FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH

RESOLUTION NO. 2008 - 37

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A ONE YEAR EXTENSION TO EPA’S FINAL DESIGNATION DECISION OF THE PM$_{2.5}$ NONATTAINMENT BOUNDARIES IN THE FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has proposed substantial modifications to the proposed PM$_{2.5}$ nonattainment boundaries recommended by the State of Alaska for communities within the borough; and

WHEREAS, data from the past winter’s monitoring efforts suggests that while some changes to the State of Alaska’s proposed boundaries may be warranted, it is not to the extent that EPA has proposed; and

WHEREAS, the Department of the Air Force, Pacific Air Forces, has stated that "Eielson AFB believes the Environmental Protection Agency's decision to propose inclusion of Eielson AFB and certain portions of Alaska military training ranges within the proposed PM-2.5 nonattainment area is premature and unwarranted"; and

WHEREAS, necessary data is currently unavailable to support the expansion of this area, and $2.64 million has been committed to fund an extensive study to assist in determining the sources of the PM$_{2.5}$ emissions and the extent of the Fairbanks problem area; and

WHEREAS, expanding boundaries based on the lack of data and scientific information will undermine the public support necessary to correct and control this health problem in the Fairbanks community; and

WHEREAS, section 7407(d)(1)(B)(i) of the Clean Air Act provides that the designation may be extended for up to one year in the event EPA has insufficient information to promulgate the designation.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Assembly of the Fairbanks North Star Borough supports the determination of a boundary that is meaningful, scientifically based, and not derived from a lack of data, and therefore recommends the deadline for designation, December 18, 2008, be extended for one year, thereby allowing time to collect the data needed for a more scientifically based assessment of the extent of the PM$_{2.5}$ problem area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall be submitted to EPA for its consideration as part of public comments on this issue, and shall also be submitted to the State of Alaska for submission with its additional information that is to be considered by the EPA in this process.

This resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 9th DAY OF OCTOBER 2008.

ATTEST:

Monica Lisa Drexler, MMC
Municipal Borough Clerk

Ayes: Brown, Frank, Musick, Sattley, Stringer, Hopkins, Winters,
Noes: None
Excused: Beck, Foote