

## DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY PACIFIC OCEAN DIVISION, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS FORT SHAFTER, HAWAII 96858-5440

April 13, 2010

**Programs Directorate** 

Honorable Don Young House of Representatives 2111 Rayburn Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Young:

Thank you for your letter of April 5, 2010, concerning the permit decision for CD-5 Alpine Satellite Development, submitted by ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc. (CPAI).

I understand your concern and have noted the unified support discussed in your letter. Because CPAI exercised its rights under the Administrative Appeal Process, the action is now elevated to my office. I assure you that I will follow this process and provide an independent, objective decision, based on the evidence in the record and merits of the appeal. Should I find merit in any part of CPAI's appeal, I will provide instructions, as appropriate, in my decision document, and will remand the permit action back to Colonel Reinhard Koenig, Commander, Alaska District.

I hope this clarifies my intent to ensure compliance with the process, to address the matters presented in CPAI's appeal, and to bring this matter to its proper resolution.

Please know that we share a desire for a continued strong working relationship with Alaska's Congressional Delegation and Governor, and that, with full consideration of all concerns, I intend to carry out my responsibilities, fairly and impartially. (Both Governor Parnell and Colonel Koenig will receive a copy of this letter.)

In closing, please accept my thanks for your kind sentiment regarding the accomplishments and vision of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Sincerely,

Mark W. Yepter

Brigadier General, US Army

Commanding