April 24, 2012

Dear Alaskans,

Welcome to the Alaska Deep Draft Arctic Ports website. I’m delighted you are interested in this project, so am I.

We face exciting and challenging times. The Arctic possesses economic opportunities and complex environmental conditions that sometimes appear to have competing interests. How do we develop northern shipping routes, access natural resources, protect communities and fairly regulate access and commerce? Policymakers from several countries have been meeting to assess opportunities and challenges.

One of the first steps is to look at potential infrastructure needs such as deep draft ports along Alaska’s coast. Without the establishment of an accessible port, none of these opportunities will be realized. This website is to encourage education and engagement as we study opportunities for a deep draft Arctic port. We look to gather public testimony and participation in the process.

Please come back frequently as we will be adding material throughout the process. We invite your feedback. Welcome to the next frontier – the Arctic.

Sincerely

Marc Luiken
Commissioner