

PRESS RELEASE

AIDEA Office of Communications & External Affairs 907.771.3000 01-2025

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 08, 2024

AIDEA Responds to Lack of Interest in ANWR Lease Sales

January 08, 2025 (Anchorage, Alaska) – "It comes as no surprise to AIDEA that the terms set by the Biden Administration, caused a lack of interest in bidding on oil leases in the 1002 section of Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). AIDEA told the Biden Administration weeks ago that it's terms and conditions were so strict that the sale would fail and economic development was impossible (see <u>AIDEA Final Comments on SEIS</u> and Exhibits A, B, C, & D below).

The terms of the lease sale clearly reflect the Biden Administration's hostility to domestic energy development. Remember, Congress passed the 2017 Tax Cut and Jobs Act and required terms to allow for the successful leasing, development, and production of oil from ANWR. Despite those requirements, the Biden Administration imposed onerous terms that prevent economic development.

We firmly believe that the returning Trump administration will review the tactics taken by the Biden Administration, and offer leases in the manner required by law. This will likely occur through new lease sales or other actions.

Governor Dunleavy also accurately predicted in early December that the Biden administration's approach to ANWR would have a chilling effect on interest in oil and gas leasing and exploration. AIDEA remains committed to vigorously defend and develop the leases we bid on and were awarded in the first sale. These rights are preserved through our litigation claims in federal court and agreements with the Department of Interior."

Exhibit A – AIDEA's Detailed Comments

Exhibit B – Statutory Analysis

Exhibit C – Alternative D2 Land Map

Exhibit D – AIDEA's Notice of Filing Lis Pendens

About AIDEA:

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