



June 24, 2020

RE: Support for Ambler Road Predevelopment Funding – AIDEA Board Meeting

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. For the record, my name is Kati Capozzi, and I serve as the president and CEO of the Alaska Chamber. My comments will be brief.

The Alaska Chamber is a non-profit founded in 1952 working to promote a positive business environment in Alaska. We represent hundreds of businesses, manufacturers, and local chambers across the state. Our member companies employ more than 100,000 hard-working Alaskans.

Increasing responsible natural resource development by gaining access to resources has been a long-standing position of the Alaska Chamber. I am here to testify in support of access to the Ambler mining district, as well as support for seeing any proposed resource development project be allowed to go through the strictly regulated permitting process.

If built, an Ambler Road would grant access to mining development that will generate new revenue for the federal government, the State of Alaska, and stakeholders. Most importantly, the project will bring new jobs for Alaskans. There is no more important time to identify new job opportunities for Alaskans than right now.

Should a mine be later proposed, the State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources enforces stringent regulations overseeing mining activities statewide that effectively protect the environment, wildlife, and human health.

The Alaska Chamber is in support of allocating funds from the Arctic Infrastructure Development Fund for 2020 predevelopment work on the Ambler Access Project.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. The Alaska Chamber looks forward to opportunities for comment as this project progresses in the future.



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