Appropriations (1996): Correspondence 09

Pete Hallgren

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May 3, 1996

To: Senator Ted Stevens

From: Pete Hallgren

Chair, RPA

Though the RPA is officially neutral in the pre-primary months, no one could fail to notice the overwhelming (and frequent) applause your speech to the State Convention received last Saturday.

While all delegates were excited to hear of your work in finally reaching a 1996 budget deal, the Southeast Delegates (and myself as Sitka Mayor) were impressed beyond words at your ability to force the President to either give us back our timber jobs or pay reparations.

Even though the President chose wrong by killing our timber jobs, the $110 million dollars in reparations you obtained for Southeast will be greatly appreciated. The $18 million Sitka will receive will make a large difference in our community. I am taking every opportunity on radio and TV to thank you for the "Stevens Funds" which will make a big difference to all Sitkans.

Good work, and thank you!