

North Slope Borough, industry work together for local hire

BARROW — The North Slope Borough and private industry, working together, are trying to solve two of Alaska's age-old problems — local hire and unemployment.

The borough's Direct Employment Service placed 134 borough residents in oil-field related jobs in 1986, the program's first operating year, according to Piquini Management Corp., manager of the service.

Direct Employment Service was conceived by North Slope Borough Mayor George Ahmaogak Sr. to counter unemployment among borough residents. Piquini Management Corp. is under contract by the borough to manage the program.

Brown & Root, PEAK Maintenance and Veco/NANA J.V. have each hired 12 borough residents through the program. Other firms which also hired residents through the program include Alaska Mechanical, Alaska Telecom, Arctic Slope/Ogden International,

Boatel, Cold Weather Contractors, Comtech Technologies, Con Am Alaska, Envirosphere, Global Services, Houston Contracting, NANA/Mannings, Pingo Corp., Pool Arctic Alaska, UIC Construction, Universal Services and Veco Inc.

"Employment of borough residents in oil-field jobs is a primary concern of mine, so this response by industry is very encouraging," Ahmaogak said. "The oil industry, and these companies in particular, deserve recognition for their efforts to increase employment of North Slope Borough residents."

Besides managing the Direct Employment Service, Piquini Management Corp. is under contract with the North Slope Borough to manage the Kuparuk Industrial Center. PMC is owned equally by the Arctic Slope Regional Corp. and the Ukpeagvik Inupiat Corp.