



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Allakaket Village, Subsistence Advisory Council, and Workforce Development Working Group Pass Resolutions for the Ambler Access Project**

January 11, 2024 (Anchorage, Alaska) – The Ambler Access Project (Ambler Road) is pleased to announce the community of Allakaket has submitted a resolution in support of the Ambler Road and the preferred route, Alternative A. This resolution is one of several that have been recently received by the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA), which is leading the Ambler Road project.

“As the first chief of Allakaket and an advocate for jobs for our young people, I support the Ambler Road. This resolution of support passed by the Allakaket Village reflects our collective commitment to economic growth and creating opportunities for our people. The Ambler Road is a pathway to a better future for our community and ensuring a better future for generations to come,” said **PJ Simon, First Chief of Allakaket**.

On December 13, 2023, several Alaska Native elders across Northwestern Alaska participated in the Ambler Road Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement Anchorage public meeting hosted by the Bureau of Land Management. All of the Alaska Native elders who spoke ahead of the general public were in support of the road, saying the road would create jobs for their people, some of whom struggle to provide for their families. **Miles Cleveland Senior** said, “Today in my hometown we are paying \$15 a gallon [for fuel] and if things don’t change in the next few years, how are we going to warm our houses? How are we going to provide for our family?” Click [here](#) to view the full testimony from Miles Cleveland Senior.

On December 6, 2023, in Fairbanks, Alaska, the Ambler Access Project Subsistence Advisory Committee (SAC) and Workforce Development Working Group (WDWG) passed resolutions underscoring the importance of their voice in the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement.

**Fred Bifelt, co-chair of both SAC and WDWG**, said, “We passed these resolutions so our voice will be heard. Our people need positive things, like the Ambler Project, for jobs and opportunities. I know we are going to build the road and we are going to build it to our

specifications. As indigenous people we are going to own this [opportunity] and this is how we are going to help our people.”

“Together, we strive to build the Ambler Road to foster jobs and opportunities for our people in a responsible and inclusive manner. It’s not what happens to us because of mining. It’s what happens to us without mining.” said, **Larry Westlake, SAC and WDWG co-chair.**

“I’m encouraged by the strong support for the Ambler Access Project from communities and leaders across our state,” said **Alaska Governor Mike Dunleavy.** “If America is to remain the global leader in the 21st-century economy, we need to develop the resources available in Alaska rather than relying on imports from places where standards for the environment and working conditions are out of sight and out of mind. This project is not merely about building a road. It’s about maximizing an opportunity to provide for our country’s needs while creating jobs and opportunities for Alaskans for decades to come.”

Resolutions can be accessed on the project website at [ambleraccess.org](http://ambleraccess.org). The Allakaket Resolution 2015-12-15-01 is available [here](#), the SAC Resolution 2023-02 is available [here](#) and the WDWG Resolution 2023-05 is available [here](#).

AIDEA remains steadfast in its dedication to supporting initiatives that create jobs and contribute to the prosperity of Alaska. For information about AIDEA or any of AIDEA’s projects, please visit [www.aidea.org](http://www.aidea.org) or contact AIDEA at [communications@aidea.org](mailto:communications@aidea.org).

**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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