

Summary Sheet – Alaska Gasline Development Corp. Enabling Legislation

Speaker Chenault is considering the following as part of the legislation:

Position AGDC for the future by expanding statutory authorities

- Allow AGDC the authority to determine the ownership and operating structures for a pipeline, including the authority to enter into agreements with private sector parties and other public agencies for joint ownership and/or operation.
- Enable AGDC to support expansion of instate natural gas demand, including rural, industrial, and residential and commercial consumption.

Ensure reasonable, efficient regulatory processes:

- An AGDC line, sanctioned by the state through the Legislature, would inherently be in the public interest and necessity. To that end, an AGDC line should not have to procure a certificate of public convenience and necessity from the Regulatory Commission of Alaska.

Facilitate private-sector investment by allowing an AGDC line to operate as a contract carrier

- Current statute requiring an in-state line to operate as a common carrier would deter investment by the private sector. AGDC should be empowered to operate as a contract carrier.

Maximize Alaska's efforts developing instate natural gas by aligning state resources

- Direct state departments to expeditiously enter into rights-of-way leases and to cooperate in all other ways. State departments should waive fees for leases and other permits sought by AGDC.
- Enable partnerships between ANGDA and AGDC in order to centralize and strengthen the state's efforts toward achieving the goals of commercializing natural gas and expanding in-state use.

Speaker Chenault will also pursue passage of several bills already introduced, individually or as part of an omnibus legislation. These include:

HB9, In-State Gasline Development Team Duties: Directs the Joint In-State Gasline Development Team to make recommendations for statutory changes that enable or facilitate the design, financing and construction of an instate line so that such a line is operational before 2016.

HB 189, Gasline Development Team/Corporation Members/Info: Streamlines the Joint In-State Gasline Development Team from five to four members, removing the Alaska Natural Gas Development Authority CEO position. Allows AGDC to enter into confidentiality agreements.

HB 203, AK Gasline Development Corp/Gas Pipeline Fund: Establishes an instate gas pipeline fund and directs fund management and investment.

HB 215, Pipeline Project: Judicial Review/ROW: Limits challenges to right-of-way leasing decisions, similar to protections issued for TAPS.