



PRESS RELEASE

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AIDEA Selected as Successful Bidder for 9 Tracts in Coastal Plains Lease Sale

(Anchorage) – On Wednesday, January 6, 2021, the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA) was selected as the successful bidder for nine (9) tracts in the Coastal Plains Lease Sale in Area 1002 of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). The announcement was made by Kate MacGregor, Deputy Secretary at the Department of the Interior during a live streaming event. Of the 22 available tracts, AIDEA was the successful bidder for the following:

- Tract 16 (\$1,437,675)
- Tract 17 (\$1,096,900)
- Tract 22 (\$1,404,200)
- Tract 23 (\$1,470,750)
- Tract 24 (\$1,454,400)
- Tract 26 (\$1,335,300)
- Tract 27 (\$1,311,175)
- Tract 30 (\$1,169,775)
- Tract 31 (\$1,338,650)

Area 1002 on the North Slope was specifically set aside for oil and natural resource development by Congress and President Carter in 1980. For more than 40 years, Alaskans have asked Congress to consider opening Area 1002 for exploration. In December 2017, passage of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act included authorization for responsible development in this area. On December 7, 2020, the BLM posted the Statement of Sale, which allowed for the submission of qualifying bids through December 31, 2020.

Support for developing Area 1002 comes from a cross-section of Alaskans, including The North Slope Borough, Governor Mike Dunleavy, Alaska’s Legislature, and all members of Alaska’s congressional delegation since 1980. “No one knows better than Alaska how to responsibly develop oil and gas resources in the Arctic,” said Governor Mike Dunleavy. “I am in full support of bidders participating in the lease sale which will benefit all Alaskans.”

“By acquiring these tracts, Alaska preserves the right to responsibly develop its natural resources. This will create new, good-paying jobs on the North Slope and generate revenue for the local economies of Alaska’s Arctic and the State’s general fund,” said AIDEA Executive Director, Alan Weitzner.



“This is an opportunity that’s been decades in the making. There is supply, demand, support, and surrounding infrastructure,” said AIDEA chairman, Dana Pruhs. “The Coastal Plain of ANWR is only 60 miles away from Prudhoe Bay, the largest oil field in North America. Alaska is proof that resource development and environmental preservation in the Arctic can co-exist.”

The Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority is a public corporation of the state. AIDEA’s purpose is to promote, develop and advance the general prosperity and economic welfare of the people of Alaska.

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