

Affirmative Action Plan Not Acceptable to Minorities

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ANCHORAGE — The recently released Affirmative Action Plan for contracting practices will not be acceptable to minority contractors in Alaska, according to the Alaska Federation of Natives technical assistance director.

The plan has been developed by Alyeska Pipeline Service Co. to set forth a minimum standard of what the Department of Interior regulations establish for minority contractor participation on the Alaska pipeline project.

It was released Nov. 23 following meetings in Washington, D.C. and Alaska Designed to develop a minority participation formula.

"We can't accept it; we won't accept it," said Tom Evans, technical assistance director and chairman of the newly formed Ad Hoc Minority Business Enterprise Task Force. "We don't expect Interior to accept it either. Naturally Alyeska started at a

low point to negotiate up, they never negotiate down."

The last of the meetings with Congressman, Alyeska representatives, outside minority contractors, Alaska Native contractor representatives and other agencies involved with minority representation, will be held in Washington Dec. 10. At that time Interior will have the final say.

Three aspects of the Alyeska Plan are unacceptable, according to Evans. They include time schedules, breakouts, and dollar figures for minority contractor participation.

The time schedule set out by Alyeska in the plan begins in early

1974, with no monetary goal, and ends in 1977 with \$120 million proposed for total minority business enterprise participation through contract or purchase order awards.

"We're not going to buy past history. By counting from earlier this year until now they're counting the biggest monetary increase so far," Evans said. "Now it's due to flatten out according to their statistics."

The second issue is regarding breakdown of major contracts so that small contractors or other minority business enterprises can do a share of the work. The

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