# **HB2001 Testimony**

October 22, 2007

### **ConocoPhillips Alaska**

**Kevin Mitchell** 

Vice President, Finance & Administration

Jim Taylor

Vice President, Commercial Assets



# Agenda

- ConocoPhillips overview
- Summary comment
- Specifics on the bill:
  - Reporting requirements
  - Cost deductibility
  - Transitional Investment Expenditure (TIE) credits
  - 10% minimum/legacy fields
  - Impact on investment



# ConocoPhillips in Alaska Today



#### Alaska's #1 Oil Producer

- 2006 production: 280,000 barrels of oil per day

#### Alaska's #1 Gas Producer

- 2006 production: 145 million cubic feet per day

### Alaska's Largest Lease Holder

- Interest in 1.7 million gross (federal) acres in the NPRA
- Nearly 2.6 million gross undeveloped acres in total outside of producing fields

#### Alaska's Leading Explorer

- 60 exploration wells since 1999, including 17 wells in NPRA

#### • Largest Industry Community Supporter

- 2006 > \$12 Million Contributions
- 2007 > \$14 million (projected)

#### • 1,093 Employees

- Annual payroll over \$122 Million

#### Largest Royalty and Taxpayer

- 2006 taxes paid to government: \$2.3 billion

- Royalties: \$730 million

### Alaska Capital and Operating Budget

- More than \$12 Billion invested over past 10 years

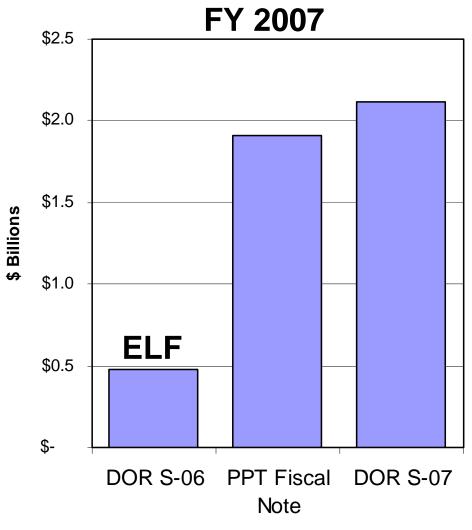


## **Summary Comment**

- Common interest between state and industry
- Too early to change PPT
- Uncertainty created by frequency of tax changes
- Impact on investment



### **Revenue Forecasts**



- Forecasting uncertainty
- Price
- Production
- Operating costs
- Capital costs



## Reporting to State

- Generally supportive of additional transparency
- But, certain areas of concern in bill:
  - Exploration
    - DOR allowed to share all information with DNR without limits
    - DNR determination of geological success in credit application
    - Exploration credit application waives confidentiality rights
  - Forecast data requests should rely on information already provided by unit operator to partners
  - "Whatever else" language is too broad



# **Cost Deductibility**

- Net profit approach
- Inappropriate for regulatory agency to define deductions
- Unreliable advisory bulletins
- Unscheduled maintenance exclusion:
  - Definitions/complexity
  - Audit challenges
  - Disallowance of maintenance that brings production back online
  - Retroactive implementation
- Exclusion for dismantlement costs
  - Legitimate leasehold cost



# **Cost Deductibility**

- Crude oil topping plant exclusion
  - Current diesel production at Prudhoe and Kuparuk
  - 2 options to meet ultra low sulfur diesel requirements:
    - Build ULSD plant at Kuparuk to serve all North Slope needs
    - Transport to North Slope from Alaska or L48 supply

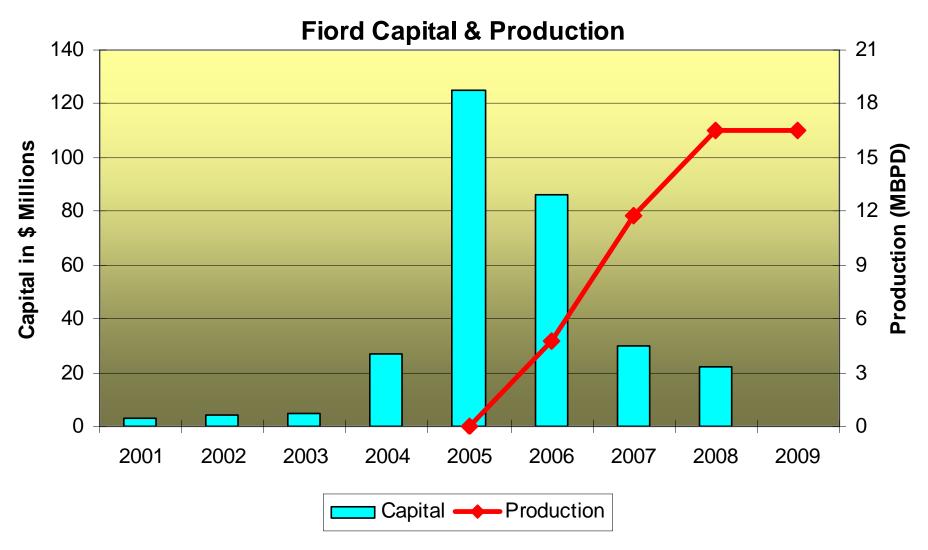


### **TIE Credits**

- Included in PPT legislation to recognize the impact of "changing rules" after investment decisions made
- Provides for equitable treatment of past expenditures
- TIE credits soften the impact of fiscal instability

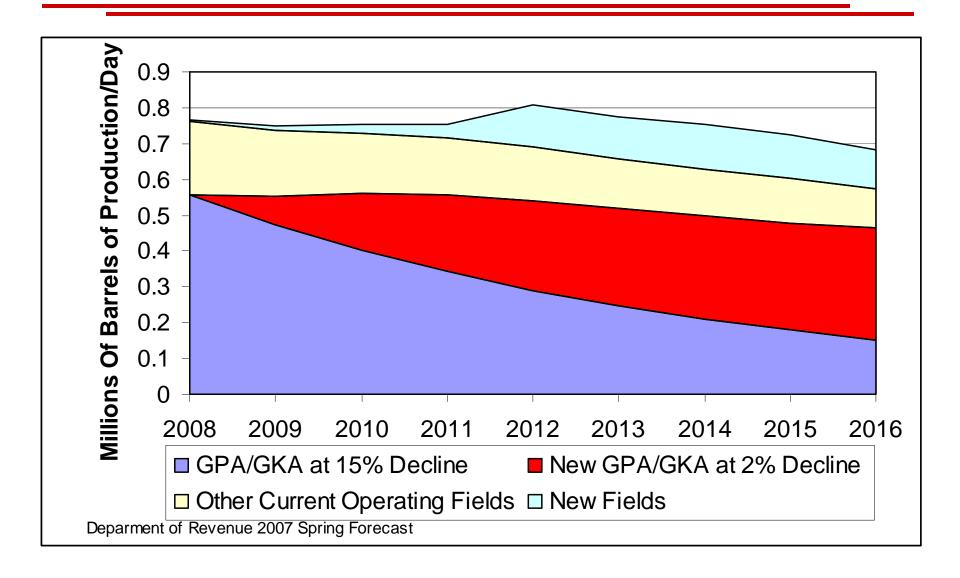


# Example of TIE Impact Fiord Development



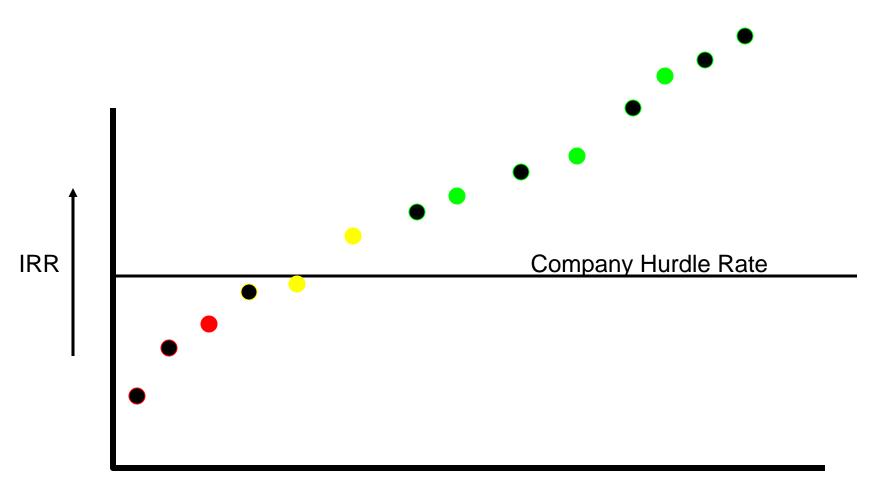


# **Significance of Legacy Assets**





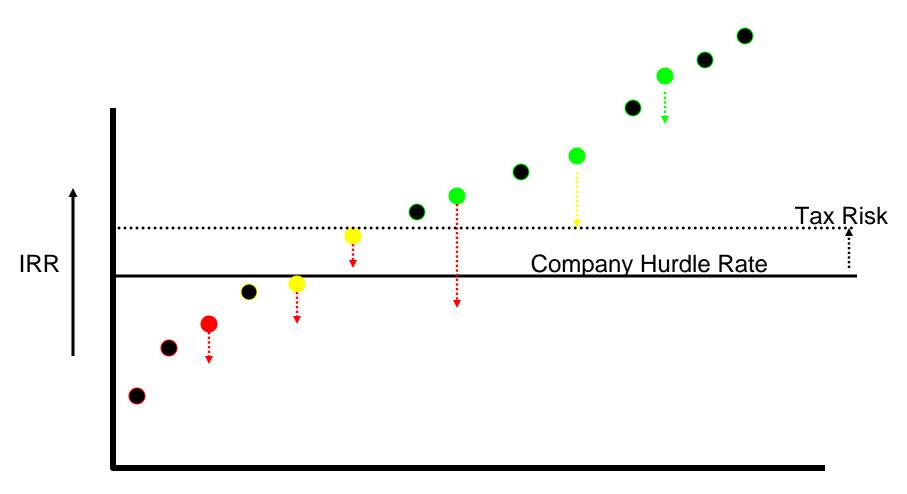
# Tax Change Impacts On Project Economics



World Wide Investment Opportunities



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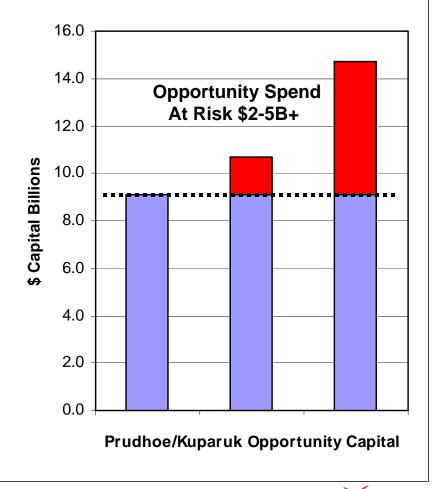


# Potential Legacy Impact on Capital Spend

### **Annual View**

## 2.5 **Opportunity Spend** At Risk 2.0 **Capital Credits Allowed** At 10% Minimum \$ Capital Billions 1.5 1.0 0.5 0.0 **Prudhoe/Kuparuk Opportunity Capital**

### Through 2014



At State Price Forecast 10/22/2007 – Slide 14



### Impact on Investment

	DDT	Bill	Bill
	PPT	25/20	10% Min
Project 1	Economic	Economic	Marginal
Project 2	Economic	Marginal	Marginal
Project 3	Economic	Economic	Marginal
Project 4	Marginal	Marginal	Not Economic
Project 5	Economic	Economic	Not Economic
Project 6	Marginal	Marginal	Not Economic

- Six real projects under evaluation
- \$3.5-\$4.0B gross capital spend
- Over \$6.0B revenue to state
- 250MM Bbls
- 1st production 2010-2013



# **Closing Comment**

- State and industry need to be aligned to foster investment environment
- Too early to significantly change PPT
  - Forecast uncertainties
  - Revenue Projections are being met based upon the 2007 actuals
- Uncertainty created by frequency of tax changes alters investor's risk tolerance
- Selective deductability adds confusion, administrative complexity and will modify cost behavior
- Increase tax erodes investment value by reducing cash available for reinvestment
- 10% Legacy Floor is a disincentive to investment
  - Limits amount of capital which can qualify for deductability rendering the marginal project uneconomic
  - Low price can invoke the minimum at the wrong time

