

We have no way to reach across our State from east to west. We have no highways throughout southeastern Alaska. We have a ferry system.

As you look at minerals, if you look at that map and try to figure out how you are going to get through some of the Federal withdrawals located nearby, indicated on the colored charts, you get a different picture of that wide open space up there and all those resources. How are you going to develop them? Anything we develop we don't market in our State because we don't have a population concentration. We have 660,000 people, or thereabouts, with half of them in Anchorage. Everything we produce has to be competitive with the other countries that develop resources and sell on the markets of the world. For all practical purposes, our world markets, with the exception of oil and gas, are in the Orient—Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and China to some extent.

That is a little bit of a rundown of Alaska today. That is why we believe, for the benefit of our State, our State government, and for our people, that it is imperative we be allowed to develop this area for the national security interests of this Nation.

There is a technical paper I came across which was sent to me on the physics of oil and natural gas production. It addresses the relationship between Prudhoe Bay and ANWR. It is two paragraphs. I think it is important. It is written by the professor of geological engineering and chairman of the Department of Mining and Geological Engineering, School of Minerals and Engineering, University of Alaska, Fairbanks. I am sure he would agree to have that go into the RECORD.

It states:

Due to the physics of oil and natural gas production, the natural gas resources in Prudhoe Bay can now be produced since there has been a significant reduction in the oil reserves—

In other words, the oil has been pulled down.

He goes on to say:

Due to the physics of production, the concurrent production of oil from ANWR with the production of natural gas from Prudhoe Bay can result in the optimum utilization of these energy resources. Without concurrent production there will be a significant time interval after the depletion of the natural gas in Prudhoe Bay before any gas is produced from ANWR. The interval could be as much as 30 years. Assuming only 16 billion barrels of recoverable oil in ANWR, and an excess capacity of 800,000 barrels per day in the Trans-Alaska pipeline, it would take 55 years to utilize this petroleum resource. Thus, natural gas from ANWR could not be optimally utilized for 34 years after the natural gas in Prudhoe Bay is depleted. There is more than adequate time for both Alaskans and those outsiders in the "lower-48" to freeze in the dark. ANWR petroleum must be utilized now in order to have ANWR gas available when Prudhoe Bay gas is depleted.

So he is making the case that as we developed Prudhoe Bay, we found the gas. We used the gas for recovery of the oil. Now that the oil is in decline, we can use the gas. But the same is true in ANWR. If we develop ANWR, and begin to produce oil, as the oil declines, we will use the gas for reinjection, and then we will have the gas available.

So there is a logical sequence in the manner in which you develop these fields and provide the continuity of oil, followed by the continuity of gas.

I must also indicate that as a professional engineer, Paul Metz is providing his opinion and not the opinion, necessarily, or endorsement of the University of Alaska, or the engineering department. But I think it puts a different light on the logic of the sequence of development of a huge hydrocarbon field such as we have in the Alaska Arctic today.

Mr. President, you have been very gracious with your time. It is 10:30 at night. I think we started this debate very early. Somebody said 8:30. It has

been a long day. But I felt it necessary to give Joe an opportunity to show his charts, and he has done a good job of that.

I say to you, Mr. President, you have been gracious with your time. And the clerks, and the whole Senate professional staff have been very generous.

Again, I would appeal to those of you who are about ready to go to bed, to those staff people who are watching, to consider, one more time, the human element. Put aside, for just a moment, the environmental considerations that have gone into this debate. Consider the people of Alaska. Consider those kids—their hopes, their dreams, their aspirations for a better life, an opportunity for sewer and water. It looks like the middle child shown in the picture missed the dentist. But, in any event, they are American citizens. They are Eskimo kids who live in our land, and I think they have a right to look to us, look to those of us in this body for some disposition of their future so they can enjoy the opportunities that we take for granted.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

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ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TOMORROW  
AT 9:45 A.M.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 9:45 tomorrow morning.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 10:33 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, April 18, 2002, at 9:45 a.m.

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CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate April 17, 2002:

THE JUDICIARY

LANCE M. AFRICK, OF LOUISIANA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA.