

AFN SHOCKED BY FUEL WAIVER INVALIDATION

Rural Communities Not Linked by Roads Could Suffer Crises

Gordon Jackson, Executive Vice-President for AFN, in a telegram to the Alaska Congressional Delegation and Governor Jay Hammond stated: "The AFN, Inc. was shocked to learn that Government waivers which allowed Alaska air carriers to deliver fuel by air to rural communities might be declared invalid by a U.S. District Court Judge in Washington, D.C.

"The AFN strongly opposes such action and would recommend immediate action to insure this does not occur.

"Small rural communities are not linked by road, rail, or other contemporary modes of distribution. Such an adverse decision would worsen the energy crisis that already exists in Alaska's rural communities and would be devastating this winter with no means to deliver fuel to communities that run out."

The District Court Judge's decision came as a result from an Outside suit filed by the Airline Pilots Association and the Aviation Consumer Action Project.

This suit was filed in an attempt to stop the transportation of radioactive materials in passenger planes and was not meant to include Alaska's bush flight carriers.

Gordon has received word that Senator Stevens will be attempting to seek a waiver from the District Court Judge for Alaska's air carriers.