



PRESS RELEASE

AIDEA Office of Communications & External Affairs
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AIDEA Submits Comprehensive Comments on the Ambler Road Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

January 11, 2024 (Anchorage, Alaska) – The Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA) submitted detailed comments on the Ambler Road Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) prepared by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The submission, which totaled 460 pages including attachments, is part of AIDEA's ongoing commitment to responsibly develop natural resources and economic opportunities in the Ambler Mining District.

Key points in the comment submission letter by AIDEA:

- 1. Collaborative efforts with Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) Corporations:** AIDEA clearly states its intent to work collaboratively with the ANCSA corporations as its first priority. This approach aligns with the successful model used for the Red Dog road and port, which were financed by and are currently owned by AIDEA. AIDEA and the ANCSA corporations agree the federal government does not have jurisdiction over ANCSA or state lands.
- 2. Right of access across federal lands:** In 1980, the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) mandated the Department of the Interior (DOI) to (“shall”) grant a surface transportation corridor across the Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve (GAAR) to the Dalton Highway. The State of Alaska, and AIDEA as a subdivision of the State, possess a mandatory right of access across federal lands. Former Senator Ted Stevens ensured ANILCA provided access for the state across these federal lands
- 3. Resource development:** Resource development ensures good-paying jobs for Alaskans and their families and the ability to afford and participate in a subsistence lifestyle. The Ambler Access Project, similar to the Red Dog Road and Port, will bring benefits to local communities. These include decreased fuel costs compared to current community prices, surface transportation for essential materials, equipment, goods, and services, as well as improved access for first responders.

4. **Reasonable mitigation measures:** AIDEA continues to work with local Alaska Native leaders on the Subsistence Advisory Committee to adopt mitigation measures similar to the ones in place for over 40 years at the Red Dog Mine.

AIDEA's comment submission can be accessed [here](#) and is available on the Ambler Access Project website at ambleraccess.org. AIDEA supports initiatives that create jobs and responsible economic development in Alaska. For information about AIDEA or any of AIDEA's projects, please visit www.aidea.org or contact AIDEA at 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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