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August 12, 2026

State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Division of Mining, Land and Water
Land Conveyance Section
dnr.noncompland@alaska.gov

Re: Proposed AIDEA land transfer

Dear DNR staff:

The Meadow Lakes Community Council membership would like to submit the following comments regarding the proposed transfer of State of Alaska owned land in the Meadow Lakes area to AIDEA.

There was overwhelming opposition to the land transfer and to the proposed industrial uses. Giving public land to corporate industrial use for free is wrong.

The **top three concerns** stated at the meeting were:

1. Blocking of public access to hunting, fishing, recreation, trails, and existing public and private property.
2. Lack of transparency and public process.
3. Utility infrastructure does not exist.

Members summarized the following specific comments. Comments are sorted by main topic.

Access

- The proposed transfer is not compatible with current public uses.
- An adjacent property owner currently uses the land for hunting, fishing, and recreation. As soon as AIDEA takes over, they will not be able to do any of these.
- It would cut off access to public or private land to the north.

Trails

- All trails through the area will be impacted, including a trail project that Meadow Lakes Community Council has worked on for many years. This change will make the Visnaw to Little Su trail nearly impossible. The trails need to be legally secured by DNR before any transfer.
- It is a popular family recreation area.

Hunting

- Hunting would disappear. It is important to residents.
- One member harvested her first moose in the area back in the day.

Fishing

- Heavy industry is not compatible with salmon spawning streams. The current classification is the right classification for this land.

Transparency/Process

- The waiver of the revisionary clause is a serious concern. AIDEA taking multiuse public land with no pathway to return it to the public if the corporate use doesn't come through is not right.
- The project is being pushed through too quickly. Extend the public comment period.
- The timeline appears to be compressed for political reasons.
- Does not seem like a well thought out project.
- Many acres with no plan. Why not transfer land for specific projects?
- Look for land from the federal side instead if they are looking for a land transfer.
- Who do they have in mind for this location? What company? Members were concerned they are hiding a potentially problematic customer.
- There is a lack of information available.
- DEC needs to review this.
- Build out Port Mackenzie instead. There is already land designated industrial.

Utilities

- There will not be enough water to support the complex.
- We just heard an MEA presentation that we don't have enough power. This proposal would make it much worse.
- There is not enough of any utility for current uses, including power, gas, or water.
- There are concerns about wastewater, septic and industrial, going into the Little Su and ground water.

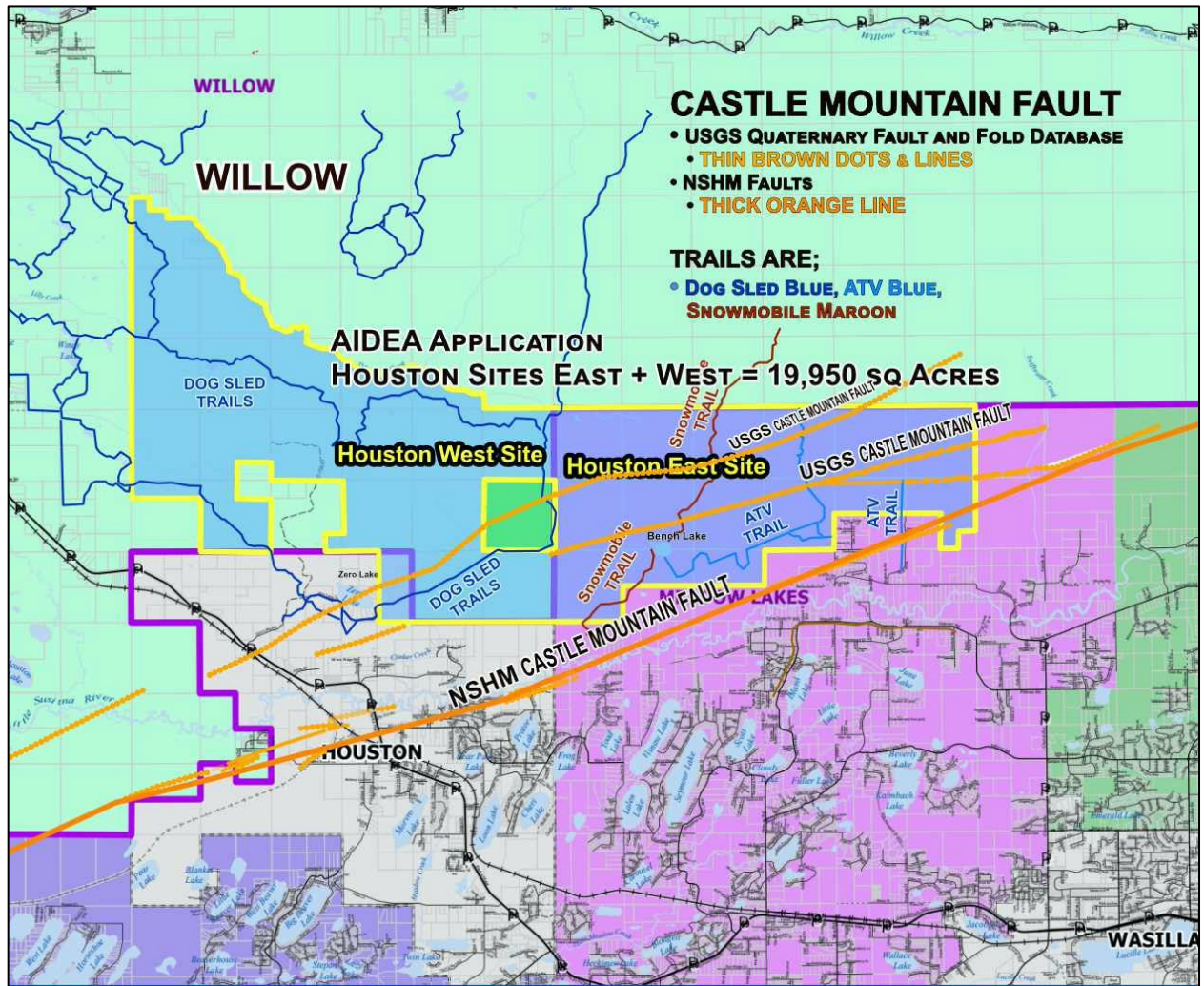
Miscellaneous

- This could cause an economic cascade like the gold rush with thousands of people moving here from out of state/country.
- The reputation of AIDEA is not the best, with many failed projects.

- One member supported mineral extraction. Any gravel or mining resources that are good grade should be mined.

Earthquakes

- The Castle Mountain Fault runs through here and can make 7.0+ earthquakes. Fault lines are shown below in orange lines.



We encourage the Department of Natural Resources to extend the public and agency review process.

The Meadow Lakes Community Council membership voted to submit these comments at the August 12, 2026, meeting.

Sincerely,

Camden Yehle

Camden Yehle, Meadow Lakes Community Council Secretary