



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
ALASKA STATE OFFICE
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2801 (990) PT 9.0
01-062-CHC

November 26, 2002

Dear Reader,

I am pleased to present the *Final Environmental Impact Statement: Renewal of the Federal Grant for the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System Right-of-Way*. This Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) provides analysis critical to the Bureau of Land Management's decision on renewal of the Right-of-Way (ROW) for the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS).

This document reflects the work of many people in the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and its contractor, the Department of Energy's Argonne National Laboratory, as well as experts from other federal and state agencies both inside and outside the Joint Pipeline Office. It also reflects the comments we received from the public on the Draft EIS. I especially want to thank those who spoke at public hearings and those who submitted comments for helping us make the Final EIS as factual and inclusive as possible. By presenting your views, knowledge, and insights, you have added much to the final product.

The BLM conducted its renewal analysis in close partnership with the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The DNR is conducting its own independent analysis as part of its responsibility for renewing the part of TAPS that crosses state land. Information on the DNR process and its analysis is available at <http://www.tapsrenewal.jpo.doi.gov>.

If you have any questions about the renewal process or this document, please contact Rob McWhorter (907-257-1355).

Sincerely,

Henri R. Bisson
State Director