Shadura Natural Gas Development Project on the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge
Public Scoping Meeting
6 – 8pm
Location of the Proposed Shadura Natural Gas Development Project
Why are We Here Tonight?

- Help the public and stakeholders understand the Proposed Shadura Natural Gas Development Project on the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge (Proposed Action) and Alternatives to the Proposed Action.
- The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) establishes a process for planning that federal agencies are required to follow. Obtaining comments from the public and stakeholders on issues and concerns to be addressed in this Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is part of that process.
NEPA and the EIS Process

- An EIS is a document that describes
  - The potential environmental and socioeconomic impacts of alternatives, including the no action and proposed alternatives
  - Plans to mitigate the impacts

- Federal agencies are required by NEPA to analyze, document, and disclose the potential environmental and socioeconomic impacts of a Proposed Action and its alternatives before any action is taken
Purpose of Scoping

- Use as a Planning Tool
  - Identify relevant issues
  - Identify potential impacts
  - Determine appropriate level of analysis

- Ensure Public and Stakeholder Disclosure
  - Provide the public and stakeholders with a clear understanding of the Proposed Action

- Solicit Public and Stakeholder Participation
Public and Stakeholder Participation

• NEPA Requires Solicitation of Public and Stakeholder Participation
  • Engage the public and stakeholders in the decision-making process
  • Written comments are the most effective form of public and stakeholder participation

• Public Review and Comment Opportunities Include
  • Initial scoping comments (accepted through April 13, 2012)
  • Review and comment on the Draft EIS (July–Aug 2012)
  • Review the Final EIS (November 2012)
Cook Inlet Region, Inc. (CIRI) owns subsurface oil, gas, and coal resources under portions of the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge (KNWR).

CIRI has leased the natural gas development rights for a portion of its holdings to NordAq Energy, Inc.

ANILCA Section 1110(b) provides for “adequate and feasible access” to certain in-holders of lands, including subsurface rights, located in conservation system units, such as the KNWR.

Federal Action will be issuance of a right-of-way permit allowing NordAq to access the gas in its leases.

“No Action Alternative” – required by NEPA, used to compare the expected future conditions without the project with impacts of the alternatives. Cannot be the selected alternative.
NordAq Energy, Inc. has applied for a right-of-way permit to construct facilities, including a gravel access road and a well pad with up to six natural gas wells on the KNWR to develop natural gas from its leases.

NordAq proposes to develop the natural gas resource for economic and other purposes.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) will issue NordAq a right-of-way permit to access the gas in its leases.

The EIS will examine alternative methods to access the gas resource and the effects of those alternatives on the KNWR and surrounding area.
NordAq Proposes

- Gravel access road
- Gravel well pad with up to 6 natural gas wells
- Water well
- Class II Disposal well
- Gathering lines
- Microwave relay towers and communication cable
- Metering pad
- Production facilities—e.g., dehydration units, water storage tank, and methanol storage tanks
- Natural gas-fired generator and diesel backup generator
- Pig launcher and receiver facilities
• Alternative 1—Northern Access Route 1 (NordAq’s Proposal)
• Alternative 2—Northern Access Route 2
• Alternative 3—Eastern Access Route
• Alternative 4—Southern Access Route
• No Action Alternative
• Others?
FWS conducts scoping and identifies key issues
Public and stakeholders attend scoping meetings and provide comments (comments accepted through April 13, 2012)

FWS prepares Draft EIS

FWS releases Draft EIS
Public and stakeholders attend DEIS public meetings and provide comments

FWS prepares Final EIS
FWS releases Final EIS for Review

FWS makes Decision and releases Record of Decision