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<u>University of Alaska - Board of Regents</u> Resolution in Support of the Willow Master Development Plan

WHEREAS Congress passed, and the President of the United States signed into law, the Naval Petroleum Reserves Production Act of 1976, which authorized oil and gas leasing, exploration and operations in the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska (NPR-A).

WHEREAS the Willow Master Development Plan Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) indicates the project could result in the production of 180,000 barrels of oil per day and up to 629 million barrels of oil over the life of the project.

WHEREAS the Willow Project would ultimately increase employment opportunities and generate government revenues that support important public services including higher education in the State of Alaska.

WHEREAS the Willow Project could create thousands of jobs during construction and hundreds of long-term drilling and operations jobs over the life of the project. In addition, current estimates suggest that the Willow Project could generate between \$8.7 billion to \$17.1 billion in revenues with Alaska receiving between \$4.8 billion and \$10 billion. The new jobs and revenue could result in positive economic impact for the state, local and regional economies in Alaska.

WHEREAS the Final SEIS does not identify significant environmental issues with the Project beyond what is already happening on a global scale, particularly as it relates to climate change.

WHEREAS the Willow Project has received support from a wide variety of stakeholders such as the cities of Utqiagvik, Wainwright, Atqasuk, the Alaska Federation of Natives, Arctic Slope Regional Corporation, Kuukpik Village Corporation, North Slope Borough, Alaska Native Village Corporation Association, and the ANCSA Regional Association and will result in billions of dollars in revenue to the communities of the North Slope.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska supports the Willow Project and urges the U.S. Department of the Interior to approve the BLM's preferred alternative (Alternative E).

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Ralph Seekins, Chair University of Alaska Board of Regents