



PRESS RELEASE

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AIDEA Welcomes Ambler Access Project Milestone Authority Receives Record of Decision from BLM

(Anchorage) – The Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA) has received its Record of Decision (ROD) from the Bureau of Land Management, the lead federal agency evaluating the [Ambler Access Project](#).

The proposed 211-mile, limited access industrial road in Northwestern and Northern Interior Alaska would unlock a 75-mile-long stretch of mineral-rich state and private land that has been explored for decades and holds the potential for several mines. The Ambler Mining District has extensive mineral resources, including copper, silver, gold, lead, and zinc, and has been described as one of the largest undeveloped copper-zinc mineral belts in the world.

“Today’s announcement comes after years of rigorous study, more than a hundred public meetings, and dedicated support from Alaskans who believe in responsible economic development projects,” **said AIDEA Board Chairman Dana Pruhs**. “This long-sought development of the road and mining district represents tremendous potential for economic growth, diversification, and job opportunities for Alaskans, along with revenue expected to the State and local governments for decades.”

With the corridor approved through the ROD, the Project team can now undertake negotiations with landholders in earnest. Additional studies, ground truthing, and design will also be done to more accurately estimate the cost of road construction and operation. The private sector must put matching funds into the Project. From there, AIDEA and its investment partners will evaluate its feasibility. If feasible, the Authority will approve the Project and begin the financing process utilizing private capital. Ultimately, user fees will pay back the money invested in the Project.

“Getting a large, remote project such as Ambler through the Environmental Impact Statement process is a herculean task,” **said AIDEA Chief Infrastructure Development Officer Mark Davis**. “It couldn’t have been done without the wisdom of Alaska’s 1980s Congressional delegation, support of past and present delegations, legislators and administrations, and thoughtful dialogue with Alaskans who assist us in critically analyzing every decision.”

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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