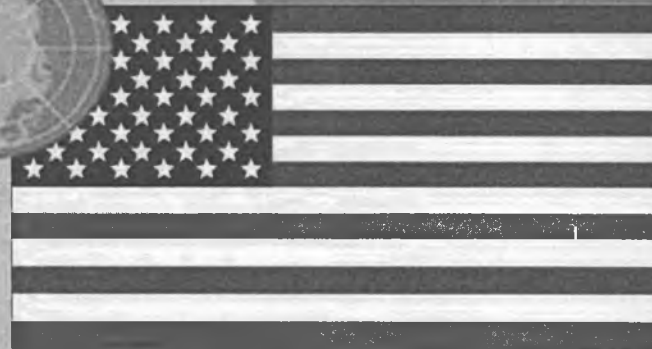
January 30, 2014 -- NSAR Implementation Plan Released

Arctic Council Chair

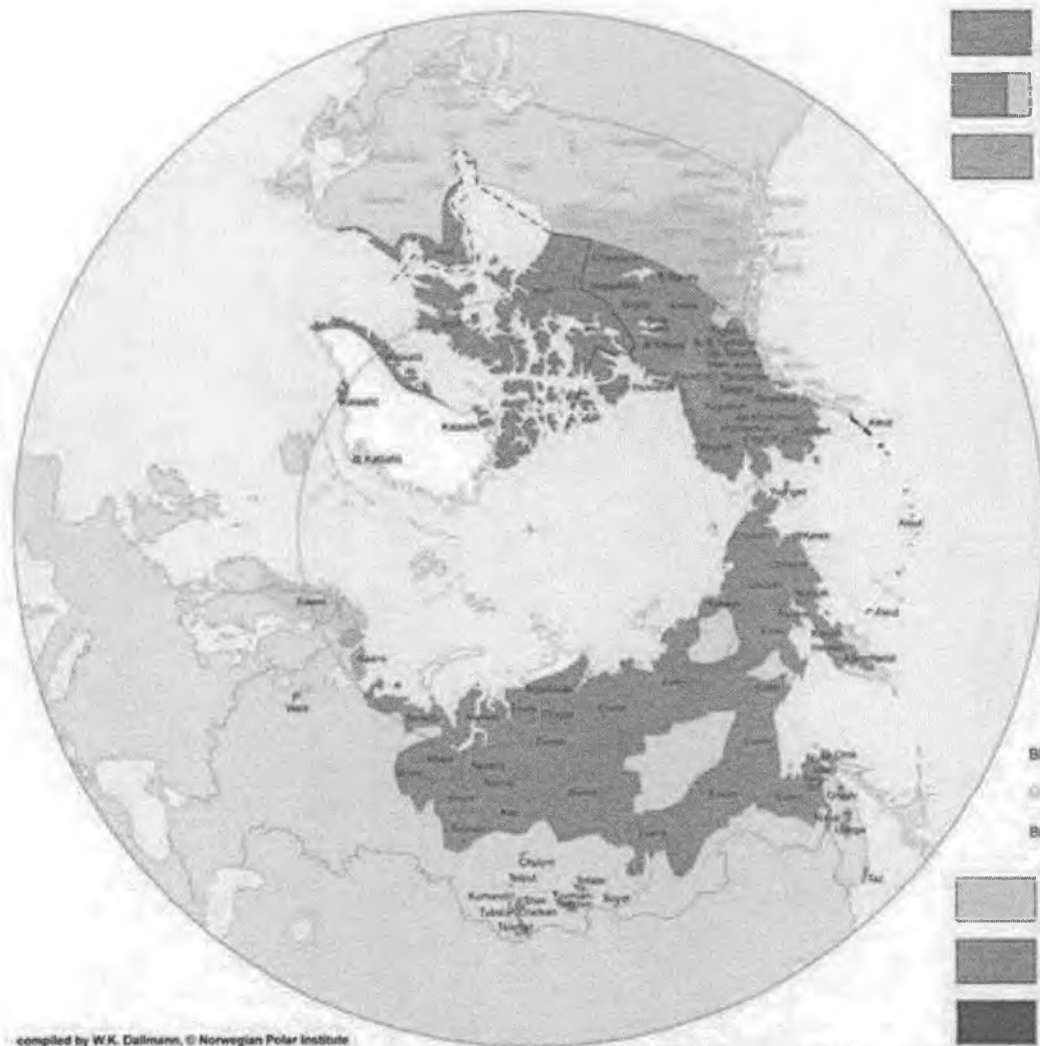
2013 to 2015






2015 to 2017



Strategy for the Arctic Region









-  Inuit Circumpolar Conference (ICC)
-  Arctic Athabaskan Council (AAC)
dark: area of potential membership (north of 60°)
light and dark: Athabaskan cultural area
-  Gwich'in Council International (GCI)

Permanent Participants of the Arctic Council

Permanent participation is equally open to other Arctic organizations of indigenous peoples with majority Arctic indigenous constituency, representing:

- a. a single indigenous people resident in more than one Arctic State; or
- b. more than one Arctic indigenous people resident in a single Arctic State.

-  Indigenous peoples represented by the Permanent Participants
-  Other indigenous peoples living in Arctic Council member countries (for USA: only Alaska)
-  Potential member groups of the AAC. The AAC represents selected communities, not peoples.

-  Saami Council (SC)
-  Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North (RAIPON)
-  Aleut International Association (AIA)

compiled by W.K. Dallmann, © Norwegian Polar Institute



Arctic Council Membership

Alaska Arctic Policy Commission

26-member Commission formed within the Alaska Legislature in April 2012:

5 Senators and 5 Representatives

1 Executive branch member appointed by the Governor

15 Members appointed jointly by the President and the Speaker:

- Federal government
- A tribal entity
- Mining industry
- Oil & gas industry
- An Alaskan university or college
- Fisheries
- A local government
- A coastal community
- An int'l Arctic organization
- A conservation group
- Marine transportation industry
- A Native corporation
- Marine pilots



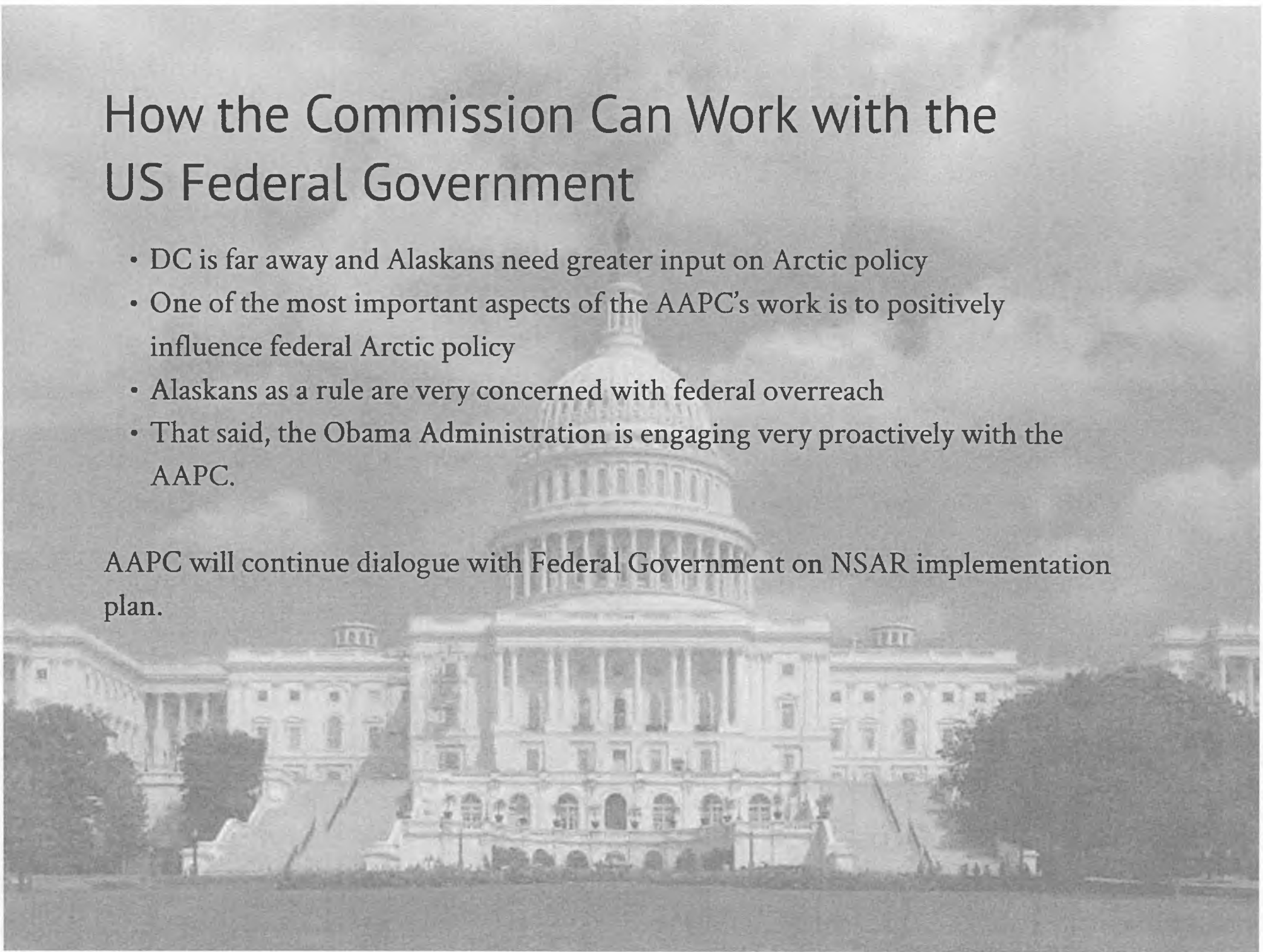
How the Commission can work for Alaskans

- Provide forum for public input on Arctic issues
- Set guiding Arctic policy principles for possible inclusion in state statute
- Create detailed Alaska Arctic policy report to inform the public and future policy-makers (Preliminary released 1.30.2014 and final due 1.30.2015)

How the Commission Can Work with the US Federal Government

- DC is far away and Alaskans need greater input on Arctic policy
- One of the most important aspects of the AAPC's work is to positively influence federal Arctic policy
- Alaskans as a rule are very concerned with federal overreach
- That said, the Obama Administration is engaging very proactively with the AAPC.

AAPC will continue dialogue with Federal Government on NSAR implementation plan.



AAPC Letter of Intent

Sent to State Department and White House on 6.28.13

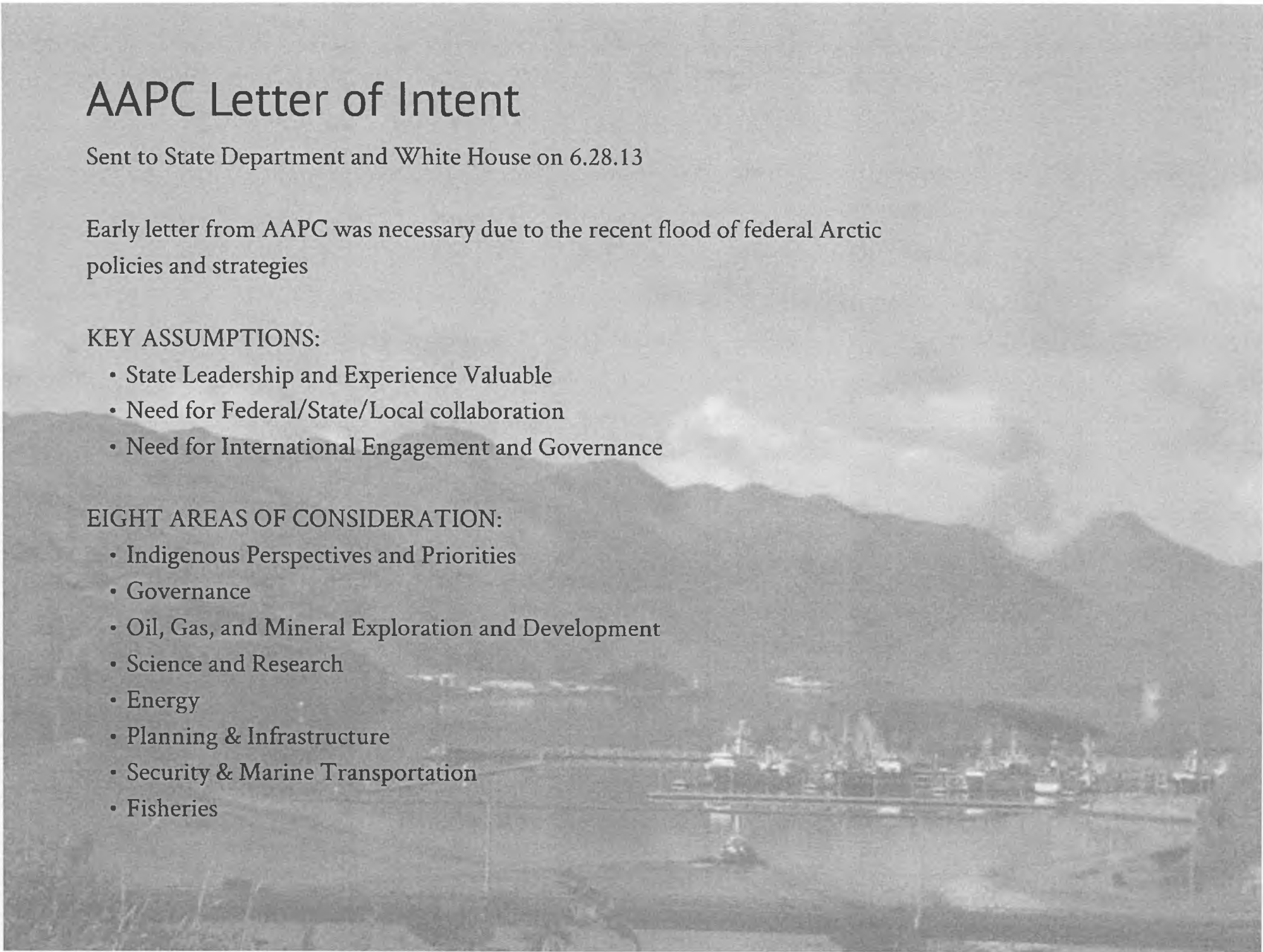
Early letter from AAPC was necessary due to the recent flood of federal Arctic policies and strategies

KEY ASSUMPTIONS:

- State Leadership and Experience Valuable
- Need for Federal/State/Local collaboration
- Need for International Engagement and Governance

EIGHT AREAS OF CONSIDERATION:

- Indigenous Perspectives and Priorities
- Governance
- Oil, Gas, and Mineral Exploration and Development
- Science and Research
- Energy
- Planning & Infrastructure
- Security & Marine Transportation
- Fisheries



AAPC Vision Statements

Values community
sustainability and
thriving cultures

Ensures public safety
and security

Advances economic
development and a
healthy environment

Incorporates transparency
and inclusion into
decision making



An aerial photograph of a large icebreaker ship, likely the USCGC Healy, navigating through a dense field of sea ice. The ship is positioned in the center-left of the frame, moving towards the right. The ice consists of numerous small, irregular floes. The ship's superstructure, including the bridge and various antennas, is clearly visible against the white ice.

Strategic Recommendations

Chosen based on high-impact and reasonable effort to implement

16 Strategic Recommendations in these areas:

- Governance and Indigenous Perspectives
- Science and Research
- Planning and Infrastructure
- Oil, Gas, and Mineral Resources
- Security and Defense
- Marine Transportation
- Response Operations: Search and Rescue/Oil Pollution
- Energy and Power
- Fisheries and Wildlife

We'll highlight some specific Recommendations later in the presentation



Barrow

AAPC MEETING, JUNE 12 - 13

Arctic residents stressed the importance of:

- Governance begins at the local level
- Economic development should benefit communities nearest the impact, and include community revenue-sharing
- Food security is a priority
- Research should focus on people and their needs
- Onshore (ANWR, etc.) should be drilled before offshore areas

STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS:

Oil, Gas, and Mineral Resources

- Implement regional planning efforts that allow local stakeholders to identify and communicate priorities such as education, infrastructure, and development, to state and federal agencies.
- Develop a mechanism for revenue sharing from resource extraction for impacted communities, developing perpetual trust funds (where lacking) to finance community needs beyond the life of non-renewable resources.



Unalaska

AAPC MEETING AUGUST 28-29

Dutch Harbor:

- Largest port by seafood volume in US
- Alaska's only true Arctic deep-water port
- Issues related to increased port traffic
- Environmental impact
- Infrastructure needs
- Foreign vessels

STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS:

Marine Transportation

- Encourage development of appropriately integrated systems to monitor and communicate Arctic marine information, and continue state and federal support for programs such as the Alaska Marine Exchange.

Adak



- Westernmost municipality in the United States
- Former location of the Adak Army Base and Adak Naval Operation Base

STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS:

Planning and Infrastructure

- Conduct a comprehensive Arctic region economic and infrastructure assessment and planning process that integrates local, regional, state and federal planning efforts.



Bethel

- Main port on the Kuskokwim and hub for 56 villages in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta
- Mostly Yupik population of about 6000

STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS:

Energy and Power

- Develop stable long-term funding mechanisms for state weatherization and energy efficiency programs while continuing robust efforts to find long-term energy solutions.

Nome

Alaska Dept. of Transportation/US Army Corps of Engineers study is seeking the best location for Alaska Arctic Port. An initial feasibility study is directed at a dual-system for Nome and Port Clarence area.

STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS:

Response Operations: Search and Rescue/Oil Pollution

- Facilitate and secure public and private investment in support of critical aviation and maritime response infrastructure and economic development, to include consideration of direct state funding and/or public-private partnerships that address development of communications, a deep draft port(s), icebreaker(s), logistics hubs, and a WX C-130 size aircraft hangar(s).
- Expand and support the Department of Environmental Conservation's effort to involve communities through Sub-area Planning and provide local training to maintain limited supplies of oil spill response equipment and to ensure timely, effective and safe response and spill containment.



Bering Strait

STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS:

Response Operations: Search and Rescue/Oil Pollution

- Encourage and advocate for more adequate funding so that the U.S. Coast Guard can carry out its assigned and emerging duties in the U.S. maritime Arctic without compromising its capacity to conduct all missions throughout Alaska.

Port Clarence

Nome

Fairbanks

AAPC MEETING OCTOBER 22-23, 2013

- Hosted by University of Alaska Fairbanks, a center for Arctic research
- Meeting aligning with the Alaska Federation of Natives Annual Convention, October 24-26

STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS:

Science and Research

- Increase state funding to, and partnership with, the University of Alaska for Arctic research that aligns with state priorities and leverages the University's exceptional facilities and academic capacity.
- State agencies should consider adapting successful models – such as the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation and Yukon-Koyukuk Tribal Communications Protocol – to development agreements with local governments and tribes regarding the use of traditional knowledge and culturally sensitive practices in research and permitting programs.

Photo Credit: Kenneth Tape

A black and white photograph of a city skyline, likely Anchorage, Alaska, with a large mountain in the background. The city buildings are visible in the lower half of the image, and the mountain dominates the upper half. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Anchorage

AAPC MEETING, DECEMBER 9-10

- Review of Preliminary Report
- Emphasized that the Preliminary Report is an evolving document
- Report highlights areas where the Commission may need to focus more attention in 2014, such as National Arctic security and Response Operations.
- Vision and Policy Statements and Strategic Recommendations Work Sessions

STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS:

- National Arctic security and Response Operations are two areas where given the complexity and importance of the issues even more attention and work is needed in 2014.

Challenges in Alaska's Arctic

- Huge differences between resource wealth and community prosperity
- Isolated, remote communities
- Lack of infrastructure – energy, transportation, telecommunications, etc.
- Many layers of ownership of land and resources
- Increasingly active Arctic – search for role, way to mitigate risk, and manage expectations

Role of Policy Commission

- Released Draft Alaska Arctic policy report January 30, 2014:
- Including policy statements that provide framework for State of Alaska strategy in the Arctic
- Inform local, state and federal policy makers
- Continue coordination with federal government
- Conduct outreach and education activities to raise the profile of the Arctic both within Alaska, nationally and internationally
- Work on final draft report due Jan. 30, 2015

"Arctic Package" legislation based on AAPC work
Sponsored by Co-Chairs Senator McGuire and Representative Herron

- Senate Bill 1 introduced the 2014 "ARCTIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM ACT"
- Allows AIDEA to leverage private sector for Arctic development in partnership with a national-level project team
- House Bill 104 "ALASKA ARCTIC PORT AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY"
- Senate Version introduced February 2
- Chairman Arctic Port Authority will develop the vision of Arctic ports and will offer a harbor port plan for the entire region
- House Joint Resolution 24 "ARCTIC COUNCIL"
- Senate Version introduced February 3
- A legislative committee designated at State to consider Alaska's participation in the Arctic Council Chairmanship beginning in 2015 and to consider Alaska's official letters appointing an individual to lead the Arctic Council



“Arctic Package” legislation based on AAPC work

Sponsored by Co-Chairs Senator McGuire and Representative Herron

- Senate Bill 140/House Bill 288 “AIDEA: ARCTIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM/FUND”
 - Allows AIDEA to leverage private money for Arctic infrastructure by financing up to 1/3 of well-vetted, projects’ costs
- House Bill 165 “ALASKA ARCTIC PORT AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY”
 - Senate Version introduced February 3
 - Creates an Arctic Port Authority to help depoliticize the siting of Arctic ports and to offer a holistic port plan for the entire region
- House Joint Resolution 24 “ARCTIC COUNCIL”
 - Senate Version introduced February 3
 - Asks the United States Department of State to consider Alaska’s priorities during its Arctic Council Chairmanship beginning in 2015 and to consult Alaskan officials before appointing an individual to lead the Arctic Council

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