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April 26, 2006

Ms. Janetta Pritchard  
State of Alaska State Pipeline Coordinator's Office  
Gas Pipeline Group  
411 W. 4th Avenue, Suite 2C  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Re: ADL# 229297- ANGDA Commissioner's Analysis and Proposed Decision  
Conditional Right-of-Way Lease

Dear Ms. Pritchard,

I am writing to express my views in regards to the proposed ANGDA conditional ROW lease from Glennallen to Palmer for a natural gas pipeline.

- 1) I encourage the pipeline to follow the George Parks Highway.
- 2) I encourage the pipeline to follow existing ROWs such as those for telephone lines, electric line, and highways.

If the conditional ROW lease is permitted for the Glennallen to Palmer route then:

- 3) I encourage DNR to mandate that ANGDA monitor water quality on streams and wetlands before, during and after construction of the pipeline.
- 4) I encourage DNR to mandate that ANGDA plan for and fund trail monitoring, trail maintenance and trail rules enforcement along the pipeline corridor and along all access roads or trails used for the construction and maintenance of the pipeline. There is already an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) problem in the Mat-Su Borough on public ROWs and trails. Without funding to monitor and maintain new trails, they will quickly become environmental problems. Therefore, DNR should mandate that ANGDA plan for and fund post-construction recreational activity on the ROW and access routes.
- 5) I encourage DNR to mandate that ANGDA put the pipeline on the *south* side of All Elks Road, where there is State of Alaska land and an existing power line ROW, instead of along the north side of All Elks Road where there is mostly private property.
- 6) I encourage DNR to mandate that for stream and wetland crossings, ANGDA must build bridges for pipeline maintenance and monitoring, to prevent bank and ground erosion from occurring near water-bodies. These bridges will protect the sensitive grounds from the infrequent pipeline maintenance vehicles as well as the frequent and heavy onslaught of ATVs. These bridges can be monitored and maintained by the above-mentioned trails monitoring and maintenance crew.
- 7) I encourage DNR to find ways to mandate that ANGDA involve communities in the construction planning and process and, however possible, *fund* community projects along the ROW. Unfortunately, the invasion of ATVs and the unsightly swath of a wide ROW will negatively impact these communities and these communities are not slated to get any

benefit. One community project that has been mentioned to ANGDA is the purchase of EMS/ Fire Station Buildings.

- 8) I encourage DNR to mandate that ANGDA organize and fund a Citizen's Oversight Group and an Environmental Review Committee to help with process of trying to protect the state of Alaska from further environmental damage to our lands.
- 9) Lastly, I am concerned about the lack of research and testing and therefore the lack of knowledge on the environmental effects of a buried, cooled, natural gas pipeline. It seems that more emphasis by ANGDA should be placed on the potential effects of a buried natural gas line in this region of the world and ways to prevent those effects that are negative. There are 81 miles of wetlands to be crossed by the pipeline between Glennallen and Palmer. It seems unknown (according to ANGDA officials) what the effects of a cooled pipeline will be on the wetlands: they may keep the wetlands frozen all summer or they may keep the wetlands thawed all winter. I encourage DNR to research this topic a bit more, before coming up with recommendations for ANGDA for follow.

Thank you for your time reviewing these comments.

Sincerely,

Jessica Dryden