



PRESS RELEASE

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BLM, NPS, AIDEA Sign 50-Year Right-of-Way Permit for Ambler Road Project

(Anchorage) – Wednesday, January 6, 2021, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), National Park Service (NPS), and the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA) signed important documents granting a 50-year right-of-way for the future construction of the Ambler Mining District Industrial Access Road.

“This right-of-way is the culmination of years of research, planning, and collaboration,” said AIDEA Executive Director Alan Weitzner. “The signing of this permit is a major milestone. It’s the first step in a multi-year phase of feasibility and predevelopment. The permits are for a controlled industrial access road with stipulations that protect subsistence and environmental resources.”

Forty years ago, last month, Congress passed ANILCA (the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act) and an important provision in that statute supported by Congressman Don Young and the late Senator Ted Stevens involved in preserving access to the minerals rich Ambler Mining District. The 211-mile industrial access road is a critical piece of infrastructure for the responsible development and transportation of a variety of valuable minerals located in the Ambler Mining District, including copper, gold, silver, cobalt, zinc, and lead.

“The public’s active involvement resulted in meaningful design changes, such as additional bridge crossings and enhancements to culverts to protect fish passage,” said AIDEA Chairman Dana Pruhs. “This kind of collaboration and conversation needs to continue so we can continue to enhance the project with Alaskan landowners, stakeholders, and user groups.”

“Alaskans will benefit from the Ambler Road Access Project,” said Governor Mike Dunleavy. “Responsible natural resource development like the mineral rich Ambler Mining District is key to providing high wage jobs that can support Alaskans and their families. We develop our resources in Alaska more responsibly than anyone else.”

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.

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