



PRESS RELEASE

Karsten Rodvik Project Manager, External Affairs 907-771-3024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 5, 2008

AIDEA Board Names New Executive Director

Commerce Deputy Commissioner Ted Leonard to Take Helm

(Anchorage) – The Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA) Board announces the appointment of Ted Leonard as AIDEA Executive Director. Mr. Leonard is currently Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development (DCCED).

"We are pleased to appoint Ted as AIDEA's new Executive Director, and we look forward to working with him as AIDEA continues its mission to provide financing that helps promote economic growth and diversification in our great state," said Board Chairman John Kelsey.

Leonard was appointed DCCED Deputy Commissioner in March 2007. He oversees the Division of Insurance, the Division of Banking and Securities and the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing. Prior to his DCCED appointment, Leonard worked in both public and private sector finance and accounting, and most recently served as Director of Finance and Administrative Services for the City of Wasilla.

Leonard received his undergraduate degree from the College of Idaho and holds a Masters of Management from Willamette University. He is a Certified Management Accountant and Senior Professional in Human Resources.

Leonard begins his new duties at AIDEA on May 19.

###