Other Economic Activities
Technical Working Group (EA TWG)

Presentation for the Adaptation Advisory Group
September 23, 2008
Focus of the EA TWG

• Impacts of climate change on aspects of the economy that are not directly dependent on living ecosystems
EA TWG Members

- John Binkley  AK Cruise Association and AK Railroad Corporation
- Tim Bradner  AK Journal of Commerce and AK Economic Report
- Paul Dubuisson  ConocoPhillips
- Ed Fogels  AK Department of Natural Resources
- Stan Foo  Barrick Gold Corp
- Richard Glenn  ASRC and Whaling Captain
- Karl Hanneman  Teck-Cominco Pogo Mine
- John Hellén  Pioneer Natural Resources
- Larry Hinzman  International Arctic Research Center
- Elden Johnson  Alyeska Pipeline
- Tom Krzewinski  Golder & Associates
- Peter Larsen  The Nature Conservancy
- Crawford Patkotak  ASRC, Barrow City Council Member
- Keith Silver  Nana Management Services
- Orson Smith  University of Alaska Anchorage
- Dale Summerlin  ConocoPhillips
- Brad Thomas  ConocoPhillips
- Michael Cerne  Coast Guard District 17
Effects of Climate Change in Alaska

- Shorter winters
- Longer and warmer Arctic summers
- Sea level rise
- Coastal erosion
- Thawing permafrost
- Retreating sea ice/glaciers
- Increased forest fires
Examples of Vulnerabilities, Impacts, and Opportunities

- Reduced operation windows for gas and oil exploration during winter (permafrost thaw)
- Pipeline damage (permafrost thaw)
- Economic activities curtailed due to polar bear denning on land (less ice)
- Waste pits breached (sea level rise)
- Stability and seepage issues for tailings dams (permafrost thaw)
- New shipping lanes (less ice)
- Navigation issues (melting glaciers)
- New tourism possibilities (less ice, higher temperatures)
EA TWG Topic Areas
(# of Options as of Aug 18, 2008)

- Oil & gas (8)
- Mining (9)
- Ocean transportation (6)
- Rural non-road transportation (3)
- Other economic sectors (14)
- Tourism and recreation (11)
- Boundaries and ownership (7)
- Energy demand (1)
- Evolving AK’s jobs and economy (4)
- Information collection and dissemination (5)
EXAMPLES of EA TWG Options

• **Oil & Gas:** Model coastal vulnerability to establish criteria for pipeline coastal transition set-backs and burial depths and develop shoreline change adaptation public policy, guidance for preventive and mitigative measures, and knowledge of who pays for what

• **Mining:** Review current regulations and compliance criteria for managing tailing dams and disposal sites and determine if changes are necessary
Examples of EA TWG Options

• **Ocean Transportation**: Plan, finance, and build basic shipping infrastructure, including port planning and design, to support increased shipping, fishing, mining, offshore drilling, tourism.

• **Other Economic Sectors**: Encourage private insurers, as investors, and the state pension funds to consider climate impact prevention in the prudent investment of portfolios and to invest in climate science as a ‘present value of avoided costs’ strategy.
Examples of EA TWG Options

• Information Collection and Dissemination: Provide resources for good Digital Elevation Model (DEM) and GIS data, and current and high resolution imagery to establish a more robust information infrastructure to plan and adapt
EA TWG Next Steps

- **October 14** (Conference call): Discuss aggregation of options and initiate discussion of criteria for priority balloting process
- **Oct 27** (In person meeting): Continue discussion of criteria and conduct initial balloting. Discuss results, integrate options as appropriate, outline next steps, finalize list of options to present to Adaptation Advisory Group on November 7th.