



U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Alaska State Office

Dear Acting State Director Mouritsen,

On behalf of thousands of Americans for Prosperity members across Alaska, I commend the prompt and diligent action of the Bureau of Land Management in its initiation of the Leasing Environmental Impact Statement for the implementation of the leasing program in the Coastal Plain area of the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR).

The people of Alaska and our representatives at both the federal and state level have made it consistently clear that we support the responsible development of this area. While we understand that the leasing program won't happen right away, we are encouraged by your diligent work in implementing the legislation signed by the president as part of tax reform last year.

Developing the resources in the 10-02 area of ANWR will keep America's economy growing by creating jobs in our communities and ensuring that businesses continue to expand. The Energy Information Administration (EIA) [estimates](#) U.S. cumulative production (2031-2050) could be 5.1 billion barrels higher as a result of the opening of the coastal plain area for resource development.

At this juncture we want to respectfully ask you that you implement the law without delay, continuing on the course you have rightfully begun with this initiating action. The sustainable and responsible development of the coastal plain is not only possible, as the Prudhoe Bay experience [shows](#), but it is also long overdue.

The initiation of this scoping process marks the start of the road to develop a workable program. We ask the department to involve all relevant stakeholders in the decision-making process, especially the local communities impacted by these changes.

The formal start of the process to open leasing in the ANWR marks a positive step for the people of Alaska and our country as a whole. The development of our natural riches will contribute to ensure the energy and economic security of our nation for generations to come.

We thank you for your work and ask you to continue to work diligently on this very important matter for the people of Alaska.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Price
State Director
Americans for Prosperity-Alaska