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AOGA recognizes oil and gas industry service, safety, and environmental stewardship with awards

ANCHORAGE- May 10, 2016- In celebration of the Alaska Oil and Gas Association's (AOGA) 50th anniversary in 2016, the professional trade association for the oil and gas industry in Alaska is honoring individuals and companies for their achievements. Four awards will be handed out at AOGA's 50th Anniversary Celebration & Conference on May 25, 2016, at the Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center in Anchorage.

The four awardees are:

- **CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR SAFETY PERFORMANCE, sponsored by THE ALASKA SUPPORT INDUSTRY ALLIANCE: Pacific Rim Logistics, (PRL)**

The Contractor of the Year Award for Safety Performance, sponsored by the Alaska Support Industry Alliance, was created to recognize an oil and gas support company that has demonstrated exemplary commitment to safety. PRL truly exemplifies the highest standard of safety, through exemplary communication, training, and modeling safety to the workforce. PRL employees worked more than 210,000 hours on the Point Thomson project in 2015, including 164 cargo flights, 129 coastal barge voyages and more than 44,000 personnel moved via charter with zero lost time incidents and zero recordable incidents.

- **THE RISING STAR AWARD: Sterling Rearden, BP Alaska**

The Rising Star Award honors a young professional oil and gas industry employee, under the age of 35, who has made an immediate and definitive impact on the oil and gas industry in Alaska. Originally from Bethel, Sterling was an Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP) student at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, and began his career at BP Alaska through a summer internship program. He is now a project manager with BP's Global Projects Organization, with responsibility for increasingly complex and expensive projects. In addition to delivering consistently exceptional work product, Sterling is known as being a collaborative leader who recognizes the efforts and achievements of his colleagues. Outside of his project work, Sterling co-manages the summer bridge intern program for ANSEP and is also the co-founder of the Native American and Alaska Native Business Resource Group for BP North America.

- **ALASKA OIL & GAS PROJECT OF THE YEAR FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AND INNOVATION, sponsored by STOEL RIVES:**

- **ExxonMobil's Point Thomson Project**

The Alaska Oil and Gas Project of the Year for Environmental Stewardship and Innovation, sponsored by Stoel Rives, honors an Alaska oil and gas industry project that demonstrates superior environmental stewardship in its area of design, construction or operation and/or an innovative approach that sets a new standard for industry design, construction or operation in Alaska. Environmental excellence and innovation has been at the core of all aspects of Point Thomson Project planning and execution, and are demonstrated in techniques such as long-reach drilling, module barge and a near-shore bulkhead system that eliminated the need for a causeway, community consultations influencing design decision, and the use of ground surveillance radar technology to detect polar bears and other large animal approaching from distances greater than one kilometer. The Point Thomson Project also employs the use of motion-activated cameras to document caribou movements and satellite-based remote sensing techniques to monitor the annual caribou migration, thus reducing the use of low-flying aircraft. Additionally, the use of two unmanned arial systems (UAS) have allowed the project to monitor tundra vegetation and hydrology, providing superior imagery and setting the standard for photographic monitoring of environmental sites.

- **MARILYN CROCKETT LIFETIME ACHEIVEMENT AWARD: Kevin Tabler, Hilcorp Alaska**

The Marilyn Crockett Lifetime Achievement Award is named in honor of the former AOGA Executive Director who dedicated her entire 41-year career to, as she stated, “growing Alaska’s economy through a vibrant oil and gas sector in the state.” This award honors the dedication Marilyn displayed during her career: exceptional devotion of time, effort, thought, and action consistently shown in his/her work for the betterment of the oil and gas industry in Alaska. Kevin Tabler has spent his 36-year career in Alaska involved in much of the land and commercial activity as a Certified Professional Landman and Environmental Site Assessor. He has worked on corporate, commercial, and transactional matters, Native land issues, and business management benefiting nearly every facet of the petroleum industry in Alaska.

Awards were received and reviewed by a seven-person committee made up of industry experts, both active and retired, in the fields of government and public affairs; business; environmental and regulatory affairs; land management; and environmental law.

AOGA is a professional trade association whose mission is to foster the long-term viability of the oil and gas industry in Alaska for the benefit of all Alaskans. More information about the organization can be found at www.aoga.org, on Facebook (AlaskaOilAndGas), twitter (@AOGA), and Instagram (AlaskaOilAndGas).