

August 11, 2017

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers CEPOA-RD Ms. Sandy Gibson P.O. Box 6898 JBER, Alaska 99506-0898

RE: POA-2009-651 Alaska Stand Alone Pipeline [ASAP] Supplemental EIS – Support of Proposed ASAP Project

Dear Ms. Gibson:

Thank you for this opportunity to convey the Alaska Chamber's support of The Alaska Gasline Development Corporation's (AGDC) proposed actions in Alternative 1 of the Draft Supplemental EIS (DSEIS) for their request for authorization to construct an in-state natural gas pipeline from the North Slope to southcentral Alaska.

The Alaska Chamber is a non-profit founded in 1953 working to promote a positive business environment in Alaska. The Chamber is the voice of small land large business representing hundreds of employers and local chambers across Alaska. Our member companies employ over 100,000 hardworking Alaskans. We support responsible resource development that is both done in a responsible manner and brings economic opportunity to Alaska and its residents.

The overall environmental impacts of an aboveground pipeline would be <u>much worse</u> than a belowground pipeline. The Alaska Chamber strongly urge the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to select the components of Alternative 1 (AGDC's proposed action) as the environmentally preferable alternative and to provide the permits and authorizations required to construct and operate the ASAP Project, as proposed. Approval of the proposed ASAP design and issuance of the required permits and authorizations will not put at risk a sustainable and energy-secure future for Alaskans who would benefit from this pipeline.

The AGDC and the State of Alaska has invested millions of dollars in moving this project forward, and have brought to bear the knowledge and expertise of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System engineers and scientists in designing mitigation measures.

Best regards,

Curtis W. Thayer President & CEO