

Alaska Minerals Commission CEDS Industry Forum October 12, 2016

10 people in attendance

Opportunities

- Opening of the Arctic
- Technology advances in energy
- Proximity to Asian markets
- Strengthening relationships:
 - Environmental groups
 - Youth and education
 - Commercial & sport fishing industries
 - Media

Strengths

- Vast resource potential
- Strong workforce, demonstrated successes
- University and other training programs
- State and Alaska Native lands available
- Positive impacts on infrastructure

Threats

- Financial assurances – bonding issues
- Tax structure
 - Municipal severance tax
 - Permit fees for placer miners
- Inter-agency mitigation issues at the federal level
- International currency
- Commodity prices

- Changes in energy portfolio
- Climate change
- Lack of existing state support
- Lack of outward facing support
 - To the public
 - Objective fact checking

Weaknesses

- Lack of ability to overcome federal overreach
- External messaging, image issues
- Lack of advocacy by Legislature and Governor
- Lack of industry understanding
 - Need for education on mining industry and its benefits
 - Need for industry "champions"
- Lack of geologic information, surveys, etc.
- Constrained exploration because of burdens of development:
 - Costs
 - Infrastructure
 - Regulations
 - Data lacking
- Federal land difficulties