



PRESS RELEASE

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AIDEA Disappointed in ANWR Court Decision

August 8, 2023 (Anchorage, Alaska) – The Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA) is disappointed in the recent Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) court decision. Congress clearly said the Department of the Interior (DOI) had to go forward with leasing in ANWR and expected DOI to allow those leases to produce jobs, oil, and revenue for the Treasury. Congress expects the leasing entities to carry out its intent without having to expressly authorize every step in the leasing process.

“Jobs are critical for our state. This is especially true for rural areas such as Northern Alaska. That is why the North Slope Borough, Arctic Slope Regional Corporation, and Kaktovik Iñupiat Corporation were all parties to this lawsuit,” said Randy Ruaro, Executive Director at AIDEA.

“The Department of Interior failed to specify what specific items were deficient in the determination. This lack of clarity will likely lead to an open ended and costly delay. This is another example of why comprehensive permit reform is needed. Agency decisions must be final at some point and not subject to politics and the whims of changing administrations,” said Ruaro.

For more information about AIDEA or any of AIDEA’s projects, please visit www.aidea.org or contact us 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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