

STATE OF ALASKA

SEAN PARNELL, Governor

ANILCA IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM Office of Project Management and Permitting

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June 15, 2010

Maggi Arend, Division of Comprehensive Planning and Policy
US Fish and Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Road, MS 231
Anchorage, AK 99503

Dear Ms. Arend:

The State of Alaska reviewed the May 10, 2010 scoping letter regarding the Environmental Assessment (EA) for a proposed Right-of-Way and Special Use Permit to United Utilities Incorporated for the TERRA-SW project, which would provide terrestrial, non-satellite broadband service from Anchorage, Alaska to rural communities in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta and Bristol Bay. The following consolidated state agency comments were compiled by the State's Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) Implementation Program and cover issues relative to ANILCA or other state interests. Any correspondence or response pursuant to the Coastal Zone Management Act and the Alaska Coastal Management Program will be provided separately by the Division of Coastal and Ocean Management.

The notice indicates facilities will be powered by diesel generators, requiring fuel to be periodically air-lifted and stored at remote locations. Given the high cost of diesel fuel and the expense associated with refueling activities, we recommend the EA also evaluate the feasibility of using renewable energy sources, either hybrid or standalone, for powering the repeater site facilities. This may also support the federal mandate to reduce fossil fuel usage.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment. Please contact me at (907) 269-7529 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Susan E. Magee
ANILCA Project Coordinator

cc: Sally Gibert, ANILCA Program Coordinator

