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Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

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 Governor Sean Parnell

BREAKFAST MEETING

Thursday, December 20, 2012

1. Call to order – Ralph Samuels, Vice President
2. Head table Introductions
3. Staff Report: Rick Rogers, Executive Director
4. Program and Keynote Speaker:

State of the State's Coal Industry
 Dan Graham, President, Alaska Coal Association

Upcoming Meetings:

Thursday, January 3: The 2013 Alaska Legislature, Senate President Charlie Huggins and House Speaker Mike Chenault

Thursday, January 17: The Alaska Stand Alone Gas Pipeline, Frank Richards, Manager, Pipeline Engineering, Alaska Gasline Development Corporation

Please add my name to RDC's mailing list:

Name/Title: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

RDC Action Alert:
Support Canyon Creek Coal Lease Sale for Exploration

Comment deadline is 5:00 p.m. December 21, 2012

Overview:

The State of Alaska Division of Natural Resources (DNR) is accepting comments on a Preliminary Best Interest Finding for a coal lease sale near Canyon Creek. The 13,175 acre lease sale area is in the foothills of the Alaska Range, approximately 18 miles southwest of Skwentna, within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. DNR reports that based on drilling in the 1970s the lease areas holds approximately 258 million tons of low sulfur coal.

The area is under consideration for lease sales for exploration for coal resources. The lease area does not have any known trails or lakes large enough for floatplanes, and no nearby neighbors. Only two small portions of the area have anadromous streams, and the main river in the area, Contact Creek, is not navigable.

The coal lease area could eventually provide 100-200 well-paying jobs if a project is put forward, as well as be a high tax paying entity in the Mat-Su Borough. The State of Alaska would also benefit through taxes and royalties.

Action requested:

RDC encourages its members to submit written comments in support of the Canyon Creek Coal Lease Sale for exploration before the December 21st deadline.

Submit comments to:

Mr. Bill Cole
Department of Natural Resources
550 West 7th St. Suite 900B
Anchorage, AK 99501

Email: william.cole@alaska.gov

For more information on the Canyon Creek Preliminary Decision:
<http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/mining/CanyonCreekPBIF.pdf>

Points to consider in your comments:

- Exploration of the Canyon Creek district could produce 258 million tons of low sulfur coal.
- It is estimated 100-200 well paying jobs could result if the coal is brought to production.
- 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 Canyon Creek district is an area that should be further explored to determine its potential. RDC believes that new mining operations in the area, should they come to fruition, can be of great economic benefit to the Mat-Su Borough and Alaska.

Comment deadline is 5:00 p.m. December 21, 2012



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Dan Graham

Chuck Greene

Scott Habberstad

Karl Hanneman

Rick Harris

Paul Henry

Steve Elites

Larry Houle

Teresa Imm

Mike Jungreis

Frank Kelly

Thomas Krzewinski

John Lau

Tom Lovas

Thomas Mack

John MacKinnon

Stephanie Madsen

Karen Matthias

Sam Mazzeo

Ron McPheters

James Mery

Denise Michels

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Keith Silver

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December 19, 2012

Mr. Bill Cole

Department of Natural Resources

550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 900B

Anchorage, AK 99501

Via email to: william.cole@alaska.gov

Re: Support for the Canyon Creek Area Coal Exploration Lease Sales

Dear Mr. Cole:

The Resource Development Council for Alaska is writing in support of the Department of Natural Resources' coal exploration lease sales in the Canyon Creek area.

RDC is a statewide organization made up of all resource sectors, business associations, labor unions, Native corporations, tourism providers, local governments and individuals. RDC's purpose is to encourage a strong, diversified private sector in Alaska and expand the state's economic base through the responsible development of our natural resources.

The Canyon Creek district is an area that should be further explored to determine its potential. New mining operations in the area, should they come to fruition, can be of great economic benefit to the Mat-Su Borough and Alaska. If a project is put forward, it could be a high tax-paying entity in the Mat-Su Borough, as well as a project paying the State of Alaska through taxes and royalties.

Moreover, the project could eventually provide 100-200 well-paying jobs, with an average annual salary of \$100,000.

Concerns about the project potentially impacting the environment will be considered through the Department of Natural Resources' stringent regulations overseeing mining activities statewide that effectively protect the environment, wildlife, and human health.

Additionally, a surface coal mine in Alaska is subject to the Alaska Surface Coal Mining Control and Reclamation Act (ASCMCRA). ASCMCRA is a comprehensive permitting program, and combined with other current state and federal regulations, sufficiently protects the environment, water resources, and wildlife if a surface mine is proposed in the area.

In conclusion, RDC encourages the State to proceed with lease sales for coal exploration in the Canyon Creek area.

Sincerely,

Marleanna Hall

Projects Coordinator



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dec. 17, 2012

Emily Ford
Public Outreach Liaison
Alaska Energy Authority
(907) 771-3961
eford@aidea.org

AEA REACHES SUSITNA-WATANA HYDRO MILESTONE

Revised study plan filed after months of stakeholder engagement

Anchorage, AK- The Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) has filed its Revised Study Plan for Susitna-Watana Hydro with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), the agency responsible for licensing non-federal hydroelectric projects. The document outlines fifty-eight individual studies that will comprise the environmental field effort for the next two years.

Said Sara Fisher-Goad, AEA executive director, "Filing the Revised Study Plan is the culmination of nearly a year's worth of work. We feel this study effort moves us closer toward filing for a FERC license on time in 2015 and helps provide the balance between the need for long-term power and environmental concerns."

Throughout FERC licensing, the study planning process is extremely iterative with multiple opportunities for public involvement. Technical work-group meetings were held over several months and multiple drafts of the study plans were published in an effort to incorporate stakeholder feedback.

"AEA has been committed to engaging Alaskans and both state and federal resource agencies to develop a responsible environmental field program. The Revised Study Plan will build upon the significant historical information from the 1980s Susitna Hydroelectric licensing effort and the early year of study in 2012," continued Fisher-Goad.

Filing the Revised Study Plan triggered a FERC public comment deadline through Jan. 18, 2013. Comments are accepted online at the FERC.gov (e-filing) for the docket number P-14241. FERC is expected to make its study plan determination Feb. 1, 2013.

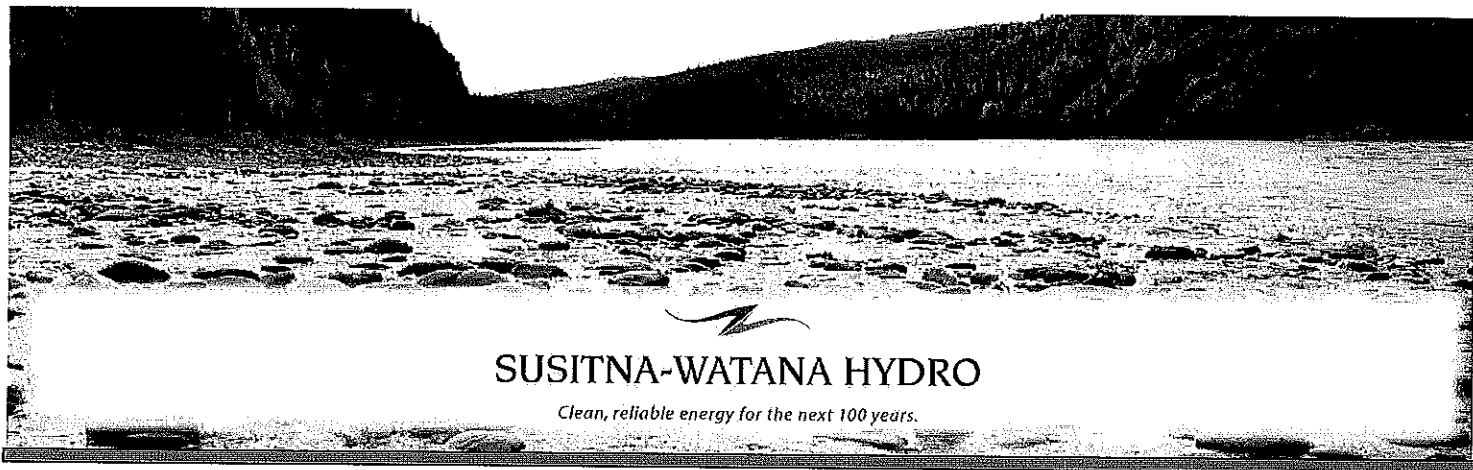
Also on Friday, Gov. Parnell released his capital and operating budgets and included \$95 million for Susitna-Watana Hydro. This funding will be used for environmental field work, geotechnical investigations and engineering design through FY 2014.

The Revised Study Plan is available online at Susitna-WatanaHydro.org.



Susitna-Watana Hydro would be located at river mile 184 on the Susitna River, above Devils Canyon, and would provide long-term, stable rates for 100+ years. It is estimated to provide a little more than half of the Railbelt's electrical demand. The Alaska Energy Authority is a public corporation of the state whose mission is to reduce the cost of energy in Alaska. More information can be found at AKEnergyAuthority.org.

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Diversifying Alaska's Energy Portfolio: Susitna-Watana Hydro Public Comment

The Alaska Energy Authority is in the early stages of an anticipated six-year Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) licensing effort for Susitna-Watana Hydro. This past year has been dedicated to the development of the environmental study plan and conducting preliminary studies.

This July, AEA filed a Proposed Study Plan and since then has worked with resource agencies and stakeholders in the development of a Revised Study Plan, to be filed with FERC on Dec. 14. This triggers a public comment period through Jan. 18; FERC is expected to issue its study plan determination on Feb. 1, 2013.

The public is open to comment on the study plan from Dec. 15 through Jan. 18. Some points to consider:

Balance Between need for Power and Environmental Resources

- The Revised Study Plan will provide sufficient information to file for a FERC license in 2015 and to bring the project online in 2024. (Therefore meeting the State of Alaska's goal of 50 percent renewable electrical power by 2025)
- More than 3,000 individual reports were filed as part of the 1980s Susitna Hydroelectric licensing effort, providing a wealth of historical information to build on. This solid foundation provides a unique advantage for Susitna-Watana Hydro.
- The Gold Creek stream gauge has been collecting flow data for more than half a century, one of the longest-standing gauges in the nation. This provides valuable information for Susitna-Watana Hydro to better predict future trends.
- The project is 35 river miles upstream from Devils Canyon, a natural impediment to salmon migration.
- In addition to the wealth of historical data, AEA initiated an additional year of field work in 2012 and has submitted a robust Revised Study Plan with 58 individual studies.

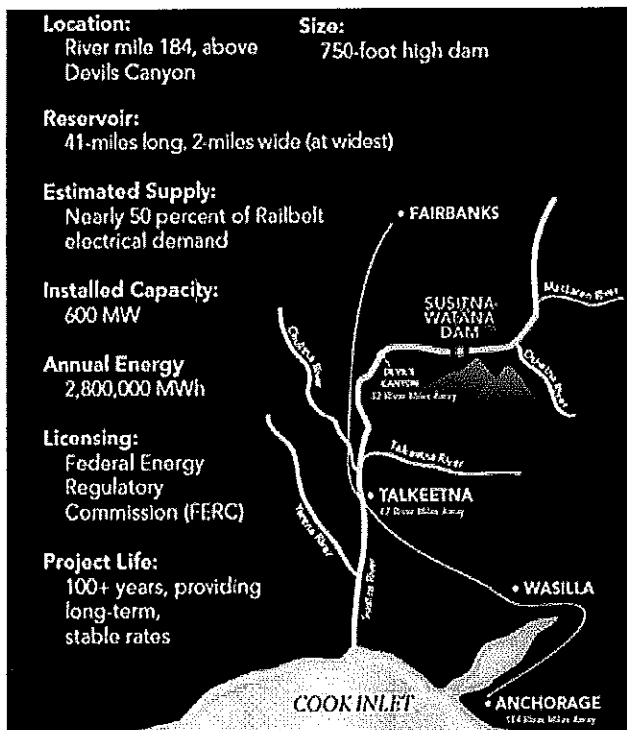


Public comments are accepted on FERC.gov under Project/Docket Number P-14241
Susitna-Watana Hydro · susitnawatana@aidea.org · Phone: 907-771-3000 · sustina-watanahydro.org

Points to consider continued:

Collaborative Licensing Approach

- Recognizing the complex and comprehensive proposed study plan, AEA has gone above and beyond FERC regulatory requirements in an effort to reach consensus with licensing participants.
- While FERC's regulations only require license applicants to hold a single study plan meeting following the filing of the Proposed Study Plan, AEA organized Technical Working Groups in several key resource areas. The goal of these meetings was to use stakeholder feedback to further refine the studies included in the Proposed Study Plan and to collaboratively develop the Revised Study Plan.
- AEA committed to demonstrating progress in reaching consensus on the study plan process by posting draft Revised Study Plans on its website, completely independent and above licensing requirements.
- AEA requested two extensions in the FERC licensing schedule to allow resource agencies and stakeholders a meaningful opportunity to participate in the enhanced study development process and to avoid major milestone deadlines during the holiday season.

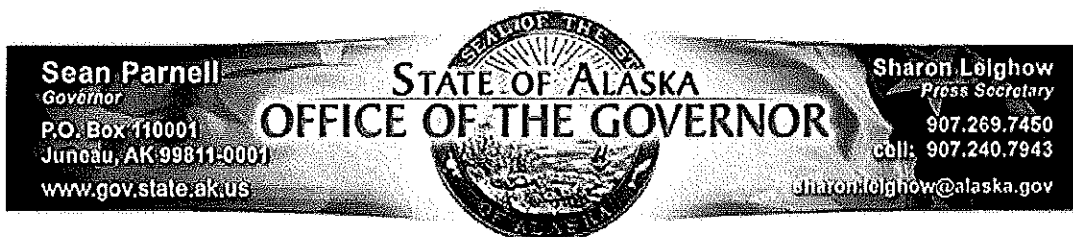


Project Basics

- Susitna-Watana Hydro helps diversify Alaska's energy portfolio, while providing clean reliable power for 100+ years.
- The project would provide 50 percent of the Railbelt's annual power demand (2.8 million MWh annually), serving nearly 80 percent of the State's population.
- Alaska needs long-term stable-priced energy. Southcentral Alaska faces uncertain natural gas supplies while Fairbanks utility costs are 143 percent higher than the typical U.S. household this year.

Additional information on the benefits of hydropower can be found online at Susitna-watanahydro.org/whyhydro.

The Revised Study Plan will be posted at Susitna-Watanahydro.org/StudyPlan on Dec. 14, all previous drafts are online. Public comments are accepted on Ferc.gov under Project/Docket Number P-14241



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

No. 12-161

Governor Parnell Proposes \$1 Billion Less in State Spending

December 14, 2012, Anchorage, Alaska – Governor Sean Parnell today released his budget for the next fiscal year, and it is nearly \$1.1 billion less than the current year's general fund spending.

In its proposal, the Parnell administration holds the state operating budget to less than one percent growth. The budget totals \$6.49 billion in state general funds and \$12.8 billion when federal funds and the Permanent Fund are included. The budget leaves more than \$500 million in surplus revenue.

"This balanced budget spends less than the current year," Governor Parnell said. "As we prepared this budget, we faced the facts – oil production is down, and oil prices, too, have decreased. Production decline and the increasing cost of producing Alaska's oil profoundly impacts Alaska's revenues. As I've done in the past, I am asking legislators to join me early in session to set a spending limit. A self-imposed, reasonable limit is the key to successful and sustainable spending. A spending limit promotes spending restraint and greater accountability for Alaskans."

Governor Parnell's budget focuses on resource development, public safety, education, and transportation and infrastructure.

The governor's proposed capital budget contains significant investments in energy development, roads to resources, water and sewer projects, school construction and major maintenance, as well as matching funds to leverage federal and local dollars.

"Our fiscal plan is based on budget discipline, saving for the future, and prudently managing reserves to help us through times when revenue is down," Governor Parnell said. "Our plan also relies on resource development, so Alaskans, today and in the future, will have access to economic opportunity and essential public services."

Draft budget bills and more detailed information on the budget are available on the Office of Management & Budget website at omb.alaska.gov.

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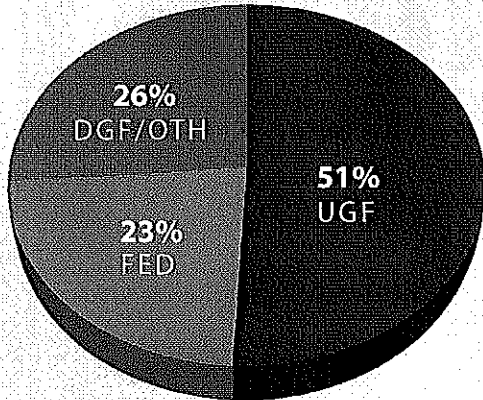
Responsible and Responsive



SEAN PARNELL
GOVERNOR OF ALASKA

ALASKA'S FISCAL YEAR 2014 BUDGET PROPOSAL

Alaska's Budget by Source of Funds



- General Funds \$6.49 billion
 - Federal Funds \$2.94 billion
 - DFG/Other Funds \$3.35 billion
- Total: \$12.8 billion

The FY 2014 Budget Proposal Supports Alaska's Priorities:

Resource/Energy Development

Alaska's resources provide Alaskans with opportunity.

- **Roads to Resources** \$18 million
- Gasline Development \$50 million
- Geologic Materials Center \$15 million
- Chinook Salmon Research \$10 million
- Strategic Minerals \$2.7 million
- Permitting and Statewide Mapping \$7.3 million
- Sustainable Energy Fund \$125 million
- Susitna-Watana Hydro Project \$95 million
- Interior Energy \$50 million
- Weatherization/Home Energy \$51.5 million
- Renewable Energy \$25 million

Education

Alaska's K-12 public education system prepares students for success in college or job-training programs.

- K-12 Education \$1.25 billion
- **Alaska Performance Scholarships** \$8 million
- Alaska Digital Learning Initiative \$5.9 million
- Early Learning \$14.6 million
- School Construction \$46.2 million
- Major Maintenance \$22.3 million

Transportation/Infrastructure

Alaska's economy depends on access and infrastructure to support development.

- Statewide Highway and Aviation \$971 million
- Alaska Marine Highway \$182 million
- Municipal Water and Sewer Projects \$34 million
- Village Safe Water \$56.5 million
- State Funds to leverage federal and local \$141 million

Public Safety

The budget prioritizes safe homes and strong families.

- **Choose Respect Initiative** \$14.8 million
- 18 New Alaska State Troopers \$3.7 million
- 15 New Village Public Safety Officers \$2.7 million
- Investigate/Prosecute child sexual abuse \$1.6 million
- Emergency - Blood Bank of Alaska \$7 million

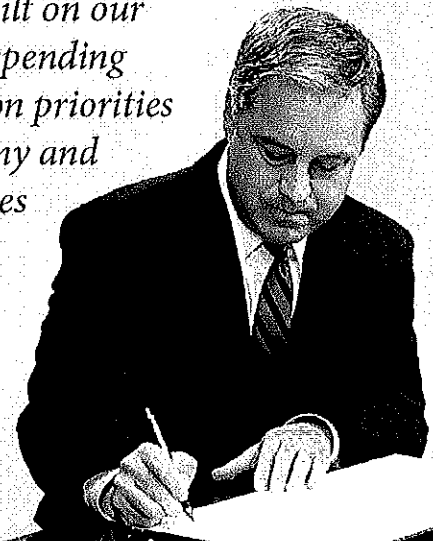
Military Support

We honor Alaska's military community.

- Interior Alaska Veterans Cemetery \$2.5 million
- Homeland Security \$19.6 million
- Alaska Military Youth Academy \$11.1 million
- Veterans Services and Outreach \$2 million

"Our fiscal plan is built on our state's resources and spending discipline. We focus on priorities that grow our economy and strengthen our families - for Alaskans today and tomorrow."

Sean Parnell
GOVERNOR





RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

December 10, 2012

Mr. James Kelly
Thorne Bay Ranger District
Box 19001
Thorne Bay, AK 99919

Re: Big Thorne Project

Dear Mr. Kelly:

The Resource Development Council (RDC) is writing to express its support for the Big Thorne Project and urges the Forest Service to continue its efforts to restore a viable, economic supply of timber for the forest products industry and local communities.

RDC is a statewide, non-profit, membership-funded organization comprised of individuals and companies from Alaska's oil and gas, mining, timber, tourism, and fisheries industries, as well as Alaska Native corporations, local communities, organized labor, and industry support firms. RDC's purpose is to encourage a strong, diversified private sector economy in Alaska through the responsible development of our natural resources.

RDC recognizes this project was originally intended as one part of the Forest Service's pledge to provide a series of four 10-year timber sales, each with an annual volume of 15 to 20 million board feet. Since this project no longer meets the 10-year timber sale requirements, RDC urges you to resume your efforts to prepare and offer the 10-year sales in order to provide the volume assurance needed to make investments in equipment and manufacturing.

RDC understands that the current timber sale target for the next several years is 120 million board feet annually. This is more than double with what has been made available since the 2008 Tongass Land Management Plan (TLMP) was adopted and the increased volume will help sustain and increase jobs, particularly in local communities. While this is a step in the right direction, RDC urges the Forest Service to begin planning for an increase in the timber sale program to a level that will support the restoration of a fully-integrated timber manufacturing industry in the region. Our understanding is this will require about 360 million board feet annually but, since the volume offered over the last five years has been so low and since the 2008 TLMP maximum sale level of 267 million board feet is an average of a decade, the Service should begin planning for the higher levels now. These higher levels should be incorporated into the five year review of TLMP which is to begin in 2013.

With regard to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, some of the logging units proposed for harvest appear to be economically deficit. RDC urges the Service to make revisions that will eliminate the deficits and still maintain the proposed volumes. We recognize this may require some project level variances from the 2008 TLMP. RDC also supports the comments offered by the Alaska Forest Association. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Big Thorne project.

Sincerely,

Carl Portman
Deputy Director

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Stephanie Madsen
Karen Matthias
Sam Mazzeo
Ron McPheters
James Mery
Denise Michels
Hans Neldig
Lisa Parker
Judy Patrick
Charlie Powers
Glenn Reed
Mike Satre
Keith Silver
Loral Simon
John Sturgeon
Jan Trigg

Ex-Officio Members
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Senator Lisa Murkowski
Congressman Don Young
Governor Sean Parnell



Meet Alaska

MEET ALASKA 2013

JANUARY 11, 2013

REGISTRATION

Company: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Conference Attendee:

1)	_____	_____	_____
	Name	Title	Company (if different than above)
2)	_____	_____	_____
	Name	Title	Company (if different than above)
3)	_____	_____	_____
	Name	Title	Company (if different than above)
4)	_____	_____	_____
	Name	Title	Company (if different than above)
5)	_____	_____	_____
	Name	Title	Company (if different than above)

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Registration Options	Registration Cost	Quantity	Sub-Total
• Legislators/Legislative Staff/Government Officials (by Dec. 21)	\$250 per person	_____	\$ _____
• Legislators/Legislative Staff/Government Officials (after Dec. 21)	\$275 per person	_____	\$ _____
• Early Bird Member Registration (by Dec. 21)	\$275 per person	_____	\$ _____
• Alliance Member Registration (after Dec. 21)	\$300 per person	_____	\$ _____
• Early Bird Non-Member Registration (by Dec. 21)	\$300 per person	_____	\$ _____
• Non-Member Registration (after Dec. 21)	\$325 per person	_____	\$ _____
• Sponsor Discounted Registration	\$175 per person	_____	\$ _____
TOTAL REGISTRATION FEES		_____	\$ _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

Check Enclosed Invoice Credit Card (Visa/MasterCard/Amex)

Credit card #: _____

Exp. Date: _____ CVS (3 digit#): _____

Signature: _____

NOTE: NO REFUNDS OR CANCELLATIONS MADE AFTER January 7, 2013

Meet Alaska 2013--“It’s like déjà vu all over again ”

Harold Heinze – First Speaker at the First Meet Alaska; Introduction of Speakers from first Meet Alaska-

Conoco Phillips - Trond Erik-Johansen

Wood Mackenzie – World LNG Markets – Is there room for Alaska?

Laura Skaer, Northwest Mining Association

British Petroleum- Tom Pennington, Alaska Region CFO

Lower 48 Shale Experience: How will it translate to Alaska - Craig Wilson – K & L Gates/Harrisburg, PA

Lunch- Keynote Address –Governor Christine Todd-Whitman – First female governor of New Jersey; head of the EPA under President George Bush

Patrick J. McCormick III, Special Counsel, Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Dr. Gerry Angevine, Fraser Institute’s 2012 Global Petroleum Survey

Diane Blumer, Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development

Sustainable Budgets Panel – Brad Keithley(Perkins Coie), Karen Rehfield (Director OMB-invited), Jonathan King(Northern Economics)

Jim Flood, Exxon Mobil Development, V.P. Arctic-Eastern

Reception honoring Alaska Pipeline Builders Association/35th Anniversary of TAPS

THE ALASKA
*Marine
 Gala*
 February 16th, 2013



Alaska SeaLife Center
w i n d o w s t o t h e s e a

Schedule The Cause Special Guest Register Sponsorship Awards Auction Contact

Alaska Ocean Leadership Awards

The first annual Alaska Ocean Leadership Awards were presented as a part of the 2010 Alaska Marine Gala. These awards were established as annual awards to encourage and give recognition to outstanding achievements related to ocean sciences, education and resource management in Alaska.

Walter J. & Ermalee Hickel's Lifetime Achievement Award

Awarded to an individual or institution that has made an exceptional contribution to management of Alaska's coastal and ocean resources over a period of 20 or more years.

This award is being sponsored by Walter J. and Ermalee Hickel.

Ocean Literacy Award

Awarded to an individual, team or institution that has made a breakthrough in promoting ocean literacy in Alaska among a segment of the general population via formal or informal education, outreach or other communications.

Ocean Media Award

Awarded to a journalist, writer, film maker or organization that produced an outstanding film, book, article, radio or television report that was shared with the public and which made a significant contribution to raising awareness of Alaska's oceans.

Marine Research Award

Awarded to a scientist, team of scientists or an institution that is acknowledged by peers to have made an original breakthrough contribution to any field of scientific knowledge about Alaska's oceans.

Stewardship and Sustainability Award

Awarded to an industry initiative that demonstrates the highest commitment to sustainability of ocean resources.

Ocean Youth Award

Awarded to an individual or team of Alaskan youth ages 12-19 who has displayed a dedication to promoting the understanding and stewardship of Alaska's oceans.

[Download](#) and complete the nomination form
 and submit via email to
oceanawards@alaskasealife.org

All contributions directly support the Alaska SeaLife Center and their mission to generate and share scientific knowledge to promote understanding and stewardship of Alaska's marine ecosystems.

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