

National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska Working Group Discussion Points

Designation of representatives and establishing a quorum

Designating Representatives

NPRA WG Member Organizations

1. State of Alaska
2. North Slope Borough
3. Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope
4. Arctic Slope Regional Corporation
5. City of Wainwright
6. Wainwright Traditional Council
7. Olgoonik Corporation
8. City of Atkasuk
9. Native Village of Atkasuk
10. Atkasuk Corporation
11. City of Barrow
12. Native Village of Barrow
13. Ukpeagvik Inupiat Corporation
14. City of Nuiqsut
15. Native Village of Nuiqsut
16. Kuukpiik Corporation
17. Anaktuvuk Pass (City, Tribe, Corp)
18. Kaktovik (City, Tribe, Corp)
19. Point Hope (City, Tribe, Corp)
20. Point Lay (Tribe, Corp)

NPRA WG will have 40 designated members (20 Primary Representatives and 20 Alternative Representatives for each of the 20 entities when all forms are completed).

Entities break down by type:

- 1 state government
- 1 borough government
- 1 regional tribal government
- 1 regional corporation
- 4 city governments
- 4 village tribal governments
- 4 village corporations

- 4 villages with combined city/tribe/corp membership per the February meeting in Barrow. Point Lay does not have an incorporated city. The representative should be designated by NV Point Lay and Cully Corp

Establishing a Quorum

Applying Typical Quorum Rules:

1. Unless otherwise provided in the charter, a quorum is the same as assembly (i.e., 20 members, one from each organization).
2. A board or committee does not have the power to decide a quorum unless the bylaws provide otherwise.
3. Only designated primary and alternate representatives count toward the quorum and are permitted to vote on NPR-A WG matters.

Options for Quorum Rules for In-Person Meetings

1. Quorum Option 1: Majority (i.e., 11 NPRA WG members)
 - For most assemblies, quorum is majority of entire membership
 - Possible issues for NPRA WG:
 - Majorities could exist that fully exclude one type of entity and/or entire communities
2. Quorum Option 2: Those who attend meeting.
 - For organizations with more loosely determined membership, quorum consists of those who attend the meeting.
3. Quorum Option 3: Attendees decide at opening of meeting whether participants at that time constitute a quorum.
 - A board or committee does not have the power to decide a quorum unless the bylaws provide otherwise.
 - Decision made by 1) consensus? or 2) majority vote of participants? Or 3) the Chair or Authorized Officer

Facts to Consider

- Experience shows it will be difficult to maintain current documentation of representatives and alternates, and to have a large majority of documented representatives and alternates attend or call in.
- As of April 7, fewer than 10 of the 19 North Slope representatives have been designated by fully completed forms received by BLM. Forms were sent to all entities in November 2013. BLM Barrow Field Office manager Roy Nageak has worked with all entities starting in January and February, 2014 to get forms completed.
- Considerable effort has been spent to try to obtain designation forms, but we still only have 9 designees.
- Feb. 27, 2014 NPR-A WG meeting:
 - 39 attendees signed in

- 6 entities were represented by officially designated representatives (designation forms signed by all required and submitted to BLM)
- 10 entities were represented by unofficial representatives
- 4 entities were not represented

Options for Quorum Rules

- All primary and alternate representatives are invited to teleconferences.
- For now, all participants at February meeting have been invited to this April teleconference.
- Quorum Options:
 - a. Majority of entities (i.e., 11) represented regardless of total number of participants.
 - b. Majority of North Slope entities (i.e., 10)
 - c. Allow meetings to proceed without a quorum, but when this occurs, do not vote except with regard to the conduct of the meeting (e.g. approval of minutes, agenda, next meeting).

Proposal on quorum and designation of representatives:

- The NPR-A Working Group is a voluntary advisory body.
- The involved entities' primary concern is to have a voice at the table in BLM decision making.
- BLM's primary concern is to hear and heed the voices of the entities.
- The nature of appointing regular representatives to participate in such groups is often fluid, dynamic, and comes together at the last minute, and
- Communities and organizations might prefer to have liberal quorum rules that ensure the voices of all types of entities are heard rather than deal with official designation forms for new representatives for every meeting and risk having meetings cancelled,
- Proposal: leaders of NPR-A WG entities can confirm representatives either by the official designation form or by FAX or email confirmation with the BLM Arctic Field Office manager (or designee).
 - Representatives who do not have written official designation are allowed to participate in meetings and teleconferences but BLM cannot pay travel/lodging to in-person meetings and they will not have a vote.
 - In order to BLM to pay travel/lodging, designee must be appointed at least one month prior to in-person meeting.
 - Notification of designated members will be sent to the BLM Arctic Field Office's General NPR-A Email list that includes over 240 individuals (primarily NS residents)
 - Disagreements over designees will be handled by the Authorized Officer.