



## PRESS RELEASE

Communications Director  
E. Colleen Bryan  
ebryan@aidea.org  
(907) 771-3024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 16, 2021

### **AIDEA, Doyon Limited Sign Land Access Agreement, Advancing the Ambler Access Project through Pre-Construction**

(Anchorage) – On Wednesday, April 14, 2021, the Board for the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA) authorized AIDEA to enter into an agreement with Doyon, Limited (Doyon) to conduct final feasibility and permitting activities to advance the Ambler Access Project.

The land access agreement allows AIDEA and its contractors controlled access to land owned and managed by Doyon along the proposed route to the Ambler Mining District. AIDEA is working with Ambler Metals LLC (Ambler Metals) via the Development Agreement, signed in February 2021, to collaborate with local stakeholders, landowners, communities, and tribes. The agreement is not a right-of-way agreement and does not convey any longer-term rights to AIDEA or the project.

“While Doyon’s position has not changed with regard to the AMDIAP project – we are neither supporters nor opponents – we have reached agreement on providing AIDEA access to some of our lands for field studies,” said **Aaron Schutt, President and CEO of Doyon Limited**. “We look forward to local communities and our Doyon shareholders benefitting economically from the work to be done this summer season.”

The Ambler Access Project is currently in the final Feasibility and Permitting phase following seven years of an extensive federal permitting process, as required by the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA). The AIDEA Board also approved the proposed plan and budget for summer field season activities and services up to \$13 million. This cost will be shared 50/50 by AIDEA and Ambler Metals under the Development Agreement.

“I am encouraged with the progress we are making on the project with the approval of this year’s budget and the land access agreement with Doyon. These are positive steps that attest to our solid public-private partnership with AIDEA and to the healthy collaboration we have with our key stakeholders”, said **Ramzi Fawaz, President and CEO of Ambler Metals**.

The Ambler Access Project is a proposed 211-mile, east-west running controlled industrial access road that would provide industrial access to the Ambler Mining District in northwestern Alaska. The area currently lacks the transportation infrastructure necessary for the development, construction and operations of mines in the district. The Ambler Mining District is one of the largest copper-zinc mineral belts in the world and has extensive deposits of other minerals such as gold, silver, lead, and cobalt.

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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