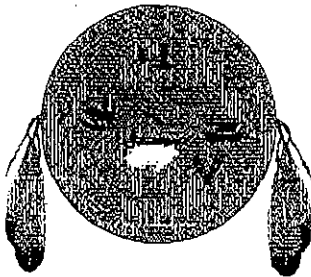


176 (Doyon Limited)



Gwichyaa Zhee Gwich'in Tribal Government
(Formerly known as the Native Village of Fort Yukon, IRA)
P.O. Box 126
Fort Yukon, AK 99740
Phone: (907) 662-2581
Fax: (907) 662-2222

RESOLUTION 04-31

04-04

OPPOSING OIL AND GAS DEVELOPMENT IN THE YUKON FLATS

Whereas, Gwichyaa Zhee Gwich'in Tribal Government (formerly known as Native Village of Fort Yukon) is the federally recognized tribal government of Fort Yukon; and

(1976) Whereas, during the ANSCA land selection process Doyon requested checkerboard land selections with our village lands and said that all the surface lands will be controlled by the villages, and an agreement was signed that all the surface land owners would have to be in agreement for any development; and

Whereas, the people of the Yukon Flats still maintain a subsistence lifestyle that is dependent on clean air, water and land; and

Whereas, the purpose of the Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge is to protect the moose, ducks, rabbits, geese, other small game and Yukon River salmon and subsistence resources,

Whereas, oil and gas development poses danger to the clean water essential for the flats,

Whereas, The Gwichyaa Zhee Gwich'in Tribal Government opposes oil and gas development in the Yukon Flats,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gwichyaa Zhee Gwich'in Tribal Government opposes the proposed Doyon land exchange in the Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge because of the long term negative impact it will have on our traditional lands and way of life, and the extremely limited short-term economic benefits to members of the Gwichyaa Zhee Gwich'in Tribal Government; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that any further activity on the exchange cease.

Certification:

I, the undersigned hereby certify that the Gwichyaa Zhee Gwich'in Tribal Council approved and adopted this document

Kelli R. Alexander
1st Chief

Louie Fairchild
Council Member

9-21-04
Date

9-21-04
Date

(1) *Informed*
(2)



Gwichyaa Zhee Gwich'in Tribal Government

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LETTER OF OPPOSITION

This is in opposition of the Rider Senator Ted Stevens added to the S 2804 bill to transfer land from the Yukon Flats Wildlife Refuge to the Doyon Corporation for the purpose of oil development. The Gwichyaa Zhee Gwich'in Tribal Government opposes any oil and gas development in the Yukon Flats.

The tribal government recognizes the impact that oil and gas development can have. The land transfer and any oil development will have a tremendous impact in our area. We depend on this land for our subsistence needs which provides us with over 50% of our dietary needs. We are also tied to the land spiritually, culturally and traditionally and any impact to the land would disturb this very sensitive ecosystem and our way of life. We live one of the most pristine and impact sensitive areas in the world, any oil development would disturb this fragile ecosystem. That is why this area was designated as a wildlife refuge to protect this environment from any sort of major environmental impacts.

The tribal government recognizes the need for economic development in our area, but not at the expense of impacting the environment. We live in a very sensitive area and we are very concerned for the environment. We just ask that the agencies consult with the tribes through the government to government relationship and keep us involved in the process. The tribes should be actively involved and the agencies or organizations need to follow the public comment criteria to inform the public of what's going on regarding any and all issues affecting the land and its inhabitants.

The tribal government opposes any congressional bill or rider that will allow any development in the Yukon Flats without the proper consultation and to follow the public comment process.

Adlai Alexander

1st Chief, Gwichyaa Zhee Gwich'in Tribal Government

Date