

## HIGHLIGHTS

### STIPULATIONS DEVELOPED FOR TRANS ALASKA PIPELINE

—Contractors on the TAPS pipeline project will be required to follow Equal Employment Opportunity hiring practices, particularly as related to the employment of Alaskan Eskimo and Indian native citizens.

—TAPS must post a security bond in the sum of \$5 million, with charges for any environmental damages to be paid from this fund.

—Routing of the pipeline must consider terrain, population centers, wildlife and fishery habitats, public water supplies, and hazardous geologic areas.

—TAPS must have a detailed contingency plan for controlling oil spills and possible pipeline leaks.

—The contractor (TAPS) must train construction personnel in avoiding damage to the environment, and provide crews with fire suppression training.

—Monitors will accompany pipeline construction crews.

—In areas of known seismic activity, TAPS must provide a detailed plan for detecting seismic disturbances, and coping with possible earth shifts.

—The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will have authority to inspect all phases of construction and operation and require termination of such activity for noncompliance with requirements.

—BLM will have authority to require pipeline realignment and/or modification to meet unforeseen environmental conditions.

—TAPS must apply for Special Land Use Permits from the Bureau of Land Management for all special use areas beyond the pipeline right-of-way.

—Pipeline construction activities may not interfere with settlement, mining claims, or other valid land uses by the public.

—Construction activities will not be allowed within one-half mile of any designated recreation site except with written permission.

—TAPS may regulate public access and vehicular traffic on pipeline roads to facilitate its operations, but must protect the public and wildlife from construction hazards by warnings, flagmen, or other means.

—Pollution abatement controls—including those for sediment and silt—must meet established Federal standards for Alaska. TAPS must prevent harmful heat pollution, and may use no herbicides or pesticides not approved by the Department of the Interior.

—TAPS must take special care at water crossings to avoid pollution by silt and drainage from the pipeline trench. Stream bank erosion must be avoided to protect spawning beds of migratory fish such as salmon.

—TAPS must conduct all construction operations and maintenance activities with minimum disturbance to the environment. Disturbed areas must be restored as much as practicable.

—TAPS may not create new lakes, drain existing lakes, divert natural channels or degrade water quality without written permission.

—The pipeline may have to be rerouted around areas having unstable soil conditions including permafrost, or special construction methods may be required through unstable soil areas.

—Construction vehicles may not be operated outside of the right-of-way boundaries and special use areas except in emergencies.

—Construction methods through permafrost areas must be designed to prevent melting and subsequent erosion. Moisture-laden permafrost rapidly erodes when insulating vegetation is removed, the Department explained.

—Sanitation and waste disposal practices must meet standards set by the Alaska Department of Health and Welfare, the U.S. Public Health Service, and Interior's Federal Water Pollution Control Administration.

—TAPS may not create any permanent obstruction to small water craft.

—Permanent installations such as pump stations must be designed to harmonize with the natural setting, to minimum impact on natural beauty.

—Hand-clearing must be done where heavy equipment would damage steep slopes or streams. Logs and other debris may not be allowed to block streams.

—TAPS must inform its employees and contractors of the State and Federal game and fish laws. Underwater blasting operations must be approved by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

—Except where the pipeline must cross a stream, the route must allow a 300-foot buffer strip between the pipeline and any streams. Settling basins must be used to remove silt where necessary to protect fish spawning beds.

—Passageways for fish must be provided where the pipeline crosses over a stream. In all cases the pipeline will go under the stream bed unless otherwise authorized by the Department. The line will cross beneath the mile-wide Yukon River.

—Construction may be halted to protect key wildlife areas during seasonal nesting activities and fish and game migrations.

—TAPS must report archeological, paleontological and historical sites discovered during construction, and must hire an archeologist to assure preservation of valuable discoveries.

—TAPS must observe State laws as well as Federal regulations concerning fire prevention, including spark arresters on equipment and stovepipes. The company must maintain approved fire tool caches, and water truck with pumps on each project area.

—Material sites must be contracted with the Bureau of Land Management at usual rates. Sand and gravel may be taken only from areas previously designated by BLM. Material sites must be designed to blend with natural terrain, and must be restored after excavation and replanted with vegetation.