

PRESS RELEASE

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AIDEA Earns AA+ Bond Rating from S&P, Highlighting Financial Strength and Alaska Commitment

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — The Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA) has received an <u>AA+ bond rating from S&P Global Ratings</u>, underscoring the agency's robust financial health.

The AA+ rating is the highest AIDEA has ever received. It places AIDEA among the top state-affiliated development banks nationwide, matching or exceeding the ratings of most peers. The new rating will foster a strong ability to finance job creation and economic growth across Alaska.

With the AA+ rating, AIDEA can leverage its financial resources more effectively, expanding support for impactful projects and key initiatives statewide. The rating also enables AIDEA to offer funds at lower costs and interest rates, benefiting Alaska businesses and communities. This milestone will help us further our mission to stimulate job creation, investment and sustainable economic opportunity for all Alaskans.

AIDEA's Acting Board Chairman, Bill Kendig said "AIDEA's AA+ bond rating from S&P is a milestone we're proud of. It reflects the exceptional work of Executive Director Randy Ruaro and his staff, and it affirms our disciplined financial management and strategic investments that strengthen Alaska's communities and businesses."

"AIDEA has successfully built a strong financial foundation, delivering record returns over the past two years. This performance earned AIDEA a prestigious AA+ bond rating which is higher than the State of Alaska and equal to the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation," **said Randy Ruaro**, **AIDEA's Executive Director**. "Strategic investments in major resource development projects, such as the Red Dog road and port, generate returns of 10% or more for AIDEA and substantial additional revenue for the state through dividends, taxes, and royalties. Combined returns to AIDEA and the state can reach or exceed 22%. Investments in resource development projects are essential for Alaska's financial stabity and growth."

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.

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