



Alaska Department of Natural Resources Division of Oil & Gas



PUBLIC PROCESS

Public Participation is Integral to State Decision-Making

OVERVIEW

More than any other state, Alaska depends on natural resources for its economic well-being. To ensure responsible resource development, Alaska needs to maintain a strong permitting system that facilitates and encourages public participation. To achieve this goal, the Division of Oil and Gas (DO&G) reaches out to the public early and often. Information gathered through public review and comment is a critical source of knowledge and perspectives which facilitates optimal and balanced decision-making.

AGENCY DECISIONS MAY AFFECT YOU

The Division of Oil and Gas is responsible for leasing state lands for oil, gas, and geothermal exploration and development. This responsibility involves land use decisions, permit issuance, plan approvals, and regulation adoption. All of these actions have the potential to impact you, the area in which you live, and the State of Alaska.



AWARENESS IS KEY TO PARTICIPATION

- To find public notices that affect you, visit: <http://aws.state.ak.us/OnlinePublicNotices/Default.aspx>
- Alaska Constitution can be found online at: <http://ltgov.alaska.gov/treadwell/services/alaska-constitution.html>
- Statutes & regulations can be found online at: <http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/folio.asp>

LEGAL BASIS FOR DECISION-MAKING

The foundation of our public process lies within the Alaska Constitution, Article VIII, § 10 which states no disposals or leases of state lands, or interests therein, shall be made without prior public notice and other safeguards of the public interest as may be prescribed by law. The legislature expanded upon this within the Alaska Lands Act, codified in Alaska Statutes Title 38, Chapter 5. The basic process for public notification and participation is contained within AS 38.05.945.

SUBMITTING COMMENTS

The public notice announcement will detail when and where to send comments. Written comments can be submitted through fax, email, mail, or hand delivery and must be postmarked or submitted before the end of the comment period for consideration. Oral comments received at public hearings may be accepted. Comments become part of the public record and are subject to Public Records requests.

CONTACT US

Contact 907-269-8800 or via e-mail at dog.comments@alaska.gov