The Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources (Commissioner) received an application, dated February 1, 2022, from Oil Search (USA) Inc. (OSU) for a sales oil quality pipeline right-of-way (ROW) lease under Alaska Statute (AS) 38.35 (ROW Leasing Act). Public notice of the application was conducted in accordance with AS 38.35.070 on February 17, 2022.

The proposed Pikka Sales Oil Pipeline (Pikka Pipeline) would transport sales-quality oil from the Nanushuk Operations Pad in the Pikka Unit to a tie-in at Kuparuk Pipeline Extension approximately 22 miles east, all on State lands, for eventual delivery to the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System for shipment outside of Alaska. The Pikka Pipeline is an above ground pipeline which will operate at a maximum operating pressure (MAOP) of 1,480 pounds per square inch gauge (psig). OSU proposes a 300-foot-wide construction ROW; reduced to a 60-foot operational ROW.

In accordance with AS 38.35.080, the Commissioner has prepared an analysis of the application and found OSU to be fit, willing, and able to operate the pipeline in the manner required by AS 38.35.100. The public is invited to comment on the Commissioner’s Analysis and Proposed Decision for this application.

Department of Natural Resources will hold three public hearings.

The first public hearing will be held on October 5, 2022, either as an in person hearing in the community of Nuiqsut, or online, whichever the city determines is best for the community. Details on this hearing will be available at: https://dog.dnr.alaska.gov/Services/Pipeline/Pikka_Sales_Oil_Pipeline.

The other two hearings will be online hearings held on October 7, 2022, at 12:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Information on how to connect to the online public hearings will be available at: https://dog.dnr.alaska.gov/Services/Pipeline/Pikka_Sales_Oil_Pipeline.

For questions on how to participate in the public hearings, please contact Tammas Brown at (907) 269-6468, or at Tammas.Brown@alaska.gov.
The public may provide testimony during the hearings or submit written comments in person, by mail, or through email.

Additionally, the Department of Natural Resources is proposing to close the lands within a 300-foot corridor, 150-feet each side of the Pikka Pipeline survey control line, to mineral entry through Mineral Order 1264 to protect the pipeline. The mineral order would take effect upon issuance of the ROW lease and end upon the expiration or termination of the lease. The Mineral Order would potentially affect 800 acres more or less, of State-owned lands.

Documents concerning the proposed decision and mineral order are available online at: http://dog.dnr.alaska.gov/Home/Newsroom.

The public may obtain hard copies of documents, at cost, from the State Pipeline Coordinator’s Section (SPCS) upon request (see contact information below).

All comments about the Commissioner’s Analysis and Proposed Decision must be submitted in writing to the SPCS by 11:59 p.m. on October 7, 2022.

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DNR complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with disabilities who may need auxiliary aids, services or special modifications to participate in this review may call (907) 269-8411 TTY/TDD. Please provide sufficient notice in order for the department to accommodate your needs.

DNR reserves the right to waive technical defects in this publication.

/s/ Anthony Strupulis, P. E.  Publish Date: September 2, 2022
State Pipeline Coordinator
Department of Natural Resources