

COOK INTERNATIONAL  
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P.O. Box 80093  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99708

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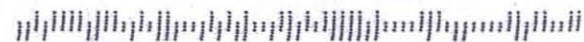
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US Bureau of Land Management  
222 West 7th Avenue  
Stop #13  
Anchorage, AK 99513

Attention: Leasing Manager; Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Program  
EIS

99513-750413



# LAW OFFICE OF GALEN G. COOK

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June 6, 2018

U.S. Bureau of Land Management  
Attention: Coastal Plain Oil and Gas  
Leasing Program EIS  
222 West 7th Avenue  
Stop #13  
Anchorage, AK 99513

RE: Opinion on ANWR Leasing

Dear Program Manager:

I am writing this letter out of a plea by former US Secretary of the Interior, Sally Jewell, who encouraged readers to respond in the pejorative concerning the proposed drilling in Alaska's ANWR Region. Ms. Jewell's plea came in a feature column of the Seattle Times [June 3, 2018, page A19].

Ms. Jewell does not speak for me, nor does she speak for 10's of thousands of Alaskans or millions of Americans who have neither the time nor the stomach to engage in this political battle. Our president supports ANWR drilling, as does the US Congress and Alaska's senior Senator Lisa Murkowski.

Whether non-resident Alaskan Sally Jewell really gets it or not, Alaska and America needs to develop ANWR in the interest of economic stability, local job growth, Alaska industry and national security. Ms. Jewell made her personal fortune with REI. She should not try to impede another's pursuit of opportunity because it doesn't fit her personal philosophical paradigm.

I live full-time in Alaska and work here. As a Fairbanks high schooler in the 1970's, I heard all of the arguments against the building of TAPS. Caribou herd disruption. Catastrophic oil spills. Damage to the tundra. Wildlife and ecosystem apocalypse. None of it was true. I worked for three years helping construct TAPS, winter and summer, in the arctic and in the Brooks and Alaska Ranges. I learned a trade and then paid for undergraduate and graduate school, and finally, law school. I want other Alaskans to have an opportunity like I did in Alaska.

The arguments against arctic coastal drilling, and particularly the 1002 Area, are specious. The oil and gas industry is so highly regulated through the permitting and oversight process that further assurances for environmental safety

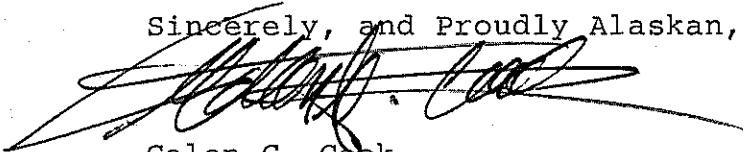
are nearly absolute.

As a full-blooded Alaskan, both native and Native, I wholeheartedly support development of oil and gas on the coastal plain and the 1002 Area. I make this endorsement without the encouragement by any industry or political groups. I do it from my heart, as an Alaskan.

Lastly, I would like to thank Ms. Jewell for her article in the Seattle Times. Her plea is to outsiders who visit Alaska once in their lifetimes for a quick peek of my home state. Without her heavy dose of injected bias and strong proclivity against Alaska's prime industry, myself and other well-educated residents would otherwise remain as passive bystanders. Not anymore.

Thank you, sir.

Sincerely, and Proudly Alaskan,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Galen G. Cook', written over a horizontal line.

Galen G. Cook  
Attorney at Law  
Fairbanks, Alaska

Copy sent to Fairbanks Newsminer

*and Anchorage Daily News*