



September 13, 2010

Karen G. Mills
Administrator, U.S. Small Business Administration
409 3rd Street, SW
Washington, DC 20416

Dear Administrator Mills,

On behalf of Arctic Slope Regional Corporation, Cook Inlet Region, Inc., and Doyon, Limited, three Alaska Native corporations representing more than 35,000 Alaska Native shareholders, we are writing with proposed reforms to improve the Small Business Administration 8(a) program in ways that will increase the accountability of Alaska Native-owned 8(a) companies and preserve the program's benefits for years to come.

The 8(a) program provides enhanced federal contracting opportunities for Alaska Native corporations and others designated as socially and economically disadvantaged minority-owned businesses. While Alaska Native corporations participate in the 8(a) program to varying degrees, we all recognize its importance in building sustainable businesses to improve the lives of Alaska Native people.

Our proposed reforms will improve the program by increasing accountability, decreasing the potential for abuse while continuing to encourage the growth of sustainable businesses that raise the standard of living for Alaska Native people.

Our proposed reforms are intended to build on the proven success of the 8(a) program by promoting more competition, strengthening enforcement against those who repeatedly violate the rules of the program and requiring Native 8(a) companies to track and report benefits derived from their 8(a) contracts. For example, to encourage more competition, we support a \$100 million cap on 8(a) sole source awards.

We, like all Alaska Native corporations, remain steadfast in our commitment to our shareholders. We're proud of our record of accomplishment in raising the standard of living for Alaska Native people and look forward to serving them today and for generations to come.

We appreciate your consideration and welcome the opportunity to work together in the future. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter, please contact Tara Sweeney, Vice President of External Affairs for Arctic Slope Regional Corporation at (907) 339-6066 or tsweeney@asrc.com.

Sincerely,



Rex A. Rock, Sr.
President & CEO
Arctic Slope Regional Corporation



Margaret L. Brown
President & CEO
Cook Inlet Region, Inc



Norman L. Phillips, Jr.
President & CEO
Doyon, Limited

Enc:

(1) STRENGTHENING THE 8(a) PROGRAM: The Arctic Slope – CIRI - Doyon Agenda for Transparency, Accountability and Integrity

CC:

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
The Honorable Mark Begich
The Honorable Don Young
The Honorable Daniel Inouye
The Honorable Mary L. Landrieu, Chair, U.S. Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship
The Honorable Claire McCaskill, Chair, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight
The Honorable Byron Dorgan, Chair, U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs
The Honorable Nick J. Rahall, Chairman, U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources
The Honorable Nydia M. Velázquez, Chair, U.S. House Committee on Small Business
Clara Pratte, National Director, U.S. Small Business Administration's Office of Native American Affairs

The Honorable Sean Parnell, Governor, State of Alaska
Alaska State Legislature
William Anderson, Jr., Chairman, ANCSA Regional Association
Julie Kitka, President, Alaska Federation of Natives
Sarah L. Lukin, Executive Director, Native American Contractors Association
Jackie (Johnson) Pata, Executive Director, NCAI
Robin Danner, President, Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement
Janice Bryant Howroyd, Chair, The Minority Business RoundTable
Eric S Trevan, President and Chief Executive Officer, NCAIED-The National Center for American Indian
Enterprise Development
Jackie Johnson Pata, Executive Director, National Congress of American Indians