ASTAR
Alaska Strategic Transportation and Resources Vision

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Commissioner
Alaska Department of Natural Resources
May 2, 2017
ASTAR - Overview

ASTAR, the Arctic Strategic Transportation and Resources strategic plan, will identify a series of cumulative benefits that might be derived through the connections of communities in the North Slope and Northwest Arctic Boroughs.

These cumulative benefits will include increased cultural connectivity, reduction in costs to North Slope communities for dry goods, fuel and consumables, decreased cost for rehabilitation of legacy wells in the NPR-A, more efficient development of state and federal hydro carbon resources and increased economic activity providing job opportunities for the region.

ASTAR will provide the impetus for rapid development of recommendations for “shovel ready” projects in short order fostering economic investment in the North Slope region. The identification of cumulative benefits will provide a positive offset to the Bureau of Land Management’s identification and focus on cumulative impacts to development in the region.
The identified projects would provide community connectivity and connectivity for resource development and remediation through:

- Use of a landscape approach to identify and evaluate strategic arctic resources in the North Slope region; specifically community infrastructure, resource development potential, and regional connection needs.
- Collaborative work with communities, the North Slope Borough and other key stakeholders in the region to develop a shared vision and support responsible resource development.
- Identifying potential development opportunities that offer the most benefit to the region, so that these projects can be advanced to the pre-implementation stage.
- Connecting communities and resources to be able to maximize investment dollars for maximum public benefit.
• The new federal administration is taking action on infrastructure and arctic policy in the region
• New executive order will require working with State and communities on federal OCS leasing
• International oil companies have announced major new finds on the North Slope – Nanushuk, Willow, etc. – in the Coleville River Delta area.
• The recent State and federal lease sales in the area have seen enormous interest and activity
A key deliverable of the ASTAR project will be a strategic planning document that provides a landscape level infrastructure analysis using a cumulative benefits approach for the development potential of the north slope region. The resulting document would identify and evaluate:

- Arctic resources and their development potential
- Opportunities for community connectivity and infrastructure
- Projects that maximize regional benefits
- Opportunities for repurposing existing infrastructure to serve new needs
- Opportunities to work more collaboratively with communities and stakeholders in the region to develop a shared vision for responsible development
ASTAR - NEXT STEPS

- Continued community and regional outreach
- Begin reaching out to regional stakeholders/entities to develop a partnership plan for ASTAR development
- Work with partners to develop a shared vision and methodology for ASTAR development