



RESOLUTION 18.101

Supporting Hydrocarbon Exploration and Development in a Limited Area of the ANILCA Authorized Coastal Plain of ANWR as Part of the National Energy Policy of the United States of America

WHEREAS, the oil and natural gas industry is a vital part of the United States' economy, and increasing domestic energy production and avoiding dependence on foreign supplies are in the best interest of our nation's strategic and economic wellbeing; and

WHEREAS, IOGCC supports conservation and use of alternative fuels but recognizes that, for the foreseeable future, increased domestic oil and gas production is needed to fuel the nation; and

WHEREAS, in Section 1002 of the Alaska National Interests Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), the United States Congress reserved, for the purpose of further oil and gas exploration, development, and production, an area within the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska (ANWR); and

WHEREAS, the Section 1002 area has recently been opened for exploration and a lease sale within its boundaries is anticipated; and

WHEREAS, the 1,500,000-acre Coastal Plain makes up less than eight percent of the 19,000,000-acre ANWR refuge; and

WHEREAS, fewer than 2,000 acres of the Coastal Plain area will be affected by surface activity as contemplated in the provisions under section 1002 of ANILCA; and

WHEREAS, the Section 1002 area is one of America's best possibilities for the discovery of several new oil and gas accumulations; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of the Interior estimates that the Coastal Plain contains between 5.6 and 16 billion barrels of technically recoverable oil, of which 100% could be economically produced under favorable economic conditions; and

WHEREAS, advanced technology has greatly reduced the "footprint" needed for Arctic oil and gas development, as demonstrated by the fact that wells drilled at Prudhoe Bay in the 1970s required well spacing of 160 feet or about two acres per well, while wells drilled today at the Alpine field require only 10-foot spacing or about one quarter acre each; and

WHEREAS, to date, North Slope oil field development expenditures for production activity have contributed well over \$50 billion to the nation's economy, directly impacting each state in the union; and

WHEREAS, various studies have indicated that exploration and development of hydrocarbons in the Coastal Plain of ANWR could lead to 61,000 new jobs or up to as many as 130,000 jobs; and



WHEREAS, the Trans-Alaska Oil Pipeline currently operates each day at approximately one fourth of its design capacity; and

WHEREAS, government studies suggest that new production from the Coastal Plain of ANWR could produce a 10-year sustained rate of 1 million barrels per day with production likely to continue for more than 25 years; and

WHEREAS, it will take at least 10 years to begin development after a discovery in the 1002 area of ANWR, necessitating timely action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission, in the national interest, urges the President and Congress to continue on a path that will facilitate exploration and development of hydrocarbons in the Section 1002 area of the Coastal Plain of ANWR.

I certify that this is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopted by the Commission on October 2, 2018.



Lori Wrotenbery
Executive Director
Interstate Oil & Gas Compact Commission

