

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Alaska LNG Granted FAST Act Treatment

August 18, 2017 – Anchorage, Alaska – The Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council (FPISC) granted “covered project” status to the Alaska LNG project under Title 41 of the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act (FAST-41).

FAST-41, signed into law on December 4, 2015 by former President Barack Obama, is designed to improve the timeliness, predictably, and transparency of the Federal environmental review and authorization process for covered infrastructure projects and requires the lead agency to develop a concise, coordinated project plan for each covered project.

AGDC applied for covered project status based on guidance that the FAST Act, originally designed for surface transportation infrastructure, can now be applied to the Alaska LNG project.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), as the lead agency overseeing AGDC’s application to obtain a Natural Gas Act Section 3 permit to build Alaska LNG, will develop a concise, coordinated project plan and publish the environmental review schedule to FPISC’s website (www.permits.performance.gov/projects).

FERC will set deadlines for specific agency actions and comment periods during the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process and create an online dashboard to provide greater transparency regarding agencies’ progress. Additionally, FAST-41 enables federal agencies to adopt state environmental documents to satisfy federal laws and provides mechanisms for resolving disputes among federal agencies regarding the review and permitting of Alaska LNG.

A central requirement of FAST-41 is that any delays in the permitting process caused by government agencies must be reported to Congress.

“FPISC’s approval of our request to grant ‘covered project’ status to Alaska LNG is good news,” said Keith Meyer, President, AGDC. “Covered project status will help ensure Alaska LNG continues to move forward through the regulatory review process unhindered by unnecessary bureaucratic delays.”

In a letter to AGDC announcing the inclusion of Alaska LNG as a covered project, Janet Pfleeger, Acting Executive Director of FPISC, wrote, “FERC will be working to develop a permitting timetable, which will be posted to your (Alaska LNG) project page on the online Perming Dashboard within 60 days.”

The Alaska LNG project is an integrated gas infrastructure development with three major components: a gas treatment plant located at Prudhoe Bay, an 800-mile pipeline to Southcentral Alaska with up to five offtakes for in-state use, and a natural gas liquefaction plant in Nikiski to produce liquefied natural gas (LNG) for export.

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The Alaska Gasline Development Corporation (AGDC) is an independent, public corporation of the State of Alaska. Advancing the development and construction of a North Slope natural gas pipeline and LNG export terminal is its top priority. AGDC is charged with securing a long-term energy supply for Alaskans. Visit www.agdc.us for up to date information.