



Representative Alan Austerman

Alaska State Legislature

Session:

State Capitol
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February 12, 2014

Dear Chair Fairclough,

There is great public concern over the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities' management of the M/V Tustumena refurbishment and overhaul. The project began in October 2012. Completion of the project was delayed and the vessel did not return to service for over a year. As a result, ferry service to/from many Alaskan communities was disrupted.

In recognition of the vital role the Alaska Marine Highway System plays in connecting the communities of Alaska, I respectfully request an audit of the project's management by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities. Specifically, I request the auditors to:

- Determine whether the contract award to the Seward Shipyard complied with federal and state procurement laws and was in the State's best interest.
- Determine if technical specifications that supported the bid documents were adequate to allow for the procurement of the expertise necessary to fully address the refurbishment/overhaul.
- Evaluate management of the M/V Tustumena refurbishment/overhaul by DOTPF from start to finish. Determine if the project was efficiently managed in order to achieve the project in the most cost effective and time sensitive manner

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Alan".

Alan Austerman
House District 35

~ **Representing Alaska State House District 35** ~

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ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

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AUDIT REQUEST ADDENDUM

At its February 25, 2014, meeting, the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee authorized adding the following objective to the request for an audit of the Department Transportation and Public Facilities' M/V Tustemena refurbishment and overhaul.

- Include any other matter that, in the judgment of the legislative auditor, should be brought to the attention of the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee and the legislature.