

**Alaska State Chamber of Commerce
2008 Priority**

Consistent land use and permitting processes for resource development

Consistent land use and permitting processes are essential for a vibrant resource development. The Alaska State Chamber of Commerce opposes attempts to have the Legislature alter current, long established land use designations or the permitting process created in a full and open public process for mining activities. The Legislature should NOT change State land use designations without adequate compensation for existing rights and should NOT make regulatory changes that jeopardize the fair, transparent and thorough permitting process that currently exists for resource development in Alaska. Protecting landholder rights through assurance of a reliable process to develop their land while balancing and protecting competing values is important for all Alaskans. The current process protects environmental and subsistence values.