



# MEDIA RELEASE

Jobs are Alaska's Future



ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
Commissioner Click Bishop

February 12, 2007

No. 07-32

## For Immediate Release

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### **ConocoPhillips, Inc Kuparuk area sites approved for Voluntary Protection Program Star Award**

**JUNEAU** – Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development Commissioner Click Bishop approved ConocoPhillips, Inc. Kuparuk area sites for the Alaska Occupational Safety and Health (AKOSH) Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) at the “Star” level to signify a tremendous achievement in occupational safety and health. The award covers three central production facilities, one seawater plant and 49 individual drill sites.

“By achieving the VPP Star award, ConocoPhillips demonstrated a strong commitment to providing the necessary resources while working with employees to establish a safe and healthy workplace,” said Commissioner Bishop. “This type of leadership is critical to making sure Alaskans have a safe place to work and to reducing Workers’ Compensation costs.”

Through a cooperative program between the company’s management and employees, along with AKOSH, VPP is designed to recognize and promote effective workplace safety and health management. Participation in the program is voluntary and does not exempt the worksite from AKOSH enforcement activities in the event of an employee complaint or accident. However, the worksite is removed from general scheduled random enforcement inspections for 18 to 60 months. As a recipient of the highest level of achievement in VPP, ConocoPhillips, Inc. will not be subject to general schedule enforcement inspections at the Star sites for five years.

At the present time, there are a total of eleven other sites in Alaska with the AKOSH VPP designation. For a complete listing of the sites and more information about the program, go to <http://www.labor.state.ak.us/lss/vpp.htm>.

Krystyna Markiewicz, AKOSH Health Consultant and VPP Coordinator, can provide more information about recognition programs and other consultation and training services. Contact her at (907) 269-4958 or [krystyna\\_markiewicz@labor.state.ak.us](mailto:krystyna_markiewicz@labor.state.ak.us)

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