

September 23, 2016

## Commissioner Mack issues statement on Prudhoe Bay Unit decision

(Anchorage, AK) – Natural Resources Commissioner Andy Mack issued the following statement today regarding this week's approval of the 2016 Prudhoe Bay Unit Initial Participating Area Plan of Development:

"DNR is pleased to have resolved the 2016 Prudhoe Bay Unit IPA POD. The 2016 plan of development has been approved through June 30, 2017. The process leading to this approval included significant dialogue between the State of Alaska and the companies that own and operate the Prudhoe Bay Unit."

On Sept. 1, DNR's Division of Oil and Gas received a revised 2016 POD from the unit operator. On Sept. 16, Division of Oil and Gas Director Corri Feige signed a letter approving the revised 2016 PBU IPA POD. Subsequent to that letter, having received and considered additional information from BP and ConocoPhillips, Commissioner Mack issued a revised approval letter and final Commissioner's Decision on Sept. 20. This decision replaced the Sept. 16 letter.

"This has been a very dynamic and engaged process, with all parties working proactively toward a solution. I want to thank Director Feige for her diligent efforts to bring this critical POD process to a conclusion," Mack said.

Mack added, "DNR has been fortunate to have Corri as a key member of our management team. As this significant effort on the POD wrapped to a close, she let us know that she would be leaving her post to pursue a new job opportunity that also will allow her to spend more time with her family. I have spoken with Corri and understand that her decision to resign was not related to the outcome of the POD, and that her decision to leave the Division of Oil and Gas was a difficult one. We wish her well and thank her for her service to Alaska."

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