EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
AGREEMENT TO SUPPORT
THE STATE-FEDERAL JOINT PIPELINE OFFICE

A. PURPOSE

The State-Federal Joint Pipeline Office (JPO) was created in March 1990 to provide full partnership for State and Federal agencies in monitoring and overseeing the Tran-Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS) and a pipeline project to commercialize North Slope gas. The scope of the JPO has increased to include petroleum and natural gas pipelines within the State of Alaska and the adjoining Outer Continental Shelf under the respective authorities or jurisdiction of one or more of the participating agencies or agency division (see attachment). The JPO is an appropriate intergovernmental structure to carry out the multi-agency mission of overseeing the safe and reliable transportation of moving petroleum and natural gas products to market while promoting the protection of public health and safety and the environment.

The purpose of this Agreement is to perpetuate a more formal and effective intergovernmental partnership and achieve a single point of contact office (the JPO) for jurisdictional pipeline operators to work through in accomplishing the goals stated below.

B. Goals

All signatories agree to work cooperatively to achieve the goals of this Agreement as follows:

- Provide federal and state executive-level commitment to the JPO as a model for efficient and comprehensive monitoring and oversight;
- Provide for coordinated decision making within the JPO;
- Develop an interagency operating approach for oversight of petroleum and natural gas pipeline systems;
- Work cooperatively to achieve pipeline system integrity, public safety, and environmental protection;
- Share information to minimize gaps and overlaps in conducting pipeline monitoring activities;
- Oversee system reliability to achieve continuity of transportation services; and
- Provide for coordinated and consistent external communications.
C. PROCEDURES

To accomplish the goals, an Executive Council has been established to oversee the JPO. Members of the Executive Council are:

- Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Commissioner
- Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Commissioner
- Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Commissioner
- Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Commissioner
- Alaska Department of Public Safety, Commissioner
- Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities, Commissioner
- U.S. Department of Defense, Army Corps of Engineers, District Engineer
- U.S. Department of the Interior
  - Bureau of Land Management, Alaska State Director
  - Minerals Management Service, Regional Director
- U.S. Department of Transportation
  - Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Administrator
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security
  - General Manager, Transportation Security Administration
  - U.S. Coast Guard, Commander, Seventeenth District
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Assistant Regional Administrator for Alaska

Additional state or federal agencies with authorities over pipelines may be added.

The Executive Council will be Co-Chaired by the Alaska State Director, U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and the Commissioner, Alaska Department of Natural Resources (ADNR). The Executive Council shall meet as needed at the call of the Co-Chairpersons or a majority of members. The meetings will be scheduled to fit the budget processes of the state and federal governments, as appropriate. If a member cannot attend a meeting, an alternate may attend.

Administratively, the lead agencies within the JPO are the BLM and the ADNR. The Authorized Officer appointed by the BLM Alaska State Director and the State Pipeline Coordinator appointed by the Commissioner of the ADNR shall serve as Executive Co-Directors for the Executive Council.

Each member of the Executive Council agrees to assign a member of their staff to serve as a point of contact and to act as liaison or to appoint an authorized officer to represent the member on all matters pertaining to jurisdictional pipelines under oversight by the JPO agencies. These matters shall include pre-application, design review and approval, permitting, leasing, construction, operation, maintenance, incident management, and termination of pipeline activities. When possible, the member's designated appointee shall be located within the JPO in Anchorage, Alaska.
The Executive Council will actively pursue opportunities to improve the operation of the JPO. These may include areas such as: training in each other's regulations and authorities, delegation within an agency to its representative the authority to enforce terms, conditions, stipulations and regulations of their respective agency, and the development of an office operating agreement that includes clarification of individual agency scope and responsibilities.

The Executive Council will actively develop operational directives to carry out the purposes of this Agreement in the most efficient manner.

D. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Nothing in this Agreement shall affect statutory responsibility or authority of any agency. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as obligating any agency to the expenditure of funds in excess of appropriations authorized by law, or otherwise commit any agency to actions for which it lacks statutory authority or funding.

This Agreement shall be reviewed by all parties three years following its signing, and every three years thereafter. Any party to this agreement may withdraw at any time by providing written notice to the Executive Council Co-Chairpersons.
AGREED TO:

Commissioner, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

Commissioner, Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Commissioner, Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development

Commissioner, Alaska Department of Natural Resources

Commissioner, Alaska Department of Public Safety

Commissioner, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

Chief, Regulatory Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Department of Defense

Alaska State Director, Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Department of the Interior

Regional Director, Minerals Management Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Commander, Seventeenth District, U.S. Coast Guard
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Regional Director, Transportation Security Administration
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Administrator, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation

Assistant Regional Administrator for Alaska
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10

Date

Sept. 10, 2008

Date

4/6/08

Date

8-10-08

Date

July 14, 2008

Date

3-23-09

Date

May 16, 2009

Date

10/28/08

Date

6-12-08

Date

6/19/08

Date

6-17-08

This document has been modified, to incorporate all signatures onto one page.