

## House Memorials

### HOUSE MEMORIAL NO. 1

TO THE HONORABLE HARRY S. TRUMAN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES; TO THE HONORABLE CHARLES E. WILSON, DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF DEFENSE MOBILIZATION; TO THE HONORABLE W. STUART SYMINGTON, CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL SECURITIES RESOURCES BOARD; TO THE HONORABLE OSCAR CHAPMAN, SECRETARY OF INTERIOR; TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES AND TO THE HONORABLE E. L. BARTLETT, DELEGATE TO CONGRESS FOR THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA:

Your memorialist, the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Alaska, respectfully represents:

WHEREAS, the opportunity exists for a major contribution to be made to the defense effort and the national economy by developing the tremendous potential hydroelectric power resources of Alaska; and,

WHEREAS, a private company has signified its willingness to develop at its own expense the so-called Taiya hydroelectric power project in Southeast Alaska and to install an aluminum reduction plant which would produce a large quantity of this metal so urgently required by the nation; and,

WHEREAS, statements have appeared in the press that this outstanding Alaska project is being deferred in favor of a similar project at Kitimat, British Columbia whose construction would be made possible only by the United States defense officials negotiating a contract for purchase of a large quantity of aluminum from the Canadian producer; and,

WHEREAS, the Taiya project in Alaska possesses many features of superiority over the Kitimat project in British Columbia; namely:

(1) Construction could start sooner and be completed at an earlier date because in contrast to the proposed Kitimat site, Taiya adjoins a well developed harbor and town of Skagway, Alaska, which provides services and facilities allowing an immediate start to be made on the work, and which has good transportation connections including a new airport recently constructed by the Territory of Alaska, a railroad extending all through the area where the power development would occur and a new road direct to the proposed plant site at Dyea.

(2) The power at Taiya would be developed by the diversion of the headwaters of the Yukon River through large tunnels under the coast range which would be immune to enemy attack in contrast to the Kitimat project which entails the construction of a large dam.

(3) The Taiya project entails no transmission of power as the power plant would be right at the reduction plant site in contrast to the Kitimat project which would require transmissions of power fifty-five miles over a high mountain range where lines would be subject to severe icing conditions and snow and rock slides.

(4) The ultimate power producing capability at Taiya is greater than at Kitimat and the unit cost thereof cheaper. All of which considerations strongly recommend the Taiya project over that proposed for Kitimat; and,

WHEREAS, construction of the power and electrometallurgical project at Taiya would contribute greatly, both during the present emergency and in the future, to the economic development of Alaska which has been declared to be a national policy; and,

WHEREAS, the private American company desiring to build this plant in Alaska has stated "If we are granted governmental assistance comparable to that which is suggested would be given the Canadian company in connection with its proposed British Columbia development, we will undertake the Alaska project and carry it through to an early completion."; and,

WHEREAS, the Territory of Alaska has an official interest in this matter by reason of the fact that great effort has been expended by the Territorial agencies, including the Alaska Develop-

ment Board, in bringing the Taiya project to its present state of readiness for early development;

NOW THEREFORE, your memorialist the House of Representatives of the Territory of Alaska, in Twentieth Regular Session assembled, respectfully urges that the Congress of the United States, in consultation with the national defense authorities, re-examine immediately the situation with respect to the Taiya project and its proposed alternatives in Canada to the end that this large development shall take place on American soil; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be transmitted by telegram immediately after adoption to Delegate Bartlett in Washington for filing with the Subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee which has announced it will investigate this matter.

AND YOUR MEMORIALIST WILL EVER PRAY.

Passed by the House January 25, 1951.

Approved by the Governor January 25, 1951.

---

## HOUSE MEMORIAL NO. 2

TO THE HONORABLE OSCAR CHAPMAN, SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR; TO THE HONORABLE E. L. BARTLETT, DELEGATE TO CONGRESS FOR THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA; TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF THE BUDGET AND TO THE CHAIRMEN OF THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES:

Your Memorialist, the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Alaska, respectfully represents:

WHEREAS, the Alaska Road Commission has included in its program for construction during fiscal 1952 a highway from Cordova, Alaska to the Richardson Highway; and,