

Via Electronic Mail

October XX, 2025

The Editor
Alaska Journal World
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RE: Lawrence Alaska Planning Area, Liquefied Natural Gas Expansion

To the editor of the Alaska Journal World:

Bulldozers began moving dirt last week near Lawrence Natural Gas Inc., but city commissioners and officials from Alaska DNR have been bulldozing this community for months with an expansion plan for the Lawrence Natural Gas Refinery that is fiscally irresponsible, unnecessarily redundant and probably illegal. Our elected officials have misled the public, violated zoning codes and set taxpayers up for a \$365 million loan that will take 20 years to pay off and cost taxpayers \$5 million in interest.

Why was the public repeatedly told that this project could be built with foreign investments when those funds in hand don't even represent a third of the proposed budget?

Why is it necessary to build an expansion on the refinery at a cost of \$150 million?

Why is it inconceivable to city planners that energy investments should proceed when the funding is in hand, but not before? It's like placing a locomotive on the tracks and ordering full steam ahead—while the tracks are still being laid only a mile ahead.

Why are city commissioners allowing Hill Oil Corp. to build an LNG plant without also requiring the company to provide the storage and buffer space required by county zoning ordinances?

We need new leaders with a clear vision, a commitment to fiscal responsibility, and the ability to balance community and environmental needs.

Jerry Schultz, Bob Tryanski, Jeanne Klein and 10 other signers.