



News Release

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Federal Coordinator Delighted By ExxonMobil TransCanada Partnership

June 11, 2009, Washington, D.C. – Federal Coordinator Drue Pearce is delighted by today’s news that ExxonMobil has agreed to join TransCanada in its effort to construct a pipeline to commercialize Alaska North Slope gas. She is in Ottawa meeting with senior Canadian government officials about this major North American natural gas pipeline system and the processing of the two competing projects. The two federal governments continue to coordinate efforts to cooperatively process the thousands of permits, certificates and licenses that will be issued. The newly announced partnership between these two international companies represents a significant milestone for the project.

“Until today, only two of the three major North Slope natural gas producers, ConocoPhillips and BP through their joint venture called Denali, have been active participants in making this long awaited project happen,” said Federal Coordinator Pearce. “TransCanada’s efforts so far have been considerable. ExxonMobil’s active engagement as a full participant is a major development.”

The Office of the Federal Coordinator (OFC) serves as a project liaison with project stakeholders, the State of Alaska, and the U.S Federal Government and Canadian agencies. The OFC is responsible for coordinating the expeditious discharge of all activities by federal agencies with respect to an Alaska natural gas transportation project. As such, the Federal Coordinator is taking steps to ensure the U.S. federal agencies are ready to react expeditiously to any applications they receive for a natural gas pipeline project. Importantly, the OFC was also mandated by Congress to develop a joint surveillance and monitoring agreement with the State of Alaska to assure comprehensive project oversight.

“I met with Canadian officials in Ottawa yesterday and today. The pipeline is a massively complex project of major importance to North America’s economy,” said Pearce. “Both governments are actively engaged with the two project proponents. Yesterday, the Canadian government announced a jobs study to identify potential jobs coming out of this project and the OFC released the First Phase Consolidated Implementation Plan for the Denali project. Canada is our largest trading partner, a key ally, and essential to make this project a reality.”

This North American pipeline will cross 1,715 miles of Alaska, the Yukon, British Columbia and Alberta. It will create thousands of opportunities in both the United States and Canada for jobs and business as well as establishing a long term supply of clean energy for North America.

“We welcome ExxonMobil to an active role in the project,” said Pearce “and look forward to working with them in the coming years. They bring considerable expertise and a record of success to the table. It’s terrific that companies of this caliber are now engaged with this project. Their participation points out the underlying value of bringing North Slope gas to North American markets.”

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