

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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House Finance Committee
Legislative Budget & Audit Committee

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House Budget Sub Committees on:
- Department of Administration
- Department of Labor and Workforce
Development

**Session:**

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Representative Mark Neuman

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DATE: February 22, 2012

TO: Representative Mike Hawker, Chairman
Senator Bert Stedman, Vice Chairman
Chairman
Legislative Budget and Audit Committee

FROM: Representative Mark Neuman

SUBJECT: Audit Request for the Alaska Land Mobile Radio

Request

This is a formal request for the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee to conduct an audit of the Department of Administration, Electronic Technology Services Division, Alaska Land Mobile Radio (ALMR) program. The Federal Department of Defense is in the process of transferring to the State of Alaska the ownership of ALMR equipment and/or the operational responsibility for many ALMR sites located throughout the State. As a result, we face significant increases in the cost of maintaining and administering the ALMR system. A comprehensive evaluation is needed to ascertain the utility and feasibility of the ALMR program.

Objectives and Scope

It is my intent to establish a broad scope of inquiry while noting some specifics, thus leaving flexibility for Legislative Budget and Audit to guide the process in accordance with their expertise. This audit should:

- Evaluate system-wide interoperability
- Identify all participating stakeholders; assess their usage in terms of frequency, purpose, and handset range and reception.

- For the fiscal years 2011, 2012 and 2013 (through current date), provide a summary of ALMR expenditures by Agency by type of expenditure. Provide information regarding the purpose of the expenditures and to what extent the expenditures address the funding needs for the program overall.
- Identify which functions of the ALMR system are required by Federal or State law.
- Evaluate the condition of sites/equipment divested by the Department of Defense to the State and identify funding deficiencies (ie. Deferred maintenance) transferred to the State.
- Review the ALMR feasibility study prepared by the North Slope Telecom, Inc. for reasonableness in terms of the methodology used and conclusions made.
- Identify any other issues that come to light during the would be of interest to the Legislature.

In completing the audit, we request that the auditors contact ALMR users in addition to those entities that administer the program.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Representative Mark Neuman

MAN/mlh