



A PERIODIC PUBLICATION OF THE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL FOR ALASKA, INC.

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# ALASKA PIPELINE HELD UP WELL UNDER FORCE OF ENORMOUS 7.9 EARTHQUAKE

This Edition  
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On Sunday, November 3rd at 1:12 p.m., one of the biggest earthquakes ever to strike North America pummeled a sparsely populated area along the Denali fault about 90 miles south of Fairbanks and 180 miles north of Anchorage. While felt strongly in Alaska's two largest cities for nearly two minutes, the magnitude 7.9 quake struck with enormous force from west to east along a 145-mile fault line.

The quake ripped open huge glaciers, caused massive landslides, split apart highways and rocked homes off their foundations in remote villages. In the small villages of Slana and

Mentasta, water and sewer lines burst, fuel tanks toppled over and several homes were destroyed. Residents reported seeing 20-foot high spruce trees swaying so far from side-to-side, that they touched the ground, resembling the motion of windshield wipers.

Had the quake struck beneath Fairbanks, Anchorage or a major Lower 48 city, catastrophic damage and loss of life would have occurred. Yet the November shaker resulted in only one injury.

While news reports of the powerful quake circled the globe, for the most part the media outside Alaska ignored the fact that the state's economic life-line, the Trans-Alaska Pipeline, survived fully intact without a single drop of spilled oil.

About 18 percent of America's domestic oil production passes through the multi-billion dollar pipeline, completed in May 1977. Nearly 14 billion barrels of oil have moved through the pipeline, which crosses three mountain ranges, 800 rivers and streams and three active faults.

Doug Nyman, the seismic design coordinator for Alyeska Pipeline

(Continued to Page 8)

Highways across Interior Alaska were hit hard by the quake, but the Alaska Pipeline did what it was designed to do -- move horizontally and vertically under the force of the quake, but remain intact without any spilled oil. At left, a Carlisle Transportation trucker escaped injury as the Alaska Highway suddenly split open. Local homes and lodges sustained serious damage.

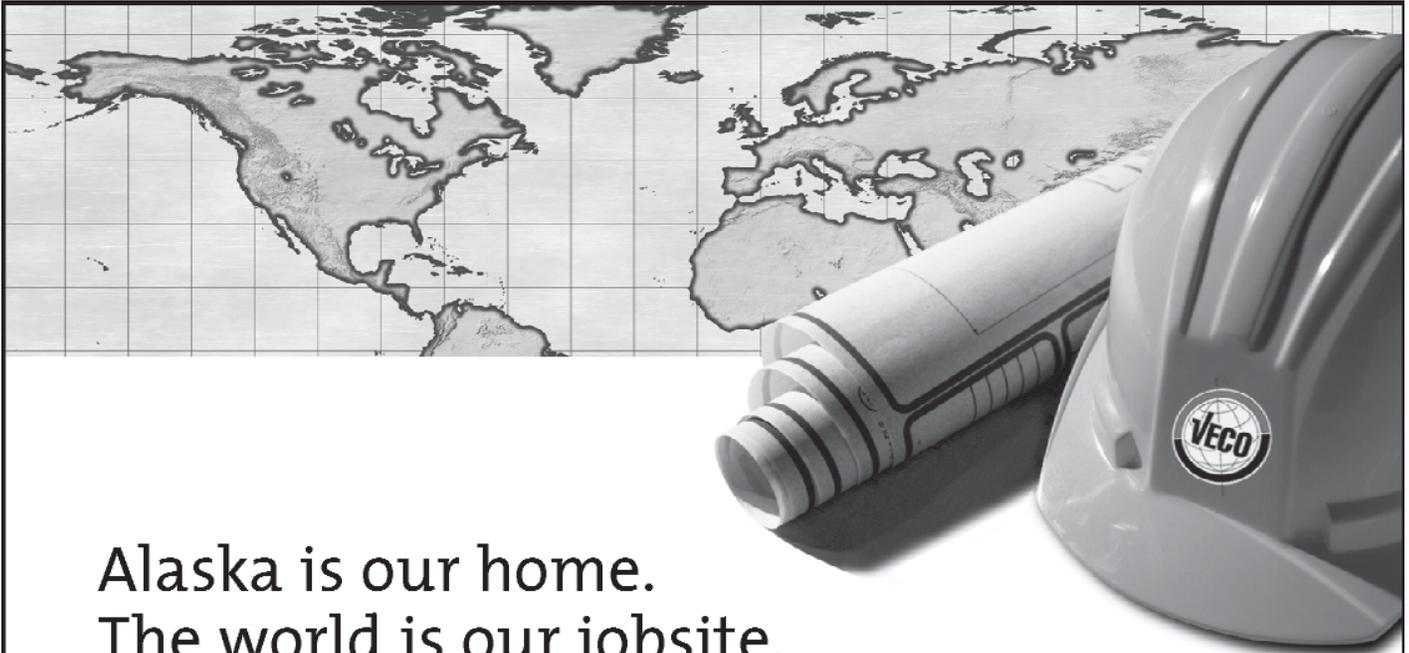


Crews inspect support structures for the pipeline where it crosses the Denali fault. In this location, the supports for the pipeline are built directly on the ground, allowing for intentional movement in a big quake.



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#### Resource Development Council

121 W. Fireweed, Suite 250  
Anchorage, AK 99503  
Phone: (907) 276-0700  
Fax: (907) 276-3887  
E-mail: [resources@akrdc.org](mailto:resources@akrdc.org)  
Website: [www.akrdc.org](http://www.akrdc.org)

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Writer & Editor Carl Portman

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Resource Review is the official periodic publication of the Resource Development Council (RDC), Alaska's largest privately funded nonprofit economic development organization working to develop Alaska's natural resources in a responsible manner and to create a broad-based, diversified economy while protecting and enhancing the environment.



## THANK YOU!

Last month's RDC conference, the organization's 23rd on Alaska's resources, was a great success. Over 550 registrants participated, more than 100 companies sponsored or took part in the trade show, and nearly 30 government and industry officials gave presentations.

Like RDC's sold-out Annual Meeting in June, this year's conference brought the leaders of Alaska industry together

with local, state and federal government representatives to discuss our state's economic challenges and opportunities.

We would like to thank all of those who helped make the conference a success, especially our sponsors. With your on-going support, RDC will continue to grow as Alaska's premier economic development organization. Thank you!

Below is a listing of our conference sponsors.

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Agrium's Kenai facility is the nation's second largest producer of ammonia and urea. As well as shipping product throughout North America, the Kenai plant supplies fertilizer abroad to Mexico, Korea, Taiwan, Australia and Thailand.

## AGRIUM'S KENAI OPERATION SUPPORTS LOCAL ECONOMY AND COMPETES IN WORLD MARKETS

By Mike Nugent and Lisa Parker

Agrium Kenai Nitrogen Operations has been a proud and integral member of the Kenai community for the past 34 years.

According to a recent economic study by the McDowell Group, "By Alaska economic standards, the Agrium operation is exceptional for its combination of high pay levels, amount and concentration of expenditures in the local area, and the degree of value-added manufacturing that occurs in Alaska prior to export. The result is a high multiplier impact."

As the country's second largest producer of ammonia and urea, Agrium's impact on the Alaska and local economy is immense. The company's total economic output in Alaska for 2001 was \$333 million – gross sale value of Agrium's production (\$210 million) combined with the impacts of spending in Alaska (\$123 million). Additionally, Agrium's Kenai facility is one of Alaska's few major manufacturing operations and it contributes to Alaska's economy

by adding value to Cook Inlet natural gas production.

Contributing to the success of the Kenai facility is its ability to compete in national and international markets. As well as shipping product throughout North America, the Kenai plant supplies fertilizer to countries such as Mexico, Korea, Taiwan, Australia and Thailand. It's strategic location on Cook Inlet puts it in an ideal position to export fertilizer to Pacific Rim markets. In 2001, the facility was honored as the Governor's Exporter of the Year.

As the third largest employer in the area, dollars spent in the community by Agrium and its employees contribute to the growth and development of the local economy. Located near Nikiski, ten miles north of Kenai, the organization employs close to 300 people, with each earning more than double the average regional salary. Company spending on goods and services generate an additional 700 indirect and induced Kenai Peninsula

jobs. The secondary impact of Agrium employee payroll spending brings the total employment impact to approximately 1,000 jobs.

In addition to the creation of jobs, Agrium has made a significant effort to support local Alaskan establishments. In 2001, Agrium did business with 250 companies in Alaska, with 118 of these businesses located in the Central Kenai Peninsula. Moreover, over 95 percent of the company's vendor spending (\$90.5 million) is spent with companies based in the Peninsula. This means mil-

lions of dollars are pumped into the community through Agrium's partnerships with neighboring organizations.

Agrium employees also make an enormous contribution to the community's economy. Because of the higher salaries they earn, they contribute hundreds of thousands of dollars to residential property taxes. The Kenai Peninsula Borough annually receives millions from industrial property taxes paid by the company. Over 325 children of Agrium employee families account for over \$1.8 million in state



With its strategic location on Cook Inlet, Agrium's Kenai plant is ideally positioned to export fertilizer to Pacific Rim markets. In 2001, the facility was honored as the Governor's Exporter of the Year.



**“Agrium is an organization that believes strongly in establishing a good working relationship with the communities in which it operates. The organization strives to be a good neighbor by supporting local businesses, as well as investing both monetary and intellectual capital into the community.”**

school funding support received by the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District.

Employee salaries are also filtered into community businesses. The high amount of discretionary income held by employees translates into a wider variety and volume of local expenditures on household goods and services. Their higher wages are also responsible for attracting new intellectual capital to the region. Good paying jobs tend to attract stable, long-term skilled professionals to the community. This, in turn, results in an increase of both

population and capital to the region.

Agrium’s charitable giving program is committed to supporting the people of the Kenai Peninsula. The company provides funding to local schools, athletic and academic programs, youth activities, community services and civic organizations, environmental programs, senior services and other health and economic development programs. Major programs supported by Agrium include

the Challenger Learning Center of Alaska, Boys & Girls Club and United Way as well as being a co-sponsor of the nationally acclaimed educational and environmental program, “Caring for the Kenai.”

Agrium is an organization that believes strongly in establishing a good working relationship with the communities in which it operates. The organization strives to be a good neighbor by supporting local businesses, as well as investing both monetary and intellectual capital into the community.

Agrium is committed to the growth of the community and will continue to work with the people of Kenai, Cook Inlet and Alaska to ensure a thriving future for all.

Mike Nugent is General Manager of Agrium’s Kenai plant. Lisa Parker is Community Relations Director for Agrium U.S., Inc. She is a member of the RDC Board of Directors.



Agrium’s Kenai plant is one of the few major manufacturing facilities in Alaska. The company’s economic impact on Alaska is immense.

## RDC To INTERVENE IN FOREST LAND PLAN APPEALS

RDC has notified the U.S. Forest Service that it intends to intervene in all administrative appeals of the Chugach National Forest Land Management Plan Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision.

RDC has been involved in the Chugach National Forest Revised Land Management Plan since the scoping process began in 1997.

“We have participated in dozens of planning meetings and submitted several written comments,” said RDC Executive Director Tadd Owens. “RDC’s primary concerns remain access to private property within and adjacent to the Chugach National Forest, as well as the limitation of additional Wild and Scenic Rivers and Wilderness designations,” Owens said. “While the final plan is not perfect, the Forest Service utilized an unprecedented public process and balanced diverse interests in formulating a plan that is fair and allows for multiple uses,” Owens added.

Environmental groups are currently pursuing administrative appeals of the Record of Decision, claiming that not enough of the forest was set aside for Wilderness designation.

# A CAREFUL, DELIBERATE LOOK AT JUSTIFIABLE PERMIT REFORM

BY MARILYN CROCKETT

DEPUTY DIRECTOR, ALASKA OIL AND GAS ASSOCIATION

At RDC's 23rd annual conference last month, Senate President Gene Therriault and House Speaker Pete Kott voiced consistent messages in the area of permit reform: the opportunity exists to pursue careful, deliberate and justifiable improvements to the state's permitting system. It was the equivalent of the adage "fools rush in where angels fear to tread." Good advice.

There are several programs on which agencies and the public alike have dedicated substantial efforts to identify areas needing improvement. For those programs for which "justifiable improvements" have been "carefully and deliberately" identified, the Alaska Legislature and the Administration should move forward to implement those improvements. Three permit streamlining initiatives are ripe for pursuit:

**Alaska Coastal Management Program (ACMP):** After a three-year effort involving a variety of stakeholders, the State has adopted revisions to the ACMP program, within the existing statute adopted by the Legislature in 1977. These revisions are the first step in reducing the frustrations voiced not only by the development community, but also by agencies and the public. Economic investment is being discouraged because the ACMP is a poorly-defined process, lacks certainty in applicability and scope, allows for much delay and lacks schedule certainty. There is broad agreement that it's now time for a comprehensive re-vamp of the ACMP.

**Air Permits:** ADEC has authority from EPA to issue Construction and Operating Permits under the federal Clean Air Act. Business pays the full cost for preparation and enforcement of these permits via hourly fees and facility emission fees.

Unfortunately, the program is fraught with controversy due to disagreements between the applicant and the agency over permit requirements, the long-lead times necessary for permit issuance, and the inconsistency and complexity of permits when they are issued, consuming enormous resources of both the public and private sectors in permit processing. Further, the program now appears to be facing funding challenges. A facilitated work group effort is underway to identify needed improvements and examine the current fee structure.

An air permitting program that contains specific, predictable, consistent and clear requirements with date-certain timelines will allow businesses in Alaska to conduct their ac-

tivities without delay and within compliance; and, ADEC will be able to focus its resources on activities that garner the greatest environmental benefit for Alaska.

**Oil Spill Prevention & Contingency Plans (C-Plans):** Alaska's oil spill statutes were adopted in the late 1980s and the regulations implementing those statutes shortly thereafter. To be sure, significant advancements in prevention and response have occurred. But as with any program, a decade of working within the program has identified opportunities for streamlining and clarification.

Of all of the regulatory programs in existence in the State, C-Plans have proven to be the most litigious, and these lawsuits have proven to have no net benefit to the environment at the end of the day. Clarifying ambiguities, providing predictable, reliable time schedules, and specifying objective and clear measures will facilitate C-Plan development and reduce the likelihood of subsequent legal challenges, to the benefit of the public, the state and industry.

One specific amendment on which there is broad-based support and can be immediately addressed by the Legislature is the renewal cycle for C-Plans. Currently the law requires plans to be renewed every three years (federally-equivalent plans have a five-year renewal cycle). Experience has shown that even with submittals 180 days in advance of expiration of the current plan, approvals have averaged 360 days. In these cases, operators are faced with development of a plan renewal just as the ink is drying on the just-approved plan. A five-year renewal cycle would significantly reduce agency and industry costs, as well as costs incurred by the public to review and comment on those renewals.

Many of Alaska's laws and regulations governing activities were enacted decades ago and need to be streamlined and updated to reflect current technology and practices. If Alaska is to be successful in its quest for enhanced investment in natural resource development, it is essential that the challenges currently posed by the permitting process be eliminated.

Marilyn Crockett is a member of the RDC Executive Committee.

**"If Alaska is to be successful in its quest for enhanced investment in natural resource development, it is essential that the challenges currently posed by the permitting process be eliminated."**



# Alaska Resources 2003

## Evolving Industries and Issues

### Griles Delivers Strong Pro-development Message To Conferees

Decisions on resource development should be made by Alaskans rather than Outside forces, said Steve Griles, Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Speaking before RDC's annual conference in Anchorage, Griles delivered strong pro-development messages to several hundred business and industry leaders as he outlined the Bush administration's position on Alaska resource development issues.

Griles said that a North Slope gas pipeline is essential to help meet domestic demand. He pointed out that U.S. natural gas consumption will increase 50 percent in the next 20 years while domestic production will climb only 14 percent.

Griles also noted that the demise of the energy bill

might prove beneficial to Alaska, now that Republicans control the Senate.

"Despite the lack of the energy bill getting passed, in hindsight, I think we're going to get a much better energy bill than we would have if we had accepted what had been negotiated," Griles said.

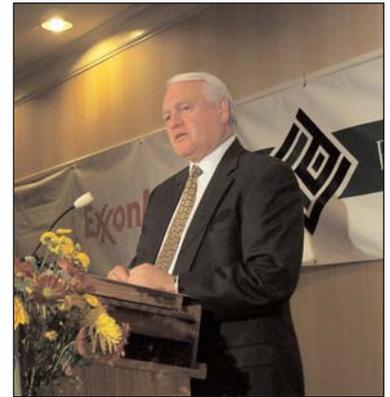
America needs a national energy bill which includes exploration and development inside ANWR, Griles emphasized. "An energy bill that does not have ANWR is not a true energy bill."

Griles pointed out that Alaska will play a key role in Bush's energy plans for America. He noted that the Bureau of Land Management, the Minerals Management Service, and the Office of Surface Mining are undertaking significant actions to encourage development of Alaska's energy resources. Specifically, he said MMS is developing incentives to spur Alaska offshore drilling, including modified lease terms, rental rates, bonus bids and royalty rates.

He also said Interior is committed to providing timely access to federal lands for devel-

**"We can take your money for leases, which we have historically done, but that does not do any good if you cannot get a permit to operate."**

Steve Griles  
Deputy Secretary  
U.S. Dept. of Interior



opment purposes, noting the department is striving to develop an atmosphere of certainty with clear standards.

"Too many projects in the past have been nibbled to death with requests for information, and regulations that are on the fly," he said.

With regard to mining, Griles said BLM is now pursuing efforts to unravel the many selections and withdrawals that currently are keeping public lands in Alaska closed to new federal mining claims. He said new pilot projects will focus on areas with the highest potential for mineral development.

In comments discussing the bonding problem miners are encountering for operations on BLM lands, Griles said his department is working to allow the 3809 regulations to accept the State Bond Pool for financial guarantee requirements.

On navigable waters, Griles drew applause when he stated, "It is time that we in the federal government quit acting like those waterways belong to us." He

promised that Interior won't wait for federal legislation to deal with the issue. He said a small rule change is needed in federal regulations to allow use of new methodology to transfer the ownership of Alaska waterways to the state. The rulemaking is in final draft and will be published soon.

On the RS2477 front, Griles said Interior plans to recognize rights-of-way in Alaska that have languished since Governor Wally Hickel's second term. He said Secretary Gale Norton will be issuing a memorandum to establish uniform policy guidance with identifiable criteria, consistent with historic regulation prior to 1976, for any analysis of RS2477 rights of way.

Griles said he looks forward to working with Governor Frank Murkowski to resolve the subsistence issue.

"We believe that the best option for management of subsistence uses of your fish and game resources lies with state primacy."



Griles shares memories with Governor Tony Knowles and RDC past president Bob Stiles of a previous visit to Alaska.



The cross-beam support structure shown at right was damaged by the quake, leaving the pipeline suspended. The pipeline is designed to withstand this type of damage. Overall, the quake damaged five cross-beams supporting the pipeline, as well as at least two vertical support members. The pipeline was not dented and no oil was spilled. Above, damage to roads and other infrastructure in Interior Alaska was severe.



## THE BIG ONE STRIKES, TAPS SEES REAL LIFE TEST

(Continued from Page 1)

Service Company, said the line withstood the quake just as it was designed to – damage to some support structures, but no rupture to the pipe itself. In fact, Nyman pointed out that November’s quake showed that the pipeline — designed to withstand an 8.5 magnitude quake – could have taken even more powerful jolts.

“The way the pipeline performed demonstrates the superb foresight of the design team 30 years ago and the premium Alyeska has placed on maintenance and improvements since startup,” said David Wight, President of Alyeska. “I’m very proud of our people and their daily dedication to the safe and reliable performance of the pipeline,” Wight added.

During the pipeline’s design and construction phase nearly 30 years ago, some of the nation’s top seismologists and geologists determined the greatest seismic risks and potential for damage was where the pipeline crossed the Denali fault – the site of November’s massive quake – and near the coastal town of Valdez, the end of the pipeline. The ice-free port is about 45 miles east of a fault that unleashed the 1964 magnitude 9.2 Good Friday earthquake, the strongest ever recorded in North America.

Where the pipeline crosses the Denali fault, Nyman and his engineering team designed it to move with an earthquake. The pipeline was positioned close to the surface on a gravel berm, supported by shoes that slide on beams. The design allows the pipeline to move 20 feet horizontally and 5 feet vertically.

The pipeline moved more than seven feet horizontally and two to three feet vertically in November’s quake. Several supports which resemble big metal H’s were damaged, but the pipeline remained intact with no leaks.

“There was still capacity for additional movement,” said Nyman, who considered November’s quake to be one of the

biggest tests for the 25 year-old pipeline.

Nyman noted that the line’s 48-inch steel pipe was selected for its good elastic properties that allows it to expand under pressure and return to its original shape when released. The pipe’s characteristics also allow it to be deformed under pressure, but not break.

The pipeline was welded together at 70,000 joints, all of which were X-rayed to verify their strength and quality.

The pipe went through rigorous tests at the University of California Berkeley in 1972. Enormous pressure was applied so that the pipe eventually wrinkled, buckled and then folded on itself, but it still held pressure.

The minor damage to the pipeline support structures from the recent quake was in line with what was anticipated, said Jim Lusher, engineering manager for the Joint Pipeline Office in Anchorage. Lusher said the pipeline, in general, is in a cocoon of energy absorption components.

“I was pleased the system functioned as it was designed,” Lusher said.

Immediately following the quake, the pipeline’s oil flow was shut down and the line was inspected and tested for leaks. Repairs were made to the support structures and 66 hours after the first jolts were felt, the pipeline was back in operation. Two days later tankers in Valdez were loaded with oil so shipments of Alaska crude could resume to the Lower 48.

“This was a real life test of our earthquake monitoring system and it clearly showed that it works,” said Alyeska’s Wight. “Working with our regulators, we used the data from the system to put a repair and restart plan in place. It took a real team effort to get the job done and get it done responsibly.”

RDC's 23rd Annual Conference

# Alaska Resources 2003

Evolving Industries and Issues

Powerpoints and speeches presented at the conference are available at [www.akrdc.org](http://www.akrdc.org)



Ken Sheffield, President of Pioneer Natural Resources Canada, Inc., was one of nine independent oil and gas company executives who spoke at RDC's annual conference in November. Special thanks to Kay Cashman at Petroleum News Alaska for assistance in helping plan the program.



Above, Senate President Gene Therriault, who was joined by Speaker of the House Pete Kott, called for systemic changes in the state permitting process for resource development. At right, Juneau Mayor Sally Smith participates in a panel of Alaska mayors who focused on Alaska's regional economies. Looking on is Fairbanks North Star Borough Mayor Rhonda Boyles, Anchorage Mayor George Wuerch and RDC Executive Director Tadd Owens. Also participating in the panel presentations were Northwest Arctic Borough Mayor Ross Schaeffer, Kodiak Borough Manager Patrick Carlson and Bethel City Manager Bob Herron.



This year's conference attracted 551 registrants, a record in RDC's 23-year history in coordinating the event.



EPA Region X Administrator John Iani spoke to the regulated community on a wide range of Alaska issues.



Oil and Gas Division Director Mark Myers said the path to permitting needs to be simpler while still providing the necessary environmental protection.



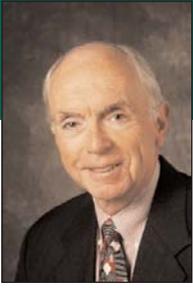
RDC past president Bob Stiles presents a gift to Governor Knowles, who thanked RDC and its members for working with his administration to resolve major issues facing Alaska.



TeckCominco's Charlotte MacCay and Alaska Airlines' Joe Sprague visit at the head table. Both serve on the RDC Board of Directors.



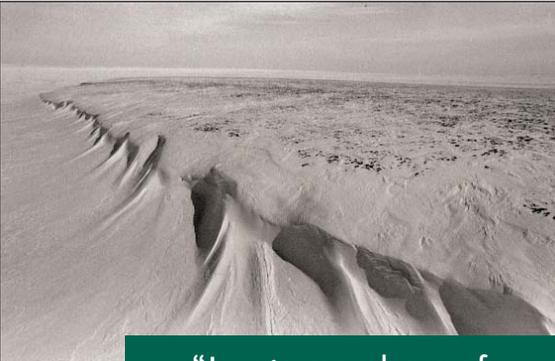
Governor Knowles staff and cabinet officials enjoy a laugh at the conference.



## ANWR VICTORY WILL REQUIRE MAJOR EFFORT AND PERSONAL COMMITMENT



Mano Frey, Co-Chair of Arctic Power, presents a personal donation to Arctic Power at the December RDC breakfast.



**“I urge members of RDC to dig deep into their pockets to support Arctic Power’s efforts. Consider whatever you give as an investment in Alaska’s future and your interests in the 49th state. By being pro-active and giving generously of our time and treasure, ANWR is eminently winnable in 2003. Victory will come to those who work for it the hardest. Let’s not let this opportunity slip by us.”**

With a new Congress set to convene in January, the stars appear to be aligning for favorable consideration of responsible oil development on the Coastal Plain of ANWR.

At a recent RDC breakfast meeting in Anchorage, Roger Herrera, Arctic Power’s Washington, D.C. coordinator, warned a capacity crowd that even with the Republicans re-capturing control of the Senate and its agenda, “ANWR is not a slam dunk, but it’s eminently winnable.” Herrera emphasized that

there are many obstacles ahead and it’s going to take a lot of work to get ANWR through the Senate. The new Republican line-up still does not have the supermajority 60 votes needed in the Senate to break a promised filibuster of any advancing ANWR legislation. As a result, a complex parliamentary process will be key to getting ANWR through Congress. Alaska’s only hope is to get pro-drilling authorization attached to a budget reconciliation measure which requires only a simple majority vote for passage. That was the route followed in 1995, but President Bill Clinton vetoed the measure when it reached his desk.

Herrera said continuing union support is critical to push the issue forward, as well as pro-active efforts by the White House to convince key Republican commit-

tee members to allow use of the budget reconciliation process as a vehicle for ANWR.

The opposition is gearing up to pull out all the stops to influence American public opinion and stop any ANWR measure from advancing. It’s going to take a huge effort by Arctic Power to guide ANWR through the process to success. We have the best opportunity in a decade to succeed, but it’s going to cost a lot of money and require that each of us get personally involved.

In 2003, Arctic Power and RDC will issue Action Alerts directing Alaskans to contact key members of Congress, urging them to support responsible oil and gas development on the Coastal Plain. There are at least six key Republican senators who oppose ANWR drilling and they must be turned. We also need to work at retaining the support of our friends on Capitol Hill.

Alaskans have no choice but to call, write and email targeted senators and other key members of Congress because rest assured, there will be a huge surge of emails and postcards from our opposition. Each of us needs to be pro-active, forwarding emails and Action Alerts to our friends, relatives and business associates in the Lower 48, appealing for their support and action.

I have personally donated and I urge members of RDC to dig deep into their pockets to support Arctic Power’s efforts. Consider whatever you give as an investment in Alaska’s future and your interests in the 49th state. By being pro-active and giving generously of our time and treasure, ANWR is truly “eminently winnable” in 2003. Victory will come to those who work for it the hardest. Let’s not let this opportunity slip by us.

**Editor’s Note:** Both Arctic Power and RDC have a wealth of ANWR information available on their websites. Both organizations will soon post on their sites and in newsletters the names and contact information of key swing votes in Congress. The website address for RDC is [www.akrdc.org](http://www.akrdc.org). Arctic Power’s site can be reached at [www.anwr.org](http://www.anwr.org).

For those who would like to send a donation to Arctic Power, the address is: P.O. Box 100220, Anchorage, AK 99510.

## Veco Ranked High By Engineering Magazine

Engineering News-Record (ENR) ranked VECO Corporation 31st in the nation for engineering and design, with more than \$310 million in 2001 engineering revenues.

Additionally, VECO was ranked 1st in cogeneration engineering, 8th in pipeline engineering, 9th in petroleum engineering, 11th in refinery engineering, 19th in industrial process engineering and 24th in power engineering.

VECO's top ranking was based in part on work performed for Northstar and Prudhoe Bay oil fields and trans-Alaska oil pipeline operations. Additionally, a variety of new projects in Canada were profiled, including a major refinery expansion, a heavy oil project and multiple power projects.

VECO has been headquartered in Alaska since 1968. The company provides multidiscipline engineering, procurement and construction services to power, petroleum, forest products, infrastructure and aluminum clients. VECO is a major employer in Alaska.

VECO has additional offices in Bellingham, Denver, Durango, Baton Rouge, Houston, Calgary, Burnaby, British Columbia and Abu Dhabi, U.A.E. The company has hundreds of ongoing projects in North and South America and several countries overseas.

Engineering News-Record is a weekly publication for the engineering and construction industries. The annual ENR scoreboard is regarded as the "Fortune 500" of the engineering and design industry. More details on the Top 500 design firms are available at [www.enr.com](http://www.enr.com).

# RDC NEWS DIGEST



## Arctic Economic Development Summit To Be Held in Kotzebue in February

If you attended the RDC conference, you heard Mayor Ross Schaeffer of the Northwest Arctic Borough talk about the challenges and the opportunities facing the Borough, and about the 2003 Arctic Economic Development Summit. He invited RDC members to join him and Mayor George Ahmaogak of the North Slope Borough for the Summit to be held on February 4 to 6 in Kotzebue where those issues will be discussed.

The idea of an economic development summit was first proposed in 1999. The two boroughs came together to discuss development issues between the two regions and initiated what became the Arctic Economic Development Summit. The 2003 event will be the third Summit held.

These events have brought together local residents, state and federal officials, and Alaska business leaders to discuss current and future economic issues and concerns. Resolutions set priorities and supported specific projects. "Preserving Values in Changing Times," this year's meeting will include discussions on a range of topics important to the future sustainability of two boroughs, including subsistence, jobs, education, training, and resource and economic development. A progress report on resolution action steps from the last Summit will be presented, along with recommendations about joint projects for the two boroughs.

For complete details and to register, log onto [www.northwestarcticborough.org](http://www.northwestarcticborough.org) and click the Summit link. You may also contact Valarie Romane at (907) 442-2500, [vromane@northwestarcticborough.org](mailto:vromane@northwestarcticborough.org) or Gigi Danner at (907) 852-0200, [gigi.danner@north-slope.org](mailto:gigi.danner@north-slope.org). There is no cost to attend, however, housing is limited so early registration is highly recommended.

The Summit is also seeking contributors to help support the presentation of the Summit. For more information on how your company can participate, please log on to the Summit site.

## Union Leader Mano Frey To Leave Alaska

Union leader Mano Frey is leaving Alaska to accept a more powerful position in Seattle. A leader of organized labor in Alaska for a quarter century, Frey has served on the RDC Board of Directors for 26 years.

Frey will resign in January his posts as executive president of Alaska AFL-CIO and business manager for Laborers



Frey participating in RDC's Seward train trip in 1983.

Local 341. He will assume the position of vice president and regional manager for the Laborers', overseeing union operations in eight states, including Alaska, and four Canadian provinces.

Frey has helped shape state policy and has been at the forefront of many issues RDC has addressed over the past quarter century. He served as President of RDC in 1982 when Paula Easley was Executive Director.

Frey arrived in Alaska in 1970 with Steve McAlpine. The two friends were taking a semester off from college and ended up in Valdez to work as laborers on the pipeline. McAlpine returned to school to become a lawyer and eventually lieutenant governor. Frey was satisfied working and became a business agent for Laborers Local 341. He moved to Anchorage in 1978.

Frey has recommended Jim Sampson, a former state labor commissioner and former mayor of Fairbanks, be his successor.

Frey will be the keynote speaker at RDC's January 16th breakfast meeting.

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