NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 21-55

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH ASSEMBLY IN SUPPORT OF THE AMBLER MINING DISTRICT INDUSTRIAL ACCESS PROJECT (AMDIAP), AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

WHEREAS: the Northwest Arctic Borough is a home rule regional government with planning and permitting authority for the region; and

WHEREAS: the Borough was formed on the promise of tax revenue from mineral extraction at the Red Dog Mine; and

WHEREAS: continued responsible resource extraction is essential to the future of the Northwest Arctic Borough and its provision of public services to the region's residents; and

WHEREAS: the Red Dog Mine, AIDEA, and NANA Regional Corporation have demonstrated the possibilities of a successful partnership to establish an industrial road corridor to facilitate world class resource extraction projects; and

WHEREAS: the Borough is concerned with possible delay of the AMDIAP Project (the Project) and reiterates its strong support for the Project and the July 2020 Joint Record of Decision (JROD) approving the right-of-way and related federal permits; and

WHEREAS: on September 28, 2021, the Department of Justice (DOJ) requested a 60-day stay of the two related lawsuits challenging the JROD. In turn, the United States Department of Interior (DOI) requested a 60-day stay to allow the DOI additional time to consult with concerned parties; and

WHEREAS: the Borough participated as a cooperating agency in preparation of the environmental impact statement that led to the JROD for the Project; and

WHEREAS: as the home rule regional government with regulatory and permitting authority over aspects of the Project and related mineral development in the region, the Borough has been integrally involved in this Project since inception; and WHEREAS: the Project's planning and permitting process has included multiple levels of thorough and thoughtful local community input and consultation; and

WHEREAS: the Borough is concerned that any significant delays in issuing federal authorizations for the Project will unnecessarily delay an important project for our region, local residents, and the State of Alaska.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly hereby expresses its support for the Ambler Mining District Industrial Access Project and the sound permitting process undertaken to ensure responsible development for the region.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 11th DAY OF OCTOBER 2021.

Nathan Hadley Jr., Assembly President

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 11th DAY OF OCTOBER 2021.

Dicki Moto Sr.

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SIGNED AND ATTESTED TO THIS 11th DAY OF OCTOBER 2021.

Helena Hildreth, Borough Clerk

ATTEST: