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NATIVE VILLAGE OF KAKTOVIK

RESOLUTION 05-03

A RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO PASS LEGISLATION TO OPEN THE COASTAL PLAIN OF THE ARCTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, ALASKA, TO OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION, DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION

WHEREAS, in section 1002 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), the United States Congress reserved the right to permit further oil and gas exploration, development, and production with the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska; and

WHEREAS, development of oil at Prudhoe Bay, Kuparuk, Endicott, Lisburne, and Milne Point has resulted in thousands of jobs throughout the United States and projected job creation as a result of coastal plain oil development will have a positive effect in all 50 states; and

WHEREAS, opening the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge now allows time for planning environmental safeguards, development, and national security review; and

WHEREAS, the oil and gas industry and related Alaskan employment have been severely affected by reduced oil and gas activity, and the reduction in industry investment and employment has broad implications for the Alaskan work force and the entire state economy; and

WHEREAS, the 1,500,000 acre coastal plain of the refuge comprises only eight percent of the 19,000,000 acre refuge and the development of the oil gas reserves in the refuge's coastal plain would affect an area of only 2,000 acres; and

WHEREAS, 8,000,000 of the 19,000,000 acres of the refuge have already been set aside as Wilderness;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the Federally recognized tribe of the Native Village of Kaktovik, that the Congress of the United States is urged to pass legislation to open the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska to oil and gas exploration, development, and production;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the activity be conducted in a manner that protects the environment and uses the state's work force to the maximum extent possible;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the tribal members and residents of Kaktovik, Alaska must have all financial, technical, and human resources to deal with the impacts of development, and to improve the quality of their own lives;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Native Village of Kaktovik be included in Federal legislation for impact aid funding similar to the City of Kaktovik and the North Slope Borough.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all native allotment issues be resolved before the opening of the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge for oil and gas exploration, development, and production.

PASSED and APPROVED by a duly constituted quorum of the Tribal council of the Native Village of Kaktovik on the 15th day of February, 2005.

President Isaac K. Akootchook
Akootchook

Secretary Susie T.