PUBLIC HEARING
FOR
DP005 - LIBERTY PROJECT
BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

Anchorage, Alaska

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BE IT KNOWN that the aforementioned proceedings were taken
at the time and place duly noted on the title page, before
Mary A. Vavrik, Registered Merit Reporter and Notary
Public within and for the State of Alaska.
P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

DR. JAMES KENDALL: I think we can start
now. I'm not going to use the microphone because I think
you can hear me pretty well. My name is Jim Kendall. I'm
the Regional Director for the Bureau of Ocean Energy
Management here in Anchorage.

First of all, what is a BOEM? BOEM is not an oil
company. It's not the State. It's not some other group.
It's the federal government and part of the Department of
Interior.

We have several of us here, as well as some of our
collaborating agencies. The document we're going to talk
about tonight was done not just by BOEM, but also with
help from EPA, the Corps of Engineers, Fish & Wildlife,
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement. This has
been a team effort.

So tonight, welcome. We are going to talk about the
draft EIS for the proposed Liberty development in the
Beaufort Sea. The EIS was released on August 18th of this
year. The comment period ends on November 18th. Last
week we were in Nuiqsut and Barrow and Fairbanks. This is
the last public hearing for the document, but we are still
collecting comments on it.

Many of us have name tags. They will be from BOEM
BSEE, EPA and others. Feel free to seek them out. But
there are two people I want to introduce specifically.

First of all, Mary Vavrik. She is our court reporter. This is not a scoping meeting. This is a public hearing on a document that's been released. So she is taking a transcription of everything that is said.

So two things: If you decide to come up and offer testimony, please give your name so Mary can record it, and if you happen to be speaking from some type of a written document, feel free to give it to Mary because that makes sure that the notes that are taken are accurate.

When we get to the public hearing phase, please limit your comments to three to five minutes so everybody has a chance. And to be fair, we are -- in order of people speaking, we are going to do a lottery system with a little ticket so that way everybody has a fair chance of coming up first or maybe coming up last.

To get this kicked off, I'm going to turn it over to our colleague, the second person I'm going to introduce, Lauren Boldrick. She is the project manager for the BOEM activities in reviewing this document. So Lauren, if you will come up here and give us an introduction to what we are talking about this evening.

MS. LAUREN BOLDRICK: All right. Hi, everyone. Can you hear me okay? Okay. I guess we are on
the microphone now. So there is a couple of things before I kick off the presentation that I would like to alert you to. First of all, if you would like to leave a comment on the website, we have three computers stationed in the back for you. So if you don't feel comfortable talking in front of our group, you are welcome to leave your comment on the computer in the back, and that will get uploaded right away to regulations.gov, and it will be processed through our normal processes.

The second thing is that EPA also has brought comment sheets for their NPDES permit. All of the cooperating agencies have been working really closely together, and so they are having their comment period on the NPDES permit. Their comment sheets are out on the outside table.

And then Mary asked me to reiterate for her, if you have written comments that you are going to be speaking from, please give them to her. It's very helpful.

So with all that, thank you for joining us today. We really appreciate that you have come out. We have worked really hard on this document. It's always so great for us to see so many faces out in the audience. So we have been working on the Liberty draft EIS since 2015.

So this slide displays the cover pages of Volume 1 and Volume 2 of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. There is also copies outside on the table in paper copy
and CD if you would like to take those home tonight.

This large overview map shows the proposed Liberty island location, which is about 60 miles from Nuiqsut and about 70 miles from Kaktovik. This more detailed map shows that the proposed Liberty island is about eight miles from Endicott Satellite Drilling Island.

So the whole reason why we are here tonight is because Hilcorp Alaska is planning to initiate commercial hydrocarbon production of the Liberty reservoir by the winter of 2021 to 2023. As described in the Liberty development and production plan, the Liberty development would be a self-contained Outer Continental Shelf gravel island. It will be located about 5.6 miles offshore, so they would have a pipeline that runs from their island, buried in a trench to land, and then it would continue about 1.5 miles over land to the Badami tie-in point.

The Liberty development will include a new onshore gravel mine, an onshore tie-in pad, and the construction of onshore and offshore ice roads.

The proposed Liberty development would have five stages. So first Hilcorp would develop a new gravel mine, construct ice roads, then construct their manmade gravel production island, the pipeline, and then they would proceed with drilling and hydrocarbon production.

So we have been getting a lot of public comment over
the course of this project. We accepted scoping comments on the draft EIS for a 160-day duration, which lasted from September 2015 through March of 2016. BOEM received several thousand comments, which included concerns over subsistence whaling, impacts to marine mammals and threatened and endangered species, the possibility of oil spills in an Arctic environment, and potential impacts to the unique boulder patch ecosystem. Commenters also suggested alternate locations for gravel sources for oil and gas processing and for the island itself. These comments and concerns were used to develop and inform the analysis of additional action alternatives in the draft EIS.

As shown on this slide, many other federal, state and local governments have been cooperating with BOEM on the development of this draft EIS.

BOEM has analyzed five alternatives in the draft EIS. Hilcorp's proposed action as described earlier, including normal best management practices, operator-committed measures, and cooperating agency typical permit allowances as mitigation measures constitutes Alternative 1. In addition to the proposed action, NEPA requires analysis of a no action alternative, meaning that no part of Hilcorp's proposal would occur. This is Alternative 2 in the draft EIS. The remaining three alternatives were developed as a
result of scoping comments about alternate island
locations, alternate gravel mine locations and alternate
processing locations.

In response to public comments suggesting an
alternative that would relocate the island in order to
avoid or reduce impacts to the boulder patch communities,
BOEM asked Hilcorp to identify possible alternate island
locations that would maintain the technical feasibility of
its project. In addition, these alternate locations would
minimize impacts to the boulder patch from turbidity and
sedimentation associated with construction activities
and/or move the island and other project components as far
away from the densest areas of known boulder patch habitat
as practical.

Therefore, based on public comment as well as
responses from Hilcorp, BOEM developed two
subalternatives. Alternative 3A would relocate the island
about one mile to the east, which would result in the
island being about one mile further from the densest areas
of the boulder patch as compared to the proposed action.
Alternative 3B would locate the island about 1.5 miles
closer to shore into the state of Alaska waters, and this
would place it about 1.5 miles further from the densest
areas of the boulder patch as compared to the proposed
action.
Moving on, Alternative 4A and 4B analyzed alternate processing locations. Alternative 4A analyzes processing at the existing Endicott Satellite Drilling Island facility, and Alternative 4B analyzes processing at a new onshore facility. BOEM assumed for the purpose of the draft EIS that this new onshore facility would be located where the pipeline is already proposed to come ashore.

Scoping comments suggested BOEM analyze alternate locations for the proposed West Kadleroshlik River mine site No. 1 to minimize impacts to migratory birds, fish and wetlands used for subsistence purposes and other resources. BOEM conducted a through review of existing technical and survey information and, based on this review, identified three plausible alternate locations for analysis.

In the draft EIS, BOEM used four types of mitigation measures in its analyses. These include lease stipulations, operator-committed measures, typical requirements from our cooperating agencies, and the resulting consultations and project-specific measures.

This draft EIS analyzes the impacts of the various alternatives with the intent of disclosing those impacts to the public, which is you -- thank you for coming tonight -- and to the decisionmakers. In the case of the Liberty Draft Environmental Impact Statement, the
decisionmaker is ultimately the Secretary of Interior.

The draft EIS also considers mitigation measures that could minimize the impacts of the action alternatives. Impacts to the resources in the action area range from negligible to major, depending on the resource and the scope of the analysis. A very large oil spill is not considered part of the proposed action or the alternatives and is extremely unlikely. Impacts from a very large oil spill would be major. Additional information is available in the materials provided at this presentation tonight, which are out on that table that you passed when you first walked in.

So what we are here for tonight is your comments. You can testify, leave comments in the back, or you can go online later at your convenience. We are really looking for comments that suggest additional information for analysis or that note issues not considered in the draft EIS already. These comments are very helpful and considered substantive comments. These will be used to inform the preparation of the final EIS. To make a comment, you can go to www.regulations.gov and search for document No. BOEM-2015-0068-0164. You can click on the "comment now" button on the top of the page and add your comment. And our comment period will close on November 18, 2017.
As I've said many times, we really appreciate your attendance and participation tonight, and we look forward to hearing your comments.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: Thank you very much. We are going to get the box of little tickets in there so we can start having folks give their comments. Please keep in mind that the EIS is not a decision document. It's informational only. This is what the decisionmaker looks at. So we want to have the best document we possibly can so when we sit down with the decisionmaker and show them the document, we can all -- everybody in this room, all the agencies that participated, et cetera -- can feel everything is there.

All rightie. Let's go for the first one. Okay. The first ticket, the last three numbers are 026.

Welcome, sir.

MR. PETE STOKES: Last in, first out, huh?

Good evening, and thank you for having this hearing. My name is Pete Stokes, and I'm a professional petroleum engineer working for a local firm called PRA. I'm testifying on behalf of myself, my wife, my three offspring who work in Anchorage, and my three grandkids and for their future.

I grew up on the Kenai Peninsula, went to school in Fairbanks, have worked in oil and gas starting in Alaska,
with jobs in other states and overseas and having worked
for the last 17 years back in Anchorage. I ask that BOEM
approve Hilcorp's plan in the EIS to allow the Liberty
project to move forward.

The Liberty project builds upon more than 30 years of
proven technology and safe operation in the shallow waters
of the Beaufort Sea. The production and drilling gravel
island concept has been proven and utilized safely and
environmentally soundly by Northstar, Oooguruk and the
Nikaitchuq developments. The Liberty production island
will be well protected from the polar ice pack, sheltered
by a belt of offshore barrier islands.

The offshore Liberty pipeline will be buried in the
subsea floor. It will include automatic leak detection
and temperature monitoring technology, proven technology
utilized on existing production islands in the region.

The rigorous multi-year permitting process for
Liberty has addressed the concerns that were raised during
the previous comment period. Approximately 60 federal,
state and local permits will be required for this project
to move forward.

Hilcorp is committed to signing a conflict avoidance
agreement with the local whaling groups to engage with the
whalers to protect their subsistence activities.

Development of Liberty will result and create hundreds of
construction jobs primarily for Alaskans and good-paying
permanent jobs and will create new opportunities for many
businesses located here in Alaska and great jobs for my
grandkids. Liberty will provide tax revenues for the
North Slope Borough and royalty payments to the State of
Alaska.

In summary, for future jobs and growth in the state's
and the federal government's revenues and economic
activity in the area, I urge the approving of Hilcorp's
environmentally responsible plan to develop the Liberty
oilfield. Thank you.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: Thank you very much.
In turn, I'm going to ask you to pick the next name, the
next number. All right. Thank you very much. Okay.

MR. PETE STOKES: Lucky No. 025.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: The last three digits, 025 is it. Thank you very much. Who is next? Ticket
No. 025.

MR. JEREMY PRICE: That's me.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: All right. Welcome
aboard.

MR. JEREMY PRICE: My name is Jeremy
Price. I'm the State Director of Americans for
Prosperity. I rise in support of the proposed action.

This is a project that's been around a long time. I
remember being on the Slope seeing the big, massive drill rig that BP had brought up. This is a project that can be done safely. It can be done in an environmentally safe way, and it's a project that will benefit all of us Alaskans.

I'm from the Interior. I'm raising a family here in Anchorage now with three kids. We are dependent on the future of this oil and gas industry. Our state depends on it. Another 60- to 70,000 barrels a day of production would go a long way in extending our pipeline. In the early '90s when I was 10, 11, 12 years old, the pipeline was at peak capacity, 2,000,000 barrels a day, and now we're at half a million barrels a day. We desperately need this shot in the arm to the economy.

Alaska for months has led the nation in the unemployment rate. As of September 15th of this year, the Bureau of Labor Statistics has the federal employment rate at 7.2 percent. That's the highest in the nation. We don't like to see that. We don't -- we are not looking for a handout from the federal government. We are looking for permission, permission for the private sector to explore, to develop resources, and to provide jobs and an economic shot in the arm. And that's what we need right now.

Our future depends on it. My children's future
depends on it. We know it can be done safely. I urge the
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management to approve this project
and move it forward. Thanks a lot.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: Thank you very much.
And if you will pick the next ticket, please. You can
read the last three digits.

MR. JEREMY PRICE: Lucky No. 015.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: While you are coming
up, I want to remind everybody, please mute your cell
phones because I know someone will be speaking and
something will go off.

MR. CARL PORTMAN: Good evening. My name
is Carl Portman, and I'm the Deputy Director of the
Resource Development Council, and I am here to express
RDC's support for the Liberty project and urge the Bureau
of Ocean Energy Management to approve the proposed action
in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

With the Trans-Alaska oil pipeline running at
three-quarters empty, projects like Liberty need to move
forward. Liberty has the potential to increase throughput
in the pipeline by up to 70,000 barrels per day.
Development and production of this oil will provide
economic benefits across Alaska, including tax revenue to
the North Slope Borough, jobs for Alaskans, and new
opportunities for Alaska businesses.
While Alaska remains in the grip of a prolonged recession, it is still a state rich in oil with billions of barrels yet to be developed and produced. In fact, there is more conventional oil remaining in place in the Alaska Arctic than what has been produced in the 40 years since production began on the North Slope. Liberty and other potential North Slope projects combined can refill TAPS and help grow Alaska's economy out of this recession.

RDC is confident the Liberty reservoir can be developed in an environmentally responsible manner. Hilcorp will utilize technology that has been safely used in other Arctic offshore development over the past 30 years. The Liberty development and production plan incorporates key elements of the previous EIS and uses concepts approved in the prior EIS, including the location of the proposed gravel island, island construction on drilling on-site -- or on-island drilling and processing facilities, as well as the pipeline routing to the coast.

Artificial gravel islands are not new to Alaska's Arctic and have a long track record of safe operations. These islands have proven to be a responsible means for oil and gas development in the Beaufort Sea. The Endicott oilfield uses manmade islands for its operations which were constructed nearly 30 years ago. Moreover, the Oooguruk and Northstar and Nikaitchuq fields currently
produce oil from artificial islands.

The initial discovery of Liberty itself occurred in the 1980s from islands constructed in 1981 and '82. Overall, 18 gravel islands have been constructed for exploration and/or development of oil and gas off the coast of Alaska in the last 40 years.

RDC encourages BOEM to move forward and approve Alternative 1, the proposed action in the DEIS and move forward with permitting in a timely manner. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this important project and will submit more detailed comments in support of the project before the comment deadline.

Thank you.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: Thank you very much. Can we have your written comments? That will help with the transcription. Thank you very much. And you can pick the next ticket and read the last three digits.

MR. CARL PORTMAN: 023.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: Thank you very much.

MS. LOIS EPSTEIN: Hello. Thank you to BOEM and the other agencies for holding this hearing. My name is Lois Epstein, and I am an Alaska licensed engineer and the Arctic Program Director for The Wilderness Society. The Wilderness Society is a national nonprofit conservation organization, and since our beginnings in the
1930s, our scientific and policy staff have been involved in Arctic issues. I'm located here in Anchorage.

We have several significant concerns with the Liberty project. First, Hilcorp has not demonstrated good performance in Alaska to date with numerous serious enforcement actions by the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission for well-related problems in the Arctic. Additionally, this past winter, Hilcorp had three pipeline releases in Cook Inlet. It took intervention from the highest level, i.e., by Governor Walker, for Hilcorp to shut down one of those releases after several months. This ongoing gas release into Cook Inlet visible from the air was a national embarrassment for Alaska.

Second, if there is a blowout from Liberty's relatively high pressure reservoir, the projected worst case discharge volume of over 4.6 million barrels spilled over 90 days would be many times more than that projected from Shell's former Chukchi Sea wells. Additionally, Liberty's proximity to the coast makes a major spill likely to have coastal impacts. Notably, there is no effective form of oil recovery, with all major marine spills capturing less than 10 percent of the oil released.

Third, the DEIS, Draft Environmental Impact Statement, finds a moderate to major likelihood of impacts to Nuiqsut whalers and their camp on Cross Island. This
impact alone should result in BOEM seriously considering selecting the no action outcome. With the noise and the impact a new island might have on the marine environment, including changing currents and shoals, Nuiqsut hunters might have to travel farther offshore -- significantly farther offshore -- to reach bowhead whales at much greater cost and increased risk. This is an important concern and distinct from the issues raised by the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission in Utqiagvik and elsewhere. I was at the Utqiagvik meeting.

Fourth, The Wilderness Society and other conservation organizations strongly oppose allowing drilling to occur during the open water season, and we raised this concern during scoping, but it was not one of the analyzed alternatives in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. During the open water season, major spills will directly affect the marine environment and probably the coast with little possibility of significant recovery of lost oil. A major oil spill means significant adverse impacts, as we heard just moments ago.

While cleanup of a major release during the winter will not be complete, at least the oil would be more viscous and would land on ice and thus would be more recoverable than during the open water seasons. In 2001 BP permanently restricted drilling to the winter season at
the manmade gravel Northstar Island. This precedent also
should apply to the Liberty project.

Fifth, we support zero discharge of all the waste and
wastewaters in order to protect the marine environment.

And as a final point of information and contrary to
what most Alaskans believe, TAPS and Alaska's Department
of Natural Resources data show that Trans-Alaska Pipeline
flow has actually increased since 2015 and is projected by
DNR to increase through the late 2020s. It's an important
point that hasn't really been absorbed by Alaskans or even
by the media.

Thank you very much for your attention to these
comments.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: May we have your
written comments. Thank you very much. And you can pick
the next one and read the last three digits.

MS. LOIS EPSTEIN: 020.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: 020. Thank you. The
floor is yours.

MS. LAURIE FAGNANI: Thank you. My name
is Laurie Fagnani, and I'm the owner of a small business
here in Anchorage, MSI Communications, and I'm here
representing myself and my 22 employees as long as my --
as well as my three-generation family here in Alaska and
the future of my children.
I'm here to express the support of Hilcorp's Liberty project. It represents a clear path forward in harnessing much needed domestic energy and new growth while utilizing a safe and long-established development process. This is an important project that will help grow North Slope production, increase TAPS throughput, and stimulate the Alaska economy.

Being a small business owner with 22 full-time professional employees, my employees and I rely on a healthy oil and gas economy. A project like Liberty is good for Alaska. It's good for others dependent on a healthy oil and gas environment on the North Slope. The Hilcorp Liberty's oilfield project should be allowed to produce into the development and ultimately into production. The proposed plan outlines a safe and efficient approach to development that protects the Arctic environment from adverse impacts as proven through the use of gravel island energy projects for the last 40 years. The 80-to 150,000,000 barrels of recoverable oil will contribute to solving the state's economic crisis while providing badly needed Slope jobs.

This project will help America extend its immense energy potential in the Arctic while contributing to America's energy independence. Further, Alaska needs the energy, jobs and revenue that Arctic offshore projects can
provide. Resource development in the region has been occurring for decades, and it should continue with the Liberty project.

We urge you to approve the draft EIS and allow Liberty partners to pursue an energy project that benefits all Americans. Thank you.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: You have the honor of picking the next number.

MS. LAURIE FAGNANI: 021.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: And you have your comments. If you want to beam them to Mary, that would be great.

MR. DREW NEUERBURG: I know there are a lot of people who want to speak tonight, so I'll make this very brief. My name is Drew Neuerburg, and I have been an Alaska resident for over 20 years. Went to school here, have a house here, went to UAA for both a bachelor's and master's degree. And I truly believe that this project is necessary for Alaska.

I work for Carlile Transportation, which is a transportation company that would be directly affected by this project. I'm here thinking about several points when I read about this, the first of which is safety. This technology and methodology proposed has been used extensively over the last 30 years and has been proven
safe for both the laborers working on site and for the environment surrounding it.

Secondly, this project will produce a stimulus for the state's economy directly in the form of oil flowing through TAPS, tax revenue for the state, and much needed jobs for our residents, as we have already heard. Additionally, this will provide much needed work and financial impact for oilfield support companies throughout the state, like the one I work for.

Finally, this will positively affect secondary markets through tickle-down economics such as retail or housing markets which have suffered decreases in the past few years. The project as a whole will be a much needed bolster to our economy with low risk to the environment and should be allowed to proceed.

Thank you.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: If you could then pull out the next number and you can read the last three digits.

MR. DREW NEUERBURG: 024.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: 024.

MR. JOSHUA KINDRED: Hi. My name is Joshua Kindred. I serve as environmental counsel for the Alaska Oil and Gas Association. As you can imagine, I'm here in support of the Liberty project. The Alaska Oil
and Gas Association, I, will be submitting more technical written comments at a later date. So I don't want to simply echo the sentiments described earlier, although they are accurate.

This is important to get more oil in the pipeline. It is important for the economy. It is important for the state coffers as we sort of try to navigate the current fiscal crisis.

But I think it's important -- this isn't my first time testifying at a venue like this and I'm sure it won't be my last. Oftentimes I come to these, it's troubling how much of the conversation can be aptly described as rhetoric and sometimes described as hyperbolic rhetoric. And it's important that decisions like these are made by science and made by data.

I almost every day get to work with people, men and women, from Hilcorp that are incredibly bright. They are incredibly dedicated. This isn't a project that's new or novel. This will represent, I think, the 19th gravel island, a similar project like that. So this isn't venturing into new waters. And anybody who sort of sells fear and sells the least likely outcome to discourage these types of investments moving forward is doing a disservice to Alaska and they're doing a disservice to the public.
This project is important. There was a point made that we, for the first time in 15 years, have seen increased production in Alaska and we're projected to see increases in the future. That's because of projects like this. We are not going to see those increases in production, we're not going to not see the stimulation of the economy, we're not going to see more money in the state coffers absent these type of projects.

So I guess at the end of the day what I'd like to say is the EIS is very thorough. The men and women who put it together, both at Hilcorp and at BOEM, are very, very good at their jobs. It is important to Alaska. There is no reason to believe that if Hilcorp goes forward on this project it's likely to result in any harm to the environment. We have been operating on the North Slope as a state and various companies for a generation now, and we know what we are doing. We don't take it lightly.

And so I do advocate for this project. I think it is important. I know it will be done well and I know that the men and women who are working on it will make sure that it does so.

And AOGA does plan to submit written comments at a later time.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: Thank you, sir. And you have the honor of picking the next one, the last three
digits.

MR. JOSHUA KINDRED: 014.

MR. BILL BINFORD: Good afternoon, folks. My name is Bill Binford, and I'm here to speak in support of the preferred alternative. I'm speaking for my wife, as well. I was first involved in the oil industry when we first produced oil in Alaska. And I have to say I'm very, very proud of the track record that this industry has achieved in this state with safe and environmentally responsible oilfield development. This is one of the most strict regimes for rules and regulations in the world, and we have a sterling record, and I'm very proud of it.

I've also watched over the years the production go from 2,000,000 barrels a day to in the 500 range. That's a huge drop. We are using the same proven technologies that we have used on other projects. These concepts are nothing new. They work. The industry knows how to do this. The oil companies know how to do this. This should be a very safe and environmentally responsible project.

We all know how much of a struggle the state of Alaska is in right now. Just read the press. It's hard to pay the bills at the state level. There has been a lot of unemployment recently. So this is a very important project for the state of Alaska. It's one of the premier projects for the state to count on for their financial
well-being.

Therefore, I just ask you to please consider support, all of you, of the preferred alternative. I'll submit my written testimony to the record.

Thank you.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: You can pick and read the next ticket.

MR. BILL BINFORD: That would be No. 22.

MR. REED CHRISTENSEN: Thank you. Good evening. For the record, my name is Reed Christensen. I'm the president of Dowland-Bach Corporation. We are a local manufacturing company here in Anchorage, started in 1975. I currently employ 28 full-time Alaskans at our company, and I'm here to testify in favor of the proposed development plan.

Like has already been mentioned, I have strong concerns about our current state fiscal situation, as well as concerns -- we have four children, two in college, two still at East High School, and as I think about what would be the best for them and their future would be a healthy oil and gas industry providing as many as possible employment opportunities for this next generation, a place to work, a place to live. And so I agree with the comments that have been made before about the economic benefits.
And one thing I would add when we talk about Hilcorp, sometimes it's easy to hear some of the comments about the quote, unquote, release and subsequent repair. When I think about Hilcorp, another thing that I think about is it wasn't too long ago when we were talking about potential rolling brownouts in Anchorage and a shortage of natural gas for our community. And Hilcorp was one of the companies that stepped in and has turned around the Cook Inlet production to our benefit, and now we are talking about being able to have longer-term commitments for natural gas for our utilities here in Anchorage and the Railbelt and even talking about possibly helping Fairbanks with these resources.

And so when I think about projects, I'd rather be thinking about things like that and what we can do to encourage more development and more responsible resource opportunities for the next generation as well as the current generation here in Alaska.

And so I'm a vote yes. Thank you.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: Thank you very much.

If you can pick the next ticket, please, and read the last three digits.

MR. REED CHRISTENSEN: 012.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: 012. Thank you very much. Sir, the floor is yours.
MR. JIM ARLINGTON: Thank you very much.

Good evening. My name is Jim Arlington. I'm the Business Development and Marketing Director for Afognak Leasing, LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Afognak Native Corporation. In addition to working for Afognak, I have been a land attorney or land manager for ARCO Exploration, Chevron, Forest Oil, Forcenergy and Linc Energy, so I'm quite familiar with this type of technology and the type of proposal that's been proposed by Hilcorp.

Afognak Native Corporation was organized in 1977 through a merger of two village corporations established pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971, hereinafter collectively referred to in my testimony just as Afognak.

I'm speaking here tonight on behalf of Afognak to support the Hilcorp Alaska, LLC -- or just Hilcorp -- Liberty project as described in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, or DEIS, prepared by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, or BOEM, to allow the Liberty project to move forward. Afognak appreciates this opportunity to provide testimony in response to the call for comments as a result of Hilcorp -- hereinafter the applicant, as well -- submitting its permit applications to develop a light oil reservoir in nearshore federal waters many, many years ago.
NEPA guidelines require that an EIS briefly specify the underlying purpose and need to which the agency is responding. The NEPA purpose and need statement is developed through consideration of the purpose and need stated by the applicant. The testimony Afognak is providing this evening is provided to help BOEM to determine that the applicant's proposed project, Alternative 1, is the least environmentally damaging practicable alternative, LEDPA.

To provide context for the comments Afognak is providing tonight, I think it's important that BOEM know something about Afognak's work history in the Arctic, specifically on the North Slope of Alaska, and also Afognak's work history with the Liberty project. Afognak has many years of experience providing successful housing options to its clients, which include many of the oil and gas operators on the North Slope, such as Exxon Mobil, BP, Repsol, Nordaq, ConocoPhillips, Alyska Pipeline Service Company and Armstrong Energy.

Afognak has been carefully and rigorously reviewed many times by a multitude of oil and gas companies, and based on our experience, past performance, aggressive schedule, design efficiencies, operational excellence and commitment to safety and providing attractive lease and purchase options, Afognak has been the proud recipient of
many sole source awards. The following are just a few examples of that: Worley Parsons, their Sea Lion Camp in Deadhorse; Shell Oil Company, 60-bed living facility in Barrow; ExxonMobil Global Services base of operations in Deadhorse; the Alyeska Pipeline Service Company Eagle Lodge in Deadhorse; and Repsol, providing three camps for their exploration activities for their Pikka Unit now operated by Armstrong.

These sole source awards were based on Afognak's history of effective schedule execution, competitive price, efficiency, safety and project performance.

In addition to those sole source contracts, Afognak, through its predecessor in interest, provided BP, Hilcorp's predecessor in interest, the original Liberty drill camp and office facility, a three-story, 160-bed modular living facility at the Endicott SDI.

Consequently, Afognak is in a unique position to evaluate the applicant, Hilcorp's, remote Arctic drilling operations. Based on Afognak's extensive experience working with and serving oil and gas operators on the North Slope of Alaska, Afognak can confidently assert that the applicant, Hilcorp, is one of the most environmentally responsible and conscientious operators on the North Slope of Alaska.

In addition to the applicant's environmentally
responsible operating culture and practices that make them a welcome operator on the North Slope of Alaska, their proposed project will address the following needs and concerns: Liberty is an important project for Alaska, as we have already heard, as it will produce an estimated 60,000 to 70,000 barrels of oil per day, creating hundreds of jobs. The Liberty production island will be well protected from the polar ice pack, sheltered by a belt of offshore barrier islands. The Liberty project builds upon more than 30 years of proven technology and safe operation in the shallow waters of the Beaufort Sea.

As we've already heard, artificial islands in the Beaufort Sea date back to the mid 1970s. In the last 40 years, 18 islands have been responsibly constructed for exploration and development of oil and gas. The offshore Liberty pipeline will be buried in the subsea floor and will include automatic leak detection, temperature monitoring technology, proven technology utilized on existing production islands in the region.

The island would be similar to the four oil and gas producing islands currently in operation in the state waters of the Beaufort Sea: Spy Island, North Island, Endicott Island and Oooguruk Island. The island will be used for wells, production facilities, a camp, utilities, and a dedicated area for a relief well. To minimize its
environmental footprint, no permanent road or causeway would connect it to the mainland.

The rigorous multi-year permitting process for Liberty has addressed the concerns that were raised during the previous comment period. Approximately 60 federal, state and local permits and authorizations are required before the project can move forward. Acquiring these permits and meeting the rigorous standards to meet and protect the environment will protect the public's concern so that they can be assured that the North Slope energy development and environmental stewardship will coexist responsibly.

Industry has a proven record of accomplishment, of responsible development in environmentally sensitive areas, protecting the environment, wildlife and subsistence needs of local citizens. Since BOEM must consider the direct, indirect and cumulative effects of the project, Afognak firmly believes that BOEM should approve the applicant's proposed action, Alternative 1, and allow the project to move forward since this alternative is the least environmentally damaging practicable alternative.

Thank you very much.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: Thank you, sir. If you would pull out the next ticket and read the last three
digits.

MR. JIM ARLINGTON: Lucky No. 018. 018.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: The floor is yours, sir.

MR. BLAKE KOPCHO: Good evening. My name is Blake Kopcho. I'm with the Center for Biological Diversity. We are a national nonprofit dedicated to protecting threatened species and wild places. The agency should adopt the no action alternative and reject Hilcorp's Liberty project proposal for the following reasons: One, despite what many have promised here this evening, there is simply no safe way to drill in the Arctic Ocean. Oil spills are not only an inevitable but routine part of offshore oil drilling. In fact, the DEIS finds the project will cause at least 70 oil spills over its lifetime, or roughly three spills each year. But it discounts the fact that an oil spill would be impossible to clean up in the frigid Arctic.

Further, a large spill from the project could kill or harm a variety of Arctic wildlife, including polar bears, bowhead whales, ice seals and fish.

Oil companies have guaranteed safe operations to communities in Valdez, the Gulf of Mexico and Santa Barbara over the years, and we all know how projects in those locations turned out.
Scientists also tell us that drilling for oil in the Arctic Ocean is incompatible with avoiding the worst impacts of climate change. In order to have a chance at limiting warming to two degrees celsius or less, we must keep the door shut to all new Arctic Ocean drilling.

And again, contrary to what has been said here this evening, Hilcorp has a documented history of accidents and safety violations, which heighten the numerous and inherent risks with offshore drilling in the Arctic.

The Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, who is here this evening, cited Hilcorp for over two dozen violations between April 2012 and May 2016. According to the Commission, the disregard for regulatory compliance is endemic to Hilcorp's approach to its Alaska operations, and its conduct is inexcusable. And if Hilcorp can't even stop a gas leak under the ice in Cook Inlet, then it has no business drilling its Liberty project in the Arctic where sea conditions are even more treacherous.

Hilcorp's complete and utter neglect for safety regulations, the environment and worker safety, combined with the inherent dangers of offshore drilling in the Arctic and the current climate emergency all make the agency's choice crystal clear: Reject this reckless project.

Thank you.
DR. JAMES KENDALL: Thank you, sir. If you wouldn't mind picking the next number.

MR. BLAKE KOPCHO: 010.

MR. BOB STINSON: Thank you. Thanks for the opportunity to submit my comments in support of the Liberty project. My name is Bob Stinson. I'm a 42-year Alaska resident and Senior Vice President of Price Gregory International's Alaska division. Price Gregory is a worldwide energy infrastructure construction company specializing in large diameter oil and gas pipelines and facilities. We have been in Alaska since 1973 when we built part of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline and have built many of the pipelines on the North Slope, including the two recent offshore pipelines in the Beaufort Sea to Ooguruk and the Nikaitchuq Islands. These were built to connect oil production from offshore -- very similar to Liberty island -- to the North Slope infrastructure and ultimately to the Trans-Alaska Pipeline.

The Liberty project development plan follows very closely to these two projects and is modeled after the Northstar Island project built in 2001, which has proven to have an excellent environment and production record. The pipeline design uses the same features as the previous projects, including burial in shallow water, oil production pipe within another pipe for added
environmental protection, and back-up leak detection systems. Construction methods for installing the Liberty pipeline system are also similar and proven to be easily accomplished, lessening the risk for environmental damage.

Alaska's economy and the overall health of the state is tied to oil production, but the Trans-Alaska Pipeline is only one quarter full. The Liberty project represents a positive step towards perpetuation of the oil and gas industry in Alaska by curtailing oil production decline at this crucial time in Alaska's history. The potential oil production from Liberty would be one important step in not only arresting the decline but increasing TAPS throughput.

Hilcorp, along with its partners BP and Arctic Slope, have proven not only to be stewards of the environment on oil development projects, but also stewards of Alaska's economy by investing in exploration and production of fields like Cook Inlet, Milne Point, Northstar and now Liberty.

I strongly support the Liberty project and the expeditious approval of Alternative 1 in the draft EIS.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: Pick out and read the last three digits.

MR. BOB STINSON: 019.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: Thank you very much. 019.
MS. KRISTEN MONSELL: Good evening. My
name is Kristen Monsell, and I'm with the Center for
Biological Diversity. On behalf of the Center, I urge
BOEM to reject Hilcorp's dangerous Arctic drilling
project. If approved, the project would be the first
surface development on the Arctic Outer Continental Shelf
and the first oil production from fully within federal
Arctic waters. Approving new fossil fuel infrastructure
and decades of new drilling in the Arctic at a time when
science tells us we should be rapidly transitioning to
clean energy to avoid the catastrophic impacts of climate
change would be reckless and irresponsible. Approval of
the project would also be unlawful.

Specifically, the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act
required that oil production be balanced with protection
of the human, marine and coastal environments. In keeping
with this overall goal, OCSLA expressly mandates that BOEM
reject a project when its implementation would probably
cause serious harm or damage to the marine, coastal or
human environment when weighed against the potential
advantages of allowing production.

OCSLA also requires BOEM to reject a project when the
leaseholder has failed to demonstrate they can comply with
applicable federal laws. The Liberty project will cause a
wide variety of serious harms to the environment,
including greenhouse gas and black carbon emissions that will exacerbate climate change and loss of sea ice, oil spills that would be impossible to clean up, and the project will further harm already imperiled wildlife, such as polar bears and bowhead whales.

The significance of these impacts clearly outweigh any purported benefits of the project. This is true when the impacts are considered individually, and particularly true when they are considered in the aggregate. They are also particularly true considering Hilcorp’s track record of spills and noncompliance with environmental and safety regulations and requirements in Alaska.

As you have already heard, the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission has cited the company for numerous violations since the company started operating in Alaska. These violations include things like failure to test blowout prevention equipment before using it and the unapproved use of nitrogen gas that caused three workers to lose consciousness. And the Commission has said that nothing but luck prevented their death.

Hilcorp has also been sent numerous warning letters from federal pipeline regulators for probable violations of pipeline safety regulations, and the company has had numerous oil spills and other incidents, both at its drilling operations in the Gulf of Mexico and here in
Alaska, including a gas leak earlier this year from an offshore pipeline in Cook Inlet that leaked for nearly four months before it was fixed by the company.

While all Arctic drilling is inherently dangerous, Hilcorp's track record makes a dangerous situation even more risky. BOEM should therefore reject this project and adopt the no action alternative.

Thank you.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: Thank you for your comments. Pick the next number.

MS. KRISTEN MONSELL: 011.

MS. BARBARA HUFF TUCKNESS: I want to thank you for the opportunity to comment on the EIS draft. I believe that this project is extremely important to not only Alaska, but all Alaskans.

Before I elaborate, I would like to introduce myself. For the record, my name is Barbara Huff Tuckness. I'm the Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs for Teamsters Local 959. I am here tonight to speak on behalf of Rick Boyles, who is our Secretary-Treasurer and, unfortunately, unable to attend the hearing this evening.

Our members number about 7,000 and are employed in numerous job opportunities throughout the state, including construction workers, warehouse positions, truck drivers, telecommunications workers, health care workers, as well
as airline pilots, just to name a few.

Early in the 1980s we thought that by this time Prudhoe Bay would be dead or, at best, in the final throes of a sputtering downward spiral. But every year it seems doomsday has been nudged back a little bit at a time on this line, mainly because of the developing technology that has allowed oil producers to keep extending the life of the enormous field. As frontline, hardworking people, our members understand the reality and the implications of oil production. That's one of the reasons we feel strongly about Liberty.

Development of Liberty will provide real and substantial benefits to our members and other Alaskans through production of jobs and new business opportunities, as well.

Hilcorp has committed to employ qualified Alaskans by recruiting staff and contractors locally, hiring out of union hiring halls and encouraging their contractors to do the same. At the peak of the Liberty construction, there will be hundreds of good paying construction jobs, 60 to 80 drilling jobs, as well as full-time opportunities for 20–plus years after the conclusion of construction.

Alaskans hired directly to work on the Liberty project are not the only ones who will benefit. Most of the money spent on this project will stay in Alaska, with
local contractors figuring prominently in construction and
the development. A broad range of companies -- insurance,
lodging, business services, transportation, utilities, as
well as communications -- will see indirect benefits
through the boost to our state economy. That means jobs
for many, many Alaskans in our state.

Alaska is a great a place to work, a great place to
raise our families and to enjoy the outdoors. A thumbs up
on Liberty sooner rather than later will help more
Alaskans stay here in the coming years.

Finally, I want to take a moment to talk about the
environment. Thank goodness I think we are past the days
of the greenies and the oilies. We all care deeply about
protecting this land and its habitat. We respect the
Inupiat culture and its reliance on whaling for
subsistence.

With modern advanced technology, is it shown that
development of our land resources can occur with little
disturbance to the environment. We have and we continue
to support environmentally sound development.
Liberty can be developed with care and protection for the
environment. In this day and age, none of us expect
anything less. From what I have seen, this project can be
done with minimum impacts to valuable environmental
resources.
We respectfully request the Liberty EIS be moved forward. Any further delay means reduced revenues and lost job opportunities for many Alaskans and our families. And I thank you for the opportunity to speak.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: Thank you very much.

If you would pick the next name, please, and read the next number, last three digits.

MS. BARBARA HUFF TUCKNESS: 27.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: 27. The number 27.

The floor is yours.

MS. MARLEANNA HALL: Thank you. Good evening. My name is Marleanna Hall. I am here testifying on behalf of myself. I am Inupiat Eskimo and a lifelong Alaskan, and I'm here to testify in support of allowing the Liberty project to move forward. As an Alaskan, I understand that our economy is based on natural resource development, and I believe that it can be done responsibly in coexistence with wildlife and other subsistence and other cultural uses of the land in our great state.

I play, live and work here, and I think it's important that people understand that jobs are important to all Alaskans.

I just have very brief testimony, but I do urge BOEM to move quickly and to support approval of this project and move forward with the project itself.
Thank you.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: Thank you for your comments. If you would select the next number, please.

MS. MARLEANNA HALL: 017.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: Thank you very much.

017. 017. Okay.

Then how about if we pick another one. Sir, would you pick the next number.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: That would be 016.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: 016. 016. Okay.

Let's try this again.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: Two left.

013.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: 013. The floor is yours, sir.

MR. CHRIS LEDGERWOOD: Thank you, and good evening. My name is Chris Ledgerwood. I am the general manager of Nanuq, Incorporated, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Kuukpik Corporation from the Village of Nuiqsut. I'm also a professional engineer with a strict focus in the Arctic work and a resident of this state residing right here in Anchorage. I am testifying on behalf of myself, my wife and our two children.

I support responsible development and recommend
approval of the proposed action of the draft EIS. This proven approach has been used for over 30 years, utilizing a substantial amount of existing infrastructure to get the oil to market. This project would put additional oil in the TAPS, in the Trans-Alaska Pipeline, bringing more money to the state of Alaska and Alaskans through jobs, royalties and taxes. This project is important to reducing our current unemployment rate, which is among the highest in the United States.

The extensive permitting process required for this project has already addressed the concerns that have been brought forth. Hilcorp is currently working with the local whalers to ensure that they are able to provide meaningful conflict avoidance for the fall subsistence whaling. The subsea pipeline proposed will be buried below the scour line for protection from the ice with a proven leak detection system that has been used in many projects.

I know these points are factual, as I've reviewed Hilcorp's plan and been involved in the development of Northstar Island, Oooguruk Island and Nikaitchuq Spy Island as a civil contractor. We also safely expanded Endicott's SDI and BP's first attempt to develop this reservoir closer to shore. In addition to that, we logistically support the Nuiqsut whalers each season with
their seasonal subsistence hunt on Cross Island.

For that I recommend adopting proposed plan 1 for the
draft EIS. Thank you.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: Thank you, sir.

MR. CHRIS LEDGERWOOD: 009.

MR. AVES THOMPSON: Thank you. Thank you
for allowing us to testify tonight. My name is Aves
Thompson. I'm the Executive Director of the Alaska
Trucking Association. The Alaska Trucking Association is
a not-for-profit 501(c)(6) statewide trade association
representing the interests of our nearly 200 member
companies from Barrow to Ketchikan. Freight movement
represents a large chunk of our economy and impacts all of
us each and every day. The simple truth is that if you
got it, a truck brought it.

Mr. Chairman, our testimony today is about jobs. We
see that this project will bring much needed jobs that
will help Alaska recover from the economic blow she has
suffered over the last few years. State and local
spending of taxes and royalties paid by the oil and gas
industry directly creates jobs in the public sector and
indirectly creates jobs throughout the private sector.

The project would generate significant long-term
business and economic activity. For each direct oil
industry job, 20 additional jobs are generated in the
Alaska economy. And our industry would be part of those additional jobs generated in the Alaska economy.

Alaska's economic lifeline, TAPS, is now running at three-quarters empty. Liberty will increase TAPS throughput, helping to keep it operating longer and more efficiently.

BOEM should approve the proposed action in the DEIS and allow the Liberty project to move forward. Liberty is an important project for Alaska, as it will produce an estimated 60–to 70,000 barrels of oil per day, creating hundreds of new jobs and providing royalty payments to the State of Alaska as well as tax revenue to the North Slope Borough. The Alaska Trucking Association urges BOEM to approve the proposed action in the DEIS.

Thank you.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: Thank you, sir. The two numbers that we read, we think they belong to Jim Udelhoven and Jeff Baker.

Okay. We are here for a while yet. Those are the end of the numbers I have. So why don't we take a ten-minute break to give our court reporter a break, and then we can convene in ten minutes, and if anybody else wants to come up and offer testimony --

Sir? Why don't you take it right now before we break.
MR. ANDY MACK: Thank you very much. I appreciate, Jim, you letting me testify here. I didn't sign up. But my name is Andy Mack. I'm the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources for the State of Alaska. It's a pleasure to be here and see so many of you here in the crowd tonight. I figure if the CBD sent a couple folks to testify, I certainly want to stand up and offer my thoughts.

I would like to reflect very briefly on what is the Northstar project. I think Northstar is representative of a project where folks without all of the answers to some of the questions that were being asked at the time that project was built were doing their best to understand what the impacts might be, what the benefits might be.

One of the things that happened when they developed Northstar is they decided they were going to take a real deep dive and look very closely at the impacts on marine mammals, on the impacts of whales. And to this day they continue to do that. And I think the analysis and the development of that information has been used very wisely, and they have continued to look for ways to lower the impacts and to try to understand and make sure that whatever they are doing on that island has as few impacts as possible.

We have also now seen the development of Nikaitchuq
and Ooguruk, which are shallow water island facilities. Each of these facilities on its own, frankly, they are not giant fields, but they are all very, very important to the economy of Alaska, to what goes on on the North Slope. And the information -- and the reason I bring up Northstar and focus on it a little bit is I think it's really relevant as we continue to examine what we do in the ocean. I think BOEM has done a really solid job of evaluating those impacts. I think the analysis and the study work that has been done over the last handful of years has been very, very important. I think it can drive the decisionmaking process here.

The State of Alaska would like to see this project move forward very much. We support this project. And I think that what we have is we have got a fairly significant body of information now. And like I say, it started with Northstar, but it continued with Nikaitchuq and Ooguruk, which should give people comfort that we can manage those impacts as we move forward.

And there is no doubt. There is no doubt at all that the economic benefits are substantial. So I would like to thank BOEM for the work they have put in on this project. It's one of the projects in Alaska that's been studied very, very extensively, and I think that it's a good project.
So we will be submitting extensive and detailed written comments as we normally do, but I thought I would stand up here at the hearing and express our strong support for this project. Thank you.

DR. JAMES KENDALL: Thank you very much.

All right. Let's take a ten-minute break to give our court reporter a little breather here. And then we can come back, and if anybody else wants to come up, we will stay here as long as we need to. Thank you.

(A break was taken.)

DR. JAMES KENDALL: Okay. Ladies and gentlemen, if we want to reconvene, if there is any more testimony that wishes to be given, I have an open mic and I've got an empty floor. So keeping with the previous rules, we are going for five minutes or less. If anybody would like to offer testimony, we are open for business. And also if someone would prefer not to speak publicly, they can sit in front of Mary and offer their testimony. We are also good with that.

Is anyone else interested in coming up and offering their comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement? Again, this is a not a decision document. It is an informational document for the decisionmaker to grasp, you know, what this project is about and potential environmental impacts. So this document will not make the
decision. That's why we are adamant that we need the best possible document so the decisionmaker has all the information in front of them.

And I have an open mic for anybody that would like to give comments, five minutes or less, or you can sit in front of Mary and do it more private. And we can accept comments till November 18th. And we have computers in the back if you just want to sit down and find regs.gov and type your comments in there. We are trying to be as responsible as possible and make it as easy as possible for people to offer comments.

Anybody else? Because what we typically do, then, is I close the mic down for another 10 or 15 minutes to give people time to reflect and decide if they really want to come up here or not. We don't really want to leave too early. Okay.

That being said, this is a public hearing. We are now off record, Mary, for the next 15 minutes to see if anybody has second thoughts and wants to join us up here at the mic or sit with Mary and offer their testimony directly. And we have the computers in the back. So we are down now till 20 minutes till 9:00. Thank you.

(Off the record.)

DR. JAMES KENDALL: Okay. Ladies and gentlemen, as promised, it's 20 minutes to 9:00. We were
going to start again to see if anybody wanted to offer any
more comments for the record. You can either come up here
and speak publicly or sit down with Mary Vavrik and offer,
or sit at the computers. So I guess this is going to be
probably the last time. So does anyone have anything to
offer for the record? Or you can just send it to us
through regs.gov and we will call it an evening.

And no, Dave, I'm not going to dance.

With that, I want to thank everybody for coming this
evening. You provided a lot of useful comments. A
reminder, the comment period runs through November 18th.
So get online, regs.gov, and help us make the document the
best it could be. It is informational, not a decision
document.

With that, I will close the public hearing on the
Liberty Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Thank you very much, and have a good evening.

(Proceedings adjourned at 8:44 p.m.)
REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I, MARY A. VAVRIK, RMR, Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska do hereby certify:

That the foregoing proceedings were taken before me at the time and place herein set forth; that the proceedings were reported stenographically by me and later transcribed under my direction by computer transcription; that the foregoing is a true record of the proceedings taken at that time; and that I am not a party to nor have I any interest in the outcome of the action herein contained.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my hand and affixed my seal this _____ day of October 2017.

__________________________
MARY A. VAVRIK,
Registered Merit Reporter
Notary Public for Alaska

My Commission Expires: November 5, 2020
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