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### **Private sale of state-owned meat plant finalized**

(Palmer, AK) – The sale of Mt. McKinley Meat and Sausage Plant, a state-owned meat processing facility that has been operating in Alaska for more than 30 years, was finalized Monday afternoon.

“This sale is a great opportunity for the private sector to build our Alaska livestock industry and preserve access to a year-round, U.S. Department of Agriculture-approved meat processing plant,” said Division of Agriculture Director Arthur Keyes.

The meat plant is the only USDA-approved slaughter and processing facility in Southcentral Alaska. The State of Alaska has run the meat plant since 1986 as an asset of the Agricultural Revolving Loan Fund (ARLF).

Proceeds from the \$300,000 sale will go back to the ARLF, which provides financing for agricultural producers in Alaska through moderate interest rates for purposes such as operating costs, equipment and to purchase new agricultural property.

The Board of Agriculture and Conservation approved the sale of the meat plant in December 2016, following public bidding. Closing the sale required a full assessment of the property, which was successfully completed this spring.

The new owner of the plant is Mount McKinley Meat and Sausage Properties LLC, which has received approval to continue as a USDA-certified meat processing facility.

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