

Public Scoping Meeting Details

Barrow, Alaska:

North Slope Borough Assembly Chambers
1274 Agvik Street
Barrow, AK 99723
Wednesday, September 12, 2001
3:00 - 5:00 p.m. meeting and
7:00 - 9:00 p.m. meeting

Fairbanks, Alaska:

BLM Northern Field Office
1150 University Avenue
Fairbanks, AK 99709
Thursday, September 13, 2001
3:00 - 5:00 p.m. open house and
7:00 - 9:00 p.m. meeting

Copper Center/Glennallen, Alaska:

Glennallen High School Commons
Copper River School District
Mile 187 Glenn Highway
Glennallen, AK 99588
Monday, September 17, 2001
3:00 - 9:00 p.m. open house

Valdez, Alaska:

Valdez Convention and Civic Center
110 Clifton Drive
Valdez, AK 99686
Tuesday, September 18, 2001
7:00 - 9:00 p.m. meeting

Delta Junction, Alaska:

Delta High School Gymnasium
Delta/Greeley School District
1600 Richardson Avenue
Delta Jct., AK 99737
Wednesday, September 19, 2001
3:00 - 9:00 p.m. open house

Anchorage, Alaska:

Anchorage Hilton Hotel
500 West Third Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501
Thursday, September 20, 2001
3:00 - 5:00 p.m. meeting in the Rooftop Room
7:00 - 9:00 p.m. meeting in the Bristol Bay Ballroom

How to Make Public Scoping Comments

Seven different ways have been established for you to provide comments: at scoping meetings, in writing through the mail or by hand delivery, through the web, by e-mail, fax, or voice message.

Written Comments (by mail)

Written comments should be mailed to:

BLM TAPS Renewal Scoping
Argonne National Laboratory, EAD/900
9700 South Cass Avenue, Argonne, IL 60439

Written Comments (by hand delivery)

Written comments can also be hand-delivered, not mailed, to: BLM TAPS Renewal Scoping at the Joint Pipeline Office, 411 West 4th Avenue, Suite 2, Anchorage, AK
DO NOT MAIL COMMENTS TO THIS ADDRESS.

World Wide Web

Comments can be submitted on the TAPS Renewal EIS Web Site using the Public Comment Form at tapseis.anl.gov

E-mail

Comments can be e-mailed to tapseis@anl.gov

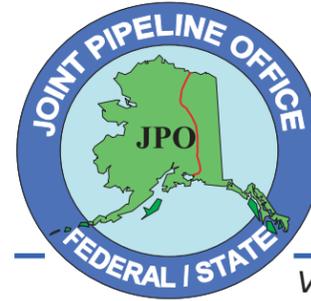
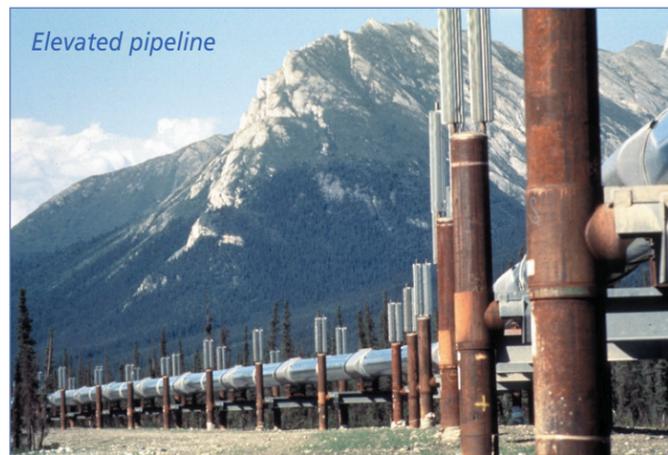
Toll Free Fax

Comments can be faxed toll free (in the U.S.) to 1-866-386-7350

Toll Free Voice Message (Phone)

Comments can be left as a voice message at the following toll-free number (in the U.S.): 1-866-386-7331

Scoping comments must be received by September 29, 2001, or hand delivered to the JPO office in Anchorage by 4:00 p.m. (Alaska Standard Time) on September 28, 2001.



TAPS Renewal EIS Newsletter

Volume 1

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TAPS Renewal EIS: Public Participation Invited

What we are doing -

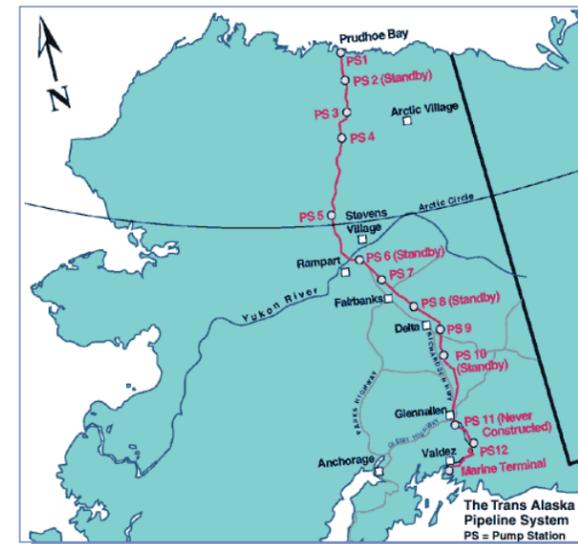
The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), in cooperation with the State of Alaska, is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the renewal of the Federal Agreement and Grant of Right-of-Way for the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS). The renewal would permit continued operation of the TAPS by its owner companies for up to 30 years beyond 2004, when the existing agreement will expire.

A little background -

The Trans-Alaska Pipeline System (most commonly referred to as "TAPS") is the transport system that moves crude oil from the Alaskan North Slope to the Valdez Marine Terminal. The system includes about 800 miles of 48-inch-diameter warm crude oil pipeline, pump stations, communications sites, material sites, a work pad and access roads, and related facilities.

The land on which the pipeline is located is referred to as the TAPS right-of-way. Right-of-way land ownership is divided among the Federal Government (375 miles); State Government (344 miles); Native allotments/corporations (51 miles); TAPS owners (8 miles); and other private owners (22 miles). BLM and other Federal agencies and the State of Alaska work together on a daily basis, through the Joint Pipeline Office (JPO), to oversee the Federal and State rights-of-way.

The original Federal Grant was authorized on January 23, 1974, under the Mineral Leasing Act as amended by the Trans-Alaska Pipeline Authorization Act of 1973. That Act states that "...the BLM shall renew a right-of-way upon request of an applicant." On May 2, 2001, the TAPS owner companies submitted an application for renewal of TAPS to BLM



Map of Alaska with pipeline route and pump station locations.

and Alaska's Department of Natural Resources (ADNR). BLM had previously decided that renewal of the Federal Grant is a major Federal action, requiring an environmental impact statement (EIS) under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA).

The ADNR leads the process for renewal of the State right-of-way lease. ADNR and BLM have developed a coordinated renewal process that satisfies both Federal and State requirements.

We ask for your advice (scoping) -

"Scoping" is an important early step in the EIS analysis process. It is your opportunity to tell the government your views on the appropriate scope of issues to be addressed in the EIS, and to identify what you believe are the significant issues related to renewal of the TAPS right-of-way. People and interested groups are encouraged to become involved in the EIS through the scoping process.

In general, we already know that the EIS will address environmental, social, subsistence, and economic impacts resulting from renewing the TAPS right-of-way. We are interested in your views on these subjects, as well as on other potential impacts (positive or negative). Your comments are most useful if we get them now, during scoping.



Results of scoping will be made public -

The comments received during the scoping period will be categorized and analyzed, and a public report of results of scoping will be issued.

It is easy to participate now -

Scoping comments will be accepted through September 29, 2001. Comments can be submitted by letter (mailed or hand-delivered), e-mail, fax, World Wide Web comment form, phone voice message, and later in September, at six public meetings in pipeline corridor communities.

Another chance to participate later -

When the Draft EIS is presented for public review in the summer of 2002, BLM will invite your comments during a 45-day public comment period. Those comments will be taken into account, and a Final EIS and Record of Decision announcing BLM's decision will be published at the end of 2002.

The TAPS Renewal EIS Web Site

The TAPS Renewal EIS Web Site (<http://tapseis.anl.gov>) is your online public information and involvement center for the TAPS Renewal EIS. It's full of useful, up-to-date information about TAPS and the EIS, and it allows you to stay informed and involved - whenever you want, wherever you are!

The web site provides information and services to help you participate in the EIS process, including:

- information about TAPS - what it does, and how it works,
- TAPS maps, photos, and EIS-related documents that you can download,
- a description of the TAPS Renewal EIS and the EIS process,
- ways for you to get involved,
- the public scoping meeting schedule,
- information about Native Alaskan consultation,
- frequently asked questions (FAQs) about TAPS and the EIS, and
- TAPS news updates and announcements.

In addition, simple online forms allow you to

subscribe to our e-mail service and to submit scoping comments on the EIS. The e-mail service is a convenient way to stay in touch with the EIS process - you'll get important EIS news and announcements, meeting notices, and the TAPS Renewal EIS Newsletter delivered right to your desktop.

The TAPS Renewal EIS web site has been designed specifically to support the current EIS scoping process, in which public comment is sought to help define the scope and focus of the EIS. The site will evolve over time to support further public involvement activities as the EIS is completed. We welcome your ideas and feedback about the web site - just e-mail us at tapswebmaster@anl.gov.

Note to our readers:

This is the first edition of the *TAPS Renewal EIS Newsletter*. We welcome your suggestions about information you would like us to provide in the newsletter. To make newsletter suggestions, contact us at TAPS Newsletter, Argonne National Lab EAD 900, 9700 S. Cass Ave., Argonne IL 60439, or e-mail us at tapswebmaster@anl.gov.

TAPS Renewal Questions and Answers

Who owns TAPS?

The pipeline itself and the related facilities that comprise the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System are owned by the following companies: BP Pipelines (Alaska) Inc., Phillips Transportation Alaska Inc., ExxonMobil Pipeline Company, Williams Alaska Pipeline Company, L.L.C, Amerada Hess Pipeline Corporation, and Unocal Pipeline Company. Alyeska Pipeline Service Company (Alyeska) operates the TAPS as agent for the six TAPS owners.

How did the TAPS owners get to use State and Federal land?

In order for someone to use State or Federal land, they must have the appropriate authorization from the landowner. The State and Federal governments issued 30-year rights-of-way to the owners of TAPS to construct, operate, and maintain an oil transportation pipeline and related facilities on the respective State and Federal lands they manage. The nominal width of the right-of-way on State

land is 100 feet. The nominal width of the right-of-way on the Federal land is 54 feet for buried pipeline and 64 feet for elevated (aboveground) pipeline. About 420 miles of pipe is above ground and about 380 miles is buried.

What is the Joint Pipeline Office?

The Joint Pipeline Office is a consortium of six Federal and seven State agencies that authorize and oversee pipelines, including TAPS, on Federal and State lands. The U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Land Management and the Alaska Department of Natural Resources lead the JPO. The JPO office was established in 1990 in response to the need for a comprehensive approach to monitoring and regulating the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System. The BLM leads the right-of-way renewal EIS process, assisted by Argonne National Laboratory and in close cooperation with the State of Alaska. A special team of ADNR and BLM staff members within the JPO is now dedicated to the renewal process.

The Joint Pipeline Office (JPO): Responsibilities and Member Agencies

The Joint Pipeline Office was established in July 1990 to provide collocated and coordinated oversight of design, construction, operations, and maintenance of all common carrier pipelines in Alaska, including TAPS.

State of Alaska Agencies:

- Department of Natural Resources (Co-lead Agency)
- Department of Environmental Conservation
- Department of Fish and Game
- Department of Labor
- Division of Governmental Coordination
- Department of Transportation/Public Facilities
- Department of Public Safety

Federal Agencies:

- Bureau of Land Management (Co-lead Agency)

- Department of Transportation/Office of Pipeline Safety
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Minerals Management Service
- U.S. Coast Guard
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

