



PRESS RELEASE

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AIDEA Executive Director Departing for Opportunities in the Private Sector

(Anchorage) – The Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA) Executive Director, Alan Weitzner, has announced he is returning to the private sector to develop renewable energy and large-scale liquefied natural gas infrastructure projects globally. His resignation has been announced and a search to identify his replacement is underway. Morgan Neff, Chief Investment Officer for AIDEA, has been appointed as Interim Executive Director until further notice. Weitzner’s resignation letter [[letter](#)] and announcement are available on the AIDEA website at [AIDEA.org](https://aidea.org).

“The Board of Directors has authorized AIDEA’s Human Resource staff to begin the process of identifying potential candidates for the executive director position,” says Dana Pruhs, Board Chairman. “We thank Alan for his leadership and his dedication. His professional integrity and expertise helped guide the organization toward meaningful progress during his tenure at AIDEA,” says Pruhs.

Julie Sande, Commissioner for the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development and AIDEA Board Member, said, “We are very sad to see Alan go but we wish him great success in his personal and professional endeavors. His extensive experience in development finance and the dedication he has demonstrated towards AIDEA’s mission has helped to build a strong team at the organization. I am confident that they will continue to serve Alaskans seamlessly during this transition.”

Morgan Neff, Chief Investment Officer and Interim Executive Director for AIDEA, said, “Alan’s leadership has inspired all of us to be passionate and 100% committed to Alaska through AIDEA’s mission of promoting economic development and jobs. We will miss him.”

Weitzner has expressed his profound appreciation to the Board, Administration, and staff for the opportunity to serve as AIDEA’s Executive Director and observe first-hand the dedication to AIDEA’s important mission. According to Weitzner, this decision was not undertaken lightly but is confident AIDEA is in a great position financially with a talented leadership team.

“The members of the AIDEA Board would like to thank the staff for their continued efforts on behalf of Alaskans and appreciate Mr. Neff’s willingness to step into this interim role during the candidate search,” said Sande.

Questions regarding this announcement can be directed to the Office of Julie Sande, Commissioner for the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development at the State of Alaska by emailing victoria.caltagirone@alaska.gov or AIDEA Communications at Communications@aidea.org.

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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.