

DENALI BOROUGH, ALASKA
RESOLUTION NO. 05-10

A RESOLUTION OF THE DENALI BOROUGH ASSEMBLY IN RESPONSE TO THE EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE (EIELSON) REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE (BRAC) REPORT.

WHEREAS, based upon the BRAC selection criteria the Denali Borough is shocked and dismayed by the announcement that Eielson Air Force Base (Eielson) has been identified by the Department of Defense for realignment; and

WHEREAS, Eielson is strategically positioned in the world, mere hours from any military mission within the northern hemisphere and the Pacific Rim and is the nearest air force base to the North Pole, making it a critical element of the nation's overall defense; and

WHEREAS, Eielson offers security for the Ground Based Midcourse Defense program, presently under construction at Fort Greely, located only 80 miles to the east; and

WHEREAS, Eielson's position provides protection for the Trans Alaska Oil Pipeline System which carries 17 percent of our total domestic oil supply; and

WHEREAS, Eielson will provide that same security for the Natural Gas Pipeline when it is constructed; and

WHEREAS, the fiscal realities of maintaining Eielson in "warm" status will ultimately prove to save the Pentagon little in overall operation and maintenance costs, due in part to Eielson's strategic position related to reliable energy sources; its proximity with an existing rail connection to coal provided by Usibelli Coal Mine and aviation fuel provided by the Flint Hills and Petro Star Refineries.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Denali Borough objects to the realignment of Eielson Air Force Base as proposed by the Department of Defense and requests that the Commission reverse the realignment recommendation and remove Eielson Air Force Base from the BRAC process; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be distributed to all interested parties including:

Base Realignment and Closure Commission
Senator Ted Stevens
Senator Lisa Murkowski
Congressman Don Young
Governor Frank Murkowski
Alaska State Legislature
Mayor Jim Whitaker
Mayor Steve Thompson
Mayor Jeff Jacobson
James Dodson

PASSED and APPROVED by the DENALI BOROUGH ASSEMBLY this 8th day of June, 2005.

SIGNATURE ON FILE
Mayor

SIGNATURE ON FILE
Borough Clerk

ATTEST: