STATE OF ALASKA

WILLIAM A. EGAN. GOVERNOR

## DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

P. O. BOX 1467 — JUNEAU 99801 (907) 364-2121

June 14, 1974

Re: 00-2516

Mr. A. P. Rollins, Jr. Authorized Officer Alaska Pipeline Office 808 "E" Street Anchorage, Alaska 99501

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Dear Mr. Rollins:

State of Alaska Office of Pipeline Coordinator

I have your letter of June 10, 1074 spelling out the authorities of the Federal Authorized Officer's Field Representatives.

Under item 8 on page 2 of your letter you make reference to the Grant of Right-of-Way to the State of Alaska. I wish to point out that the grant you refer to is a unilateral grant and has not been accepted by the Department of Highways as being necessary for the construction of the North Slope haul road. We have maintained consistently over the past four years during our negotiations with the BLM and the Secretary of Interior that the right-of-way for the construction of the road has accrued under RS 2477. Under RS 2477 it is necessary only to file a map after construction showing the final location of the road and it is not necessary for an approved right-of-way alignment to be established before construction. The intent, I think, is clearly spelled out in item 2 on page 11 of the agreement between the State of Alaska and the Department of Interior, which indicates that the State has furnished maps showing only the intended location and that, upon completion, a map showing the definite location would be filed.

As I mentioned to you on the phone earlier today, I have no intention of letting this become a problem; I simply wish to emphasize the State's position that the right-of-way has accrued under RS 2477 and that the unilateral grant from Interior for the right-of-way is not necessary for construction of this route.

We have received a final alignment in the Sagwon Bluffs area that will be satisfactory to the State Department of Fish & Game and we intend to relocate the highway in this area to comply with Fish & Game's recommendations. I do not anticipate that this will be any particular problem since the relocation is being made completely on the basis of environmental concerns. To date I think that progress has been reasonably

good on the road and, while there have been some misunderstandings and a few occasional flare-ups with the various peoples and agencies involved, I think that all in all progress has been good and generally within the intent of the environmental stipulations.

Sincerely yours,

B. A. Campbell

Commissioner of Highways

CC: Interior District Engineer Construction Engineer

BAC/mth