

Doyon plugs dual-purpose pipeline to Anchorage resource group

The oil and gas liquids pipeline proposed by Doyon Ltd would serve a dual purpose.

cost less, be more environmentally sound and be easier to finance than a competing pipeline. Doyon Vice-President Morris Thompson told the Resource Council during a breakfast held last week at the Anchorage Elks Club.

Thompson stated that while a pipeline proposal by Dow Shell to transport liquified natural gas from the North Slope to tidewater in South Central Alaska would be 800 miles long and would cost 4.2 billion dollars, the Doyon project, which would combine natural gas and crude oil at Delta Junction and pipe them into Kenai for separation, would be 400 miles long and cost 1.3 billion dollars.

It also would pose less danger to the environment, Thompson claimed. "Any time you cross a major river like the Yukon, you have the po-

tential for problems," Thompson said, noting that the Doyon pipeline would also cross fewer streams and permafrost because of its shorter length. It would avoid Atigun Pass, a narrow, rugged trail in the Brooks range.

Thompson also noted that crude oil from the Cook Inlet oil fields available to Alaskan refiners is declining at a rate of about 15-16 percent a year. The Doyon proposal would pipe Prudhoe Bay crude in to Kenai, and would replace this, keeping the refineries operating at capacity.

In response to questioning, Thompson conceded that more information still needs to be gathered on certain subjects, such as the expense of separating the crude from the gas once it reached Kenai.

Thompson said Doyon is offering its proposal as an alternative to the Dow Shell plan