



Alpine Satellite Development Plan

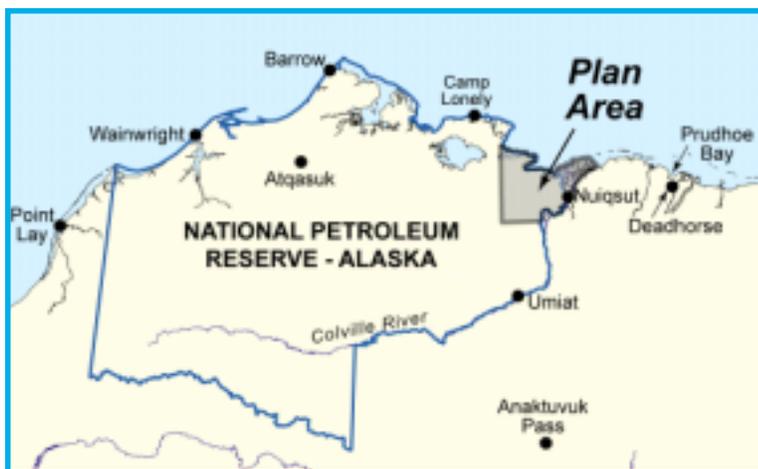
National Petroleum Reserve – Alaska

Volume 1, February, 2003

Public Participation Begins

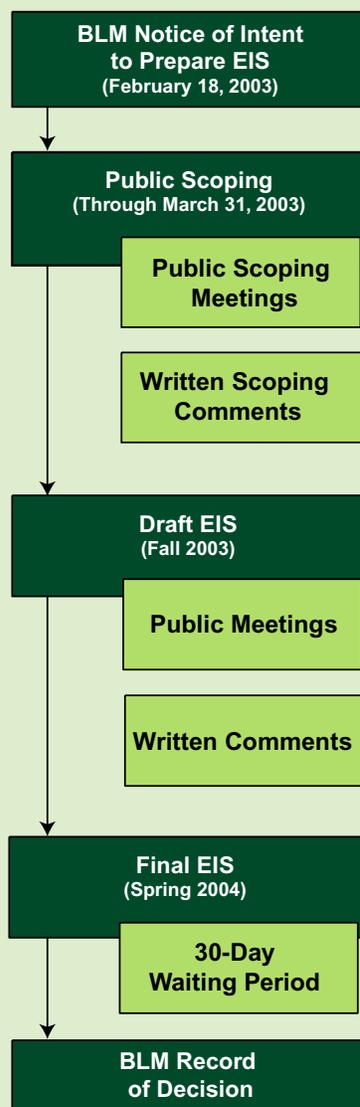
The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and three cooperating agencies — U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the State of Alaska — are preparing the Alpine Satellite Development Plan environmental impact statement (EIS) to examine potential oil and gas development of leases in the Colville Delta and the eastern National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (NPR-A). ENTRIX, Inc. is BLM's contractor for the EIS. The EIS will analyze full-field development for the plan area shown on the map below. Included in the EIS will be an analysis of ConocoPhillips' proposal for developing five oil and gas production pads that would be satellites to its existing Alpine facility.

This is the first of several newsletters to help inform you about the EIS process. The newsletter also introduces you to ConocoPhillips' proposed development (see page 3) and invites you to get involved.



The Alpine Satellite Development plan area consists of both the very northeastern corner of the NPR-A and the Colville River delta, directly east of NPR-A.

Alpine Satellite Development Plan EIS Schedule



The federal Bureau of Land Management is the lead agency for the Alpine Satellite Development Plan EIS. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the State of Alaska are cooperating agencies.



The EIS Process

An EIS is the federal government’s means to evaluate the possible environmental impacts of this full-field development plan. The EIS will identify the impacts of all reasonable development alternatives, not just the applicant’s proposal, as well as a “no action” alternative. To reduce potential adverse effects, the EIS will also identify and evaluate the effectiveness of mitigation measures.

The first step in any EIS is to ask the public for help in identifying the key issues for the project. This step is called *scoping*, and it is important because it helps guide the specialists preparing the EIS. The comments received during scoping will help determine what issues and alternatives will be examined in the EIS.

After scoping, BLM will analyze the comments and publish a draft EIS for public review. This review includes public meetings and a 45-day period during which comments may be submitted to BLM. Once the public comment period is over, BLM will revise the draft EIS to address the comments received. Then the final EIS will be released, and a 30-day waiting period will occur, after which BLM will

issue a *Record of Decision* that publicly states its decision.

Developments on federal lands in the full-field development area are subject to BLM’s October 1998 Record of Decision for the *Northeast National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska Integrated Activity Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (IAP/EIS)*. This document and the Record of Decision may be obtained at http://aurora.ak.blm.gov/npra/final/html/contents_vol1-4.html. The Record of Decision for the Alpine Satellite Development Plan EIS may authorize modifications of, or exceptions to, the requirements of the IAP/EIS. These modifications or exceptions will apply only to any developments approved as a result of this EIS.



This photo shows the existing oil production facility at Alpine, just east of the Colville River.

How to Comment

BLM will seek to identify the issues in the development area through

discussions with federal and state agencies and the North Slope Borough, and through special government-to-government consultation with affected tribes. But we also want to hear from the general public. There are several ways for you to comment.

- **Attend a Scoping Meeting:** Four meetings have been scheduled: two on Alaska’s North Slope in the communities of Barrow and Nuiqsut, one in Fairbanks, and one in Anchorage. Meeting information is on the back of this newsletter.
- **Send us a Letter:** The EIS project office address is on the back of this newsletter.
- **Comment over the Internet:** You can log onto the Internet at www.alpine-satellites-eis.com. Click on the “Get Involved” button and use the comment form.
- **Fax:** You can fax the project office at (907) 563-0439.

We Would Like to Hear from You!

BLM wants to hear concerns and issues pertinent to both the ConocoPhillips proposal and the plan area for full-field development.

Think about what is important to include in the analysis of the impacts in the EIS. *Be as specific as you can* — describe **what** resource, **where** it is, and **why** it is important — and send us your thoughts.

Typical EIS Contents

- I. Introduction**
Background
Purpose and Need
Issues
- II. Alternatives**
Preferred Alternative
Alternatives to the Preferred Alternative
- III. Affected Environment**
Physical Environment
Biological Environment
Social Environment
- IV. Environmental Consequences**



The ConocoPhillips Development Plan

ConocoPhillips proposes to develop two production pads in the Colville River delta (CD-3 and CD-4; called CD North and CD South during exploration) and three production pads in NPR-A (CD-5, CD-6 and CD-7; called Alpine West, Lookout, and Spark during exploration). All five satellites are within about 20 miles of the existing Alpine Central Processing Facility. The satellites would send produced fluids through pipelines to the Alpine facility. Crude oil would travel through the Alpine and Kuparuk pipelines to the Trans Alaska Pipeline System.

Each of the satellite sites would consist of a single gravel pad, and gravel roads and a bridge over the Nigliq Channel would connect the sites with Alpine – except for CD-3, which would have a landing strip.

Typical pad facilities for the Alpine satellites would include 20 to 30 wells each, as well as equipment for lighting, heat, surveillance, and emergency power generation. ConocoPhillips would upgrade facilities at Alpine to accommodate

fluids from these satellites. No significant hydrocarbon processing facilities would be located at the satellites. Most fuels and chemicals would be stored and handled at Alpine or contained in small above-ground storage tanks at the satellites.

Pipelines for the Alpine satellites would likely consist of a three-phase production line (containing oil, water, and gas), a gas line, a seawater injection line, and possibly a diesel line. The new pipelines would be built so the pipe would be five feet or more above the tundra.

Gravel for the Alpine satellites would come either from an existing gravel-mine site near Nuiqsut or a new site identified in NPR-A. Ice roads would be used to haul gravel during construction. Initially, fresh water for ice roads and for operational needs would come from lakes in the area. ConocoPhillips is currently researching longer-term water sources.

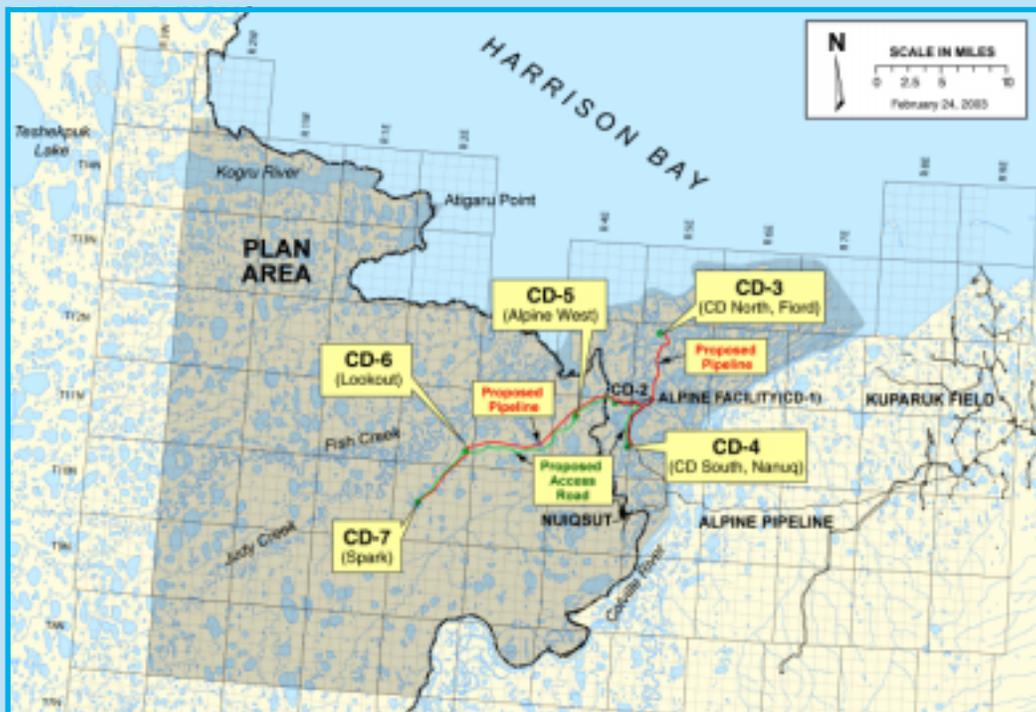
All personnel would likely be based at Alpine. Personnel would man drill sites part-time and visit the sites as dictated by the activity level or by spill

prevention requirements. All-weather gravel roads would provide access to CD-4, CD-5, CD-6, and CD-7. Winter-only drilling is proposed for CD-3, with operation and maintenance to be performed remotely from Alpine. Personnel would periodically visit the satellite by aircraft or ice road. ConocoPhillips does not propose any permanent camp facilities at the satellites. Production processing would occur at Alpine. Electrical power to the Alpine satellites would be provided by Alpine, or it would be generated on-site.

ConocoPhillips proposes to start building facilities for the Alpine satellites in the winter of 2005.

Construction would take place in stages, beginning with the Colville Delta satellites. Construction of the NPR-A satellites is expected to be complete in the winter of 2010.

ConocoPhillips expects to produce the first oil from the Alpine satellites at CD-4 in the summer of 2006, with production from the other satellites coming on line over the following four years.





Alpine Satellite Development Plan EIS
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Scoping Meeting Schedule Alpine Satellite Development Plan EIS

COMMUNITY	MEETING DATE	LOCATION AND TIME
Anchorage	Thursday, March 6, 2003 Open House: 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm Hearing: 7 pm to 9 pm	Z.J. Loussac Library Wilda Marston Theater 3600 Denali Street Anchorage, AK 99503-6093
Barrow	Monday, March 17, 2003 Open House: 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm Hearing: 7 pm to 9 pm	Borough Assembly Chamber North Slope Borough Barrow, AK 99723
Nuiqsut	Tuesday, March 18, 2003 Open House: 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm Hearing: 7 pm to 9 pm	Community Center City of Nuiqsut Nuiqsut, AK 99789
Fairbanks	Thursday, March 20, 2003 Open House: 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm Hearing: 7 pm to 9 pm	Main Hall Chena Convention Center 109 Clay Street Fairbanks, AK 99701

For More Information

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 Development Plan EIS
 ENTRIX Project Office**
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