

# STATE OF ALASKA

## CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMISSION ON FEDERAL AREAS

*SEAN PARNELL,  
Governor*

*3700 AIRPORT WAY  
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June 24, 2011

Forrest Cole, C/O Linda Pulliam  
Ketchikan-Misty Fiord Ranger District, Tongass National Forest  
Attn: Bell Island Geothermal Lease  
3031 Tongass Avenue  
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Dear Mr. Cole;

The Citizens' Advisory Commission on Federal Areas (CACFA) has reviewed the Bell Island Geothermal Leasing scoping document and appreciates the opportunity to provide comments.

The Commission is sensitive to the needs of rural Alaska and the growing expense of energy to our rural communities. We are supportive of the development of alternative energy sources and geothermal resources are no exception. However, at this point, we have not taken a position on the Bell Island proposal.

At our regular Commission meeting on June 23, 2011, we heard testimony from one member of the public who was concerned that this potential geothermal development project would preclude the historic use of the hot springs on Bell Island. That person also felt that overhead transmission lines would detract from the scenic value of the area and recommended that they be buried or underwater.

The Commission looks forward to learning more about this proposal as it progresses and to reviewing the supplemental environmental impact statement. Please maintain our contact information for future notifications. Please contact our office if there are questions about our comments.

Sincerely,



Stan Leaphart  
Executive Director