ALCAN reveals money plan for state part in gas pipeline

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Northwest Alaskan Pipeline Co. outlined last week its proposal for state financing of an Alaska Highway natural gas line. The company, formerly Alcan Pipeline Co., seeks between \$1.2 billion and \$1.4 billion from the state in exchange for economic and employment benefits.

Alaska should receive a total of more than \$20 billion in royalties and taxes from the \$10 billion project, the proposal states. Also between 1,300 and 10,000 jobs will be created for Alaskans during construction, said Chairman and CEO John McMillian before a joint meeting of the House Special Committee on Royalty Oil and Gas and the Senate Resources Committee. Other company officials presented the financial proposal in Anchorage.

"With respect to development benefits, our project will stimulate further exploration and development of Alaska's natural gas, and it will allow for the distribution of Prudhoe gas to Alaskan communities along the pipeline route, thus providing an energy supply for further industrial development," McMillian told the group.

McMillian said the state's financial support for the independent project is important if the project is to attract private investors.

Legislators and state government officials reportedly are not prepared to accept the proposal. They need more time to study its effects. Alaska could be part owner, lender or both in the 731-mile Alaska portion of the natural gas line. Construction should begin in 1981.