



March 20, 2023

Representative Bryce Edgmon
Representative Neal Foster
Representative DeLana Johnson
House Finance Committee

Re: Support for Section 404 Primacy Funding

Dear Members of the House of Finance Committee,

I write you today in full support of funding for the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation pursuit of permit primacy over Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

Cruz is an Alaskan owned and operated Heavy Civil Construction Company that has been doing business in Alaska for over 40 years. With our specialty being extreme remote projects the process time and uncertainty of obtaining permits potentially can delay the start and completion of projects. Which with the limited construction season we face in Alaska can be financially detrimental to businesses. The permitting process needed for projects to start should not cause uncertainty and undue stress for the future of a business.

With more funding coming to Alaska through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, A state-run primacy program would encourage regular communication and accountability between the permitters and applicants to help move infrastructure projects forward and continue to build Alaska.

Thank you for your consideration of funding a program that will strengthen the State's permitting efficiency, stability and accountability. Which are needed to ensure that projects are developed for the benefit of Alaska.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeff D. Miller".

Jeff D. Miller
Vice President