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Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 2, 2011

No. 11-10

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New Regulations Clarify Alaska's Little Davis Bacon Act

JUNEAU, Alaska—The Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development has adopted new regulations that amend the definition of “on-site” to clarify the scope of activities covered under Alaska’s Little Davis Bacon Act, which applies to workers on public construction projects. The regulations were certified by Lt. Gov. Mead Treadwell and will take effect on March 24.

Alaska’s LDBA is modeled after the national Davis Bacon Act that established the requirement for paying prevailing wages on public works projects, but provides for a broader scope of coverage.

“The LDBA provides a level playing field for contractors to bid on public construction projects through minimum prevailing wage rates specific to Alaska,” said Grey Mitchell, director of the Labor Standards and Safety Division.

During a public hearing in January, the majority of comments supported proposed revisions to 8 AAC 30.910 that clarify standards to determine when truck driving and other activities associated with performing a public construction project are subject to prevailing wage requirements.

“To assist contractors to recognize and account for the impact of the new regulation, the Department of Labor sent notices the first week of February to the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities and all other contracting agencies across the state to include a reference to the proposed regulations in the bid specifications,” Mitchell said. “In addition, contractors with a history of working on public construction projects were sent notice of the department’s intent to avoid impacts to projects that were already underway by limiting the application of the revised regulation, once it becomes effective, only to new projects with a bid date on or after Feb. 15, 2011.”

For a copy of the revised definition of 8 AAC 30.910, go online to:
<http://labor.alaska.gov/commish/2011-02-22-wh-ot-signed.pdf>.

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Division of Labor Standards and Safety
<http://Labor.Alaska.Gov/lss/>