

**State of Alaska  
Department of Natural Resources  
State Pipeline Coordinator's Office**

**Final Finding and Decision of the Commissioner  
On The  
Point Thomson Export Pipeline  
Right-of-Way Lease, ADL 418975**

**Action:** The Commissioner of the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, pursuant to AS 38.35.110, proposes to award an AS 38.35 pipeline Right-of-Way (ROW) Lease to Point Thomson Export Pipeline LLC to construct and operate a 22-mile oil pipeline on the Arctic Coastal Plain for the maximum period allowed by law.

**Authority:** AS 38.35 - Right-of-Way Leasing Act.

**Background:** The State Pipeline Coordinator's Office (SPCO) published notice of the AS 38.35 Right-of-Way application on August 19, 2010. The application was noticed per AS 38.35.070 for 60 days. Per AS 38.35.200, the public notice solicited objections from an applicant or competing applicant or a person who has direct financial interest affected by the lease. One comment addressing the project was received from the Northern Alaska Environmental Center.

On September 21, 2012, the SPCO published notice, per AS 38.35.070, of the Commissioner's Analysis and Proposed Decision on the Point Thomson Export Pipeline. Public hearings were held in the communities of Barrow (October 23), Kaktovik (October 24), Nuiqsut (October 25) and Fairbanks (October 29). The public notice comment period for the Analysis and Proposed Decision ended on October 30, 2012, at 5:00 p.m.

**Discussion:** Issues pertinent to the project from the one comment received during the application notice were addressed in the Commissioner's Analysis and Proposed Decision.

Three comments were received during the public notice of the Commissioner's Analysis and Proposed Decision. These comments will be published, along with a response, on the SPCO website. None of the comments received resulted in changes to the published Analysis and Proposed Decision and no substantial changes were made to the published Draft Right-of-Way Lease.

As demonstrated in the Commissioner's Analysis and Proposed Decision, the applicant was determined to be fit, willing and able to construct, operate and maintain a pipeline, as proposed in their application. Awarding a pipeline right-of-way lease for the proposed alignment is in the best interest of the State and is consistent with the State's Constitution and goal to responsibly

develop resources by making them available for maximum use consistent with public interest. The project was determined to have little to no long term impacts on the environment and existing uses of the land and will improve the State's infrastructure necessary for the commercialization of North Slope gas and the development and delivery of oil resources, particularly from the Eastern North Slope.

**Final Finding and Decision:** The finding presented has been reviewed and considered. Public notice has been accomplished in accordance with applicable Alaska statutes and codes. No significant changes were made to the Commissioner's Analysis and Proposed Decision. The case file has been found to be complete and the requirements of all applicable statutes have been satisfied. The proposed actions are consistent with constitutional and statutory intent for state land. Therefore, I find that it is in the best interest of the State of Alaska to award a Right-of-Way lease for the Point Thomson Export Pipeline to Point Thomson Export Pipeline, LLC.

**Determination:** I have reviewed the administrative record of this process, which includes information cited and relied upon in the September 19, 2012 Commissioner's Analysis and Proposed Decision and the public comments and responses thereto. Based on this review, the decision reached in the Commissioner's Analysis and Proposed Decision is not revised and therefore I find that it is in the best interest of the State of Alaska to award a Right-of-Way Lease for the Point Thomson Export Pipeline to Point Thomson Export Pipeline, LLC for a period of 30 years. This is the final agency determination.

  
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Daniel S. Sullivan  
Commissioner  
State of Alaska  
Department of Natural Resources

10-31-12  
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Date