



*Your Land.
Your Voice.*

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**ALASKA DELEGATION ATTEMPTS TO OPEN ARCTIC REFUGE TO DRILLING:
MORE SMOKE AND MIRRORS**

U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) Report Cites Alternative Technologies and Reduced Consumption Have Ten Times the Power to Reduce Oil Imports than Potential Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Production

WASHINGTON, DC— Data presented to Congress by the U.S. Energy Information Administration just ten days ago reveals that Alaska’s Senators Ted Stevens and Lisa Murkowski are playing fast and loose with the truth when they pretend production from the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge can play a significant role in reducing imports or stimulating the economy.

According to an analysis released today by the Alaska-based energy analyst, Richard Fineberg of Fineberg Research, updated figures released by the U.S. Energy Information Administration on March 4 indicate that between now and 2050, this nation is on track to consume approximately 360 billion barrels of oil, of which nearly 200 billion barrels must be imported.

“Over the last four years, the EIA estimate of imports for 2025 has come down from 70 percent of total consumption to about 52 percent,” said Fineberg. “While the future import gap continues to be a serious problem,” said Finberg, “new technologies and reduced consumption are taking a far larger bite out of this nation’s total import requirement than oil from the Arctic Refuge ever could.”

According to Finberg’s analysis of the EIA’s updated long-term energy forecast, during the last three years conservation and alternative technologies have led to a reduction in this nation’s oil import requirement of more than 110 billion barrels between now and 2050. “That’s more than 10 times the total amount of oil that the U.S. Geological Survey estimates the Arctic Refuge is likely to provide between now and 2050,” cited Finberg.

“These facts demonstrate the utter hypocrisy of attempting to portray the Arctic Refuge development as a rational response to high oil prices,” said Cindy Shogan, Executive Director of Alaska Wilderness League.



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“Instead of trying to fool their colleagues and the public with misleading numbers, Alaska’s senators should come clean,” said Shogan. “If they were being honest, they’d admit that when it comes to addressing this country’s energy and national security, their numbers just don’t add up.”

For more information and numbers cited by the Fineberg Research analysis, contact Richard Fineberg or Cindy Shogan of Alaska Wilderness League.

About Alaska Wilderness League – Your Land. Your Voice.

Alaska Wilderness League's mission is to lead the effort to preserve Alaska’s wilderness by engaging citizens, sharing resources, collaborating with other organizations, educating the public, and providing a courageous, constant and victorious voice for Alaska in the nation’s capital. It is the only organization dedicated solely to the preservation of Alaska's wilderness in the nation's capital.

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