



August 9, 2022

Steve Cohn, State Director
Bureau of Land Management
222 W. 7th Avenue, Stop #13
Anchorage, AK 99513

Re: Comments on the Willow Master Development Plan Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS); NEPA # DOI-BLM-AK-000-2018-0004-EIS

Dear State Director Cohn,

The Alaska Chamber (the Chamber) writes to submit comments on the Willow Master Development Plan Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement.

The Alaska Chamber was founded in 1953 and is Alaska's largest statewide business advocacy organization. Our mission is to promote a healthy business environment in Alaska. The Chamber has more than 700 members, representing 58,000 Alaskan workers and \$4.6 billion in wages.

The Chamber membership reviews, discusses, and votes annually on its policy positions and priorities. Among the dozens of positions of importance to the Chamber, two specifically apply to the Willow Project, and happen to be our top Federal priorities.

The first position has been a part of the Chamber advocacy agenda for over a decade. The priority states:

Support oil and gas exploration and development in Alaska's federal areas.

The Alaska Chamber strongly supports oil and gas exploration and production in Alaska's federal areas; including the Beaufort Sea, Chukchi Sea, NPRA, Cook Inlet, and the 10-02 area of ANWR. The Chamber encourages Congress to enact revenue sharing for Alaska and local communities. The Chamber also encourages the Alaska Congressional Delegation, the Alaska Legislature and Governor to support and strongly advocate for responsible development of these valuable resources, while the Chamber commits to actively support and participate in the education and advocacy efforts to open these areas.

The second position was adopted in December 2021 and immediately rose as a top federal priority. It immediately became a priority due to the onslaught of anti-Alaska and anti-responsible resource development policies coming from Washington D.C. The priority states:

Advocate for a federal regulatory structure that is balanced, predictable and stable.

The Alaska Chamber has witnessed significant federal administrative and legislative actions impacting Alaska's businesses and overall investment climate. The Chamber stands ready to engage on multiple fronts in support of our existing federal positions. The ability of Alaska to responsibly develop its wealth of natural resources and support a diverse private economy is paramount. Advocating for a stable and predictable federal regulatory and fiscal environment is a priority of the Alaska Chamber.



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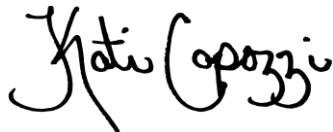
In light of the Chamber priorities, in particular the emphasis on a regulatory structure that is balanced and predictable, the Chamber strongly encourages the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to move forward in finalizing the DSEIS without any further delay.

The Chamber supports Alternative E and appreciates the in-depth stakeholder engagement that took place in developing the Alternative. Alternative E reduces scope, footprint, and impact of the project in areas of most concern to project opponents. Alternative E is also expected to produce the lowest amount of greenhouse gas emissions of all the Alternatives offered. The Alternative provides a reasonable path forward that addresses the court's concerns from the EIS and takes in to account all stakeholder engagement.

With recent world events threatening the globe's energy supply, it is more important than ever we have a stable regulatory structure that allows for responsible development of our *own* oil and gas resources in the United States of America. Moving forward with the Willow Project would ensure social equity and environmental justice as we watch and continue to rely on countries with far fewer environmental regulations and a clear disregard for law, order, and social justice.

In closing, the Chamber urges BLM to adopt Alternative E and permit the Willow Project without further delay

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kati Capozzi". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kati Capozzi
President and CEO