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May 15, 2018

No. 18-18

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ConocoPhillips Kuparuk Approved for Voluntary Protection Program

JUNEAU, Alaska — Alaska Labor and Workforce Development Commissioner Heidi Drygas renewed approval of ConocoPhillips Kuparuk for the Alaska Occupational Safety and Health (AKOSH) Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) at the “Star” level as a result of exemplary safety and health programs.

“We are proud to be recertified in the AKOSH VPP program as it provides independent assurance that we have an effective safety and health management program that meets rigorous performance-based criteria,” said Ty Maxey, Greater Kuparuk Area Operations Manager. “More importantly, achieving this level of safety and health excellence benefits all our workers who return home safer and healthier to their families and friends after completing their rotational assignments.”

The VPP recognizes and promotes effective workplace safety and health management through a cooperative program between a company’s management, employees and AKOSH. Less than 2,300 U.S. worksites have achieved VPP status out of eight million-plus worksites that are covered by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). In Alaska, there are nine sites with the AKOSH VPP designation.

“Employers who participate in the Voluntary Protection Program show a remarkably strong commitment to protecting the health and safety of their employees,” said Commissioner Drygas. “The department is pleased to recognize ConocoPhillips Kuparuk for their outstanding efforts in managing workplace safety and health.”

“We are proud to be one of a select group of VPP Star sites as it demonstrates to our workers, industry and community that we are leaders in safety and health,” Maxey said. “We look forward to continuing our partnership with AKOSH to build on this success.”

As a VPP Star recipient, ConocoPhillips Kuparuk will not be subject to random enforcement inspections for a period of five years. Enforcement regulations remain in effect, however, and cases of employee complaints, accident investigations, or other significant incidents will result in an enforcement inspection. Participation in the program is voluntary.

There are nine sites in Alaska with the AKOSH VPP designation. For a complete listing of the sites and more information about the program, visit <http://labor.alaska.gov/lss/vpp-participants.html>.