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STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
JUNEAU

February 2, 2009

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary of the Interior
1849 C Street, Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

Congratulations on your confirmation as Secretary of the Interior. As Governor of Alaska, I look forward to working with you on issues that affect my state and the nation.

I would like to invite you to come to Alaska as soon as convenient. There is nothing like a first hand tour of important locations to supplement your existing knowledge of Alaska issues. I would be pleased to accompany you on all or parts of this trip.

I am hopeful that you will consult with me and my administration as you begin to consider issues that affect Alaska and definitely before any final decisions are made. I am always available for such consultation, and I have a Washington, DC, office which also works closely with officials of the Interior Department.

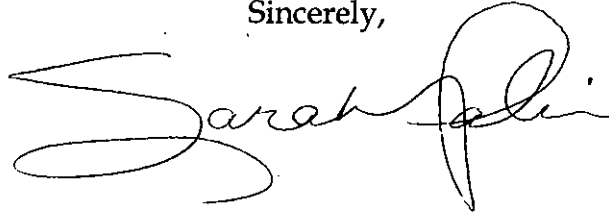
I urge that you maintain the current structure within the Department of Interior for considering Alaska issues. For many years, the Department of Interior has maintained a secretarial representative in Alaska and the position of Senior Alaska Policy Advisor to the Secretary in Washington DC. Each of these positions has helped facilitate communication and coordination with the state of Alaska. With the large number of Alaska issues that will undoubtedly come to you for consideration, these officials will play an even more important role in establishing the premise for good decision making.

There are many specific issues which we could profitably discuss, ranging from on-shore and off-shore oil and gas leasing and production to wildlife management. However, I will save our dialog on these important matters until a later time.

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In the interim, I wish you all the best as you face the challenges before you. Please be assured of my cooperation and willingness to work with you in seeking solutions that benefit both Alaska and the nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Palin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "S" at the beginning and a distinct "P" at the end.

Sarah Palin
Governor