North Slope Approves Causeway

The North Slope Borough has approved the Lisburne Causeway and Drill Site /Injection Site in Prudhoe Bay with a series of strong recommendations and conditions designed to assist local village economic development, while, at the same time, protecting important subsistence fish resources in and around the Colville River.

Earl Finkler, Borough Planning Director, said today that Warren Matumeak, Deputy Director for Permitting, had rescinded his earlier denial of the activities as of January 31, 1985, based on several conditions.

According to Warren Matumeak, one of the most significant conditions is the Colville River Fisheries Project to benefit the people of Nuiqsut. ARCO and Exxon, the Lisburne Owners, will fund a comprehensive 10-year program to assist Nuiqsut residents in maintaining or improving the Colville River subsistence fish catches. This will be done through field surveys and studies, interviews, monitoring and local training.

Another important condition noted by Warren Matumeak was the required aggressive affirmative action program to promote qualified local hire.