

Department of Administration

DIVISION OF PERSONNEL AND LABOR RELATIONS

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March 15, 2021

The Honorable Bill Wielechowski Alaska State Capitol Room 9 Juneau, Alaska 99801

Re: AIDEA and AEA Work Environment Investigations

Dear Senator Wielechowski,

Thank you for your March 9, 2021 correspondence regarding workplace concerns reported at the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA) and the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA). The staff for both authorities are hired as employees of AIDEA. Therefore, we will refer only to AIDEA staff in this correspondence.

AIDEA employees are hired under the authority granted in AS 44.88.050(c) and all employees of AIDEA are in the exempt service under AS 39.25. Under this authority, AIDEA employs a Director of Human Resources. When employees are unable to achieve satisfactory resolution within the structure of AIDEA, complaints may be filed with the Commissioner of the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, the Division of Personnel within the Department of Administration, or the AIDEA board chair.

An aggrieved employee approached Commissioner Anderson in fall of 2020 to discuss concerns with workplace conduct. Commissioner Anderson consulted with the Department of Administration and the Department of Law, and a Human Resource Consultant was assigned to conduct an investigation of the allegations. That investigation is ongoing and it is being conducted under AS 39.28 and will be considered confidential in its entirety.

Thank you,

/s/Kate Sheehan

Kate Sheehan Director