

June 24, 2016  
W.O. 24.60693.09

Ms. Katherine A. McCafferty  
Alaska District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Regulatory Division  
44669 Sterling Highway, Suite B  
Soldotna, AK 99669-7915

Subject: Regulatory Division POA-2013-396, Ambler Mining District Industrial Access  
Project – Request for Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination, AMDIAP Eastern  
Portion of the Corridor

Dear Ms. McCafferty:

The Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA) is requesting a Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination on the eastern 50 miles of the proposed Ambler Mining District Access Project (AMDIAP) corridor (eastern portion of the corridor). The following information is being provided consistent with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Special Public Notice (SPN) 2010-45: Consultant-Supplied Jurisdictional Determination Reports.

Current Property Owners

The corridor crosses through properties owned by the Bureau of Land Management, the State of Alaska, and the Doyon Limited.

Bureau of Land Management  
Laurie Thorpe, 907-271-4208  
222 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, #13  
Anchorage, AK 99513

State of Alaska  
Marie Steele, 907-334-2185  
550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 1260  
Anchorage, AK 99501-3557

Doyon Limited  
James Mery, 907-459-2030  
1 Doyon Place, Suite 300  
Fairbanks, AK 99701-2941

Ms. McCafferty  
Alaska District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
June 24, 2016  
Page 2

Applicant (Project Sponsor)

Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA)  
Mark Davis  
813 W. Northern Lights Blvd.  
Anchorage, AK 99503-6690  
(907) 771-3000  
[mdavis@aidea.org](mailto:mdavis@aidea.org)

Consultant

DOWL  
Maryellen Tuttell  
4041 B Street  
Anchorage, AK 99503  
(907) 562-2000  
[mtuttell@dowl.com](mailto:mtuttell@dowl.com)

Wetland Delineator(s)

Lucas Gasek, PWS, DOWL  
Adam Morrill, DOWL

Purpose of the Request

AIDEA is requesting a Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination for the eastern portion of the AMDIAP corridor. The request is associated with a Standard Form (SF) 299 Consolidated Application filed by AIDEA under the Alaska National Interest and Conservation Act (ANILCA) on November 25, 2015.

Project Description

AIDEA is proposing to construct a controlled-access industrial roadway located along the southern base of the Brooks Range to the Ambler Mining District in Interior Alaska. The proposed AMDIAP project would design, construct, and operate a controlled-access industrial transportation corridor from the Ambler Mining District to the Dalton Highway. Associated facilities would include access road to water sources and material sites, maintenance stations, and airstrips.

The project would construct a new 211-mile-long gravel surfaced roadway along the southern flanks of the Brooks Range, extending west from the Dalton Highway near milepost 161 to the south bank of the Ambler River. The road would provide year round surface transportation

access to the Ambler Mining District to allow for expanded exploration, mine development, and mine operations at mineral prospects throughout the area.

A Preliminary Wetland Delineation report was submitted to the USACE in May 2014. Since that time, the corridor has changed. This desktop delineation report covers the eastern portion of the corridor (50 mile portion from Dalton Highway to the west).

Project Location

This desktop delineation covers the “eastern portion of the corridor” for the AMDIAP, from 67.08° Latitude/-150.35° Longitude to 67.02° Latitude/-152.04° Longitude (from the Dalton Highway proceeding west for 50 miles). The remainder of the corridor (from 67.02° Latitude/-152.04° Longitude to 67.16° Latitude/-157.05° Longitude) is covered in the Preliminary Wetland Delineation report submitted to the USACE in May 2014.

The 6,258 acre desktop delineation of the “eastern portion of the corridor” consists of a 1,000-foot-wide corridor centered on the proposed road alignment. The legal description of the corridor is not available due to the size and scope of the proposed project, but a complete list of the townships, ranges, and sections crossed by the proposed “eastern portion of the corridor” is provided in Table 1. The limits of the project are generally a 250-foot-wide right-of-way in the center of the study area.

**Table 1: Townships, Ranges, and Sections Crossed by the Desktop Delineation<sup>1</sup>**

Meridian	Township	Range	Section(s)
Fairbanks	025N	014W	06
		015W	01, 06, 07, 08, 09, 10, 11, 12
		016W	01, 02, 03, 04
		019W	06
		020W	01, 02, 03, 04, 05
	026N	013W	14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, 29, 30
		014W	25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31, 32
		016W	19, 30, 31, 32, 33
		017W	22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32
		018W	25, 27, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36
		019W	31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36
		020W	35, 36

<sup>1</sup>These sections are crossed by the” eastern portion of the corridor” or contain an identified potential material site.

Ms. Katherine A. McCafferty  
Alaska District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
June 24, 2016  
Page 4

Sincerely,  
DOWL



Maryellen Tuttle, AICP  
Senior Environmental Project Manager

20160624.D60693.01.McCafferty.MET.gas

Attachment(s): Desktop Wetland Delineation

Cc: Mark Davis, AIDEA  
Jeffery San Juan, AIDEA