

Advanced economies still need a great deal of oil and gas despite the move to sustainable / green sources of energy. Much electricity is still produced using fossil fuels, homes are still heated by oil and gas and transport requires petrol and diesel.

Home produced oil and gas increase the energy security of the USA as less oil and gas need to be imported. This reduces the dependence of the USA on unstable areas of the world such as Russia and the Middle East.

The local Alaskan economy benefits from the extraction and transfer of oil and gas, both at the oilfields themselves and in the building and maintenance of pipelines and ports. This provides many local jobs in oil and gas and the multiplier effect gives an added boost to local subsidiary industries and services such as health and education.

Domestic production of fossil fuels such as oil and gas helps the balance of payments of the USA as less oil and gas need to be imported from abroad.

## **EXPLOITATION OF FOSSIL FUEL OIL AND GAS IN ALASKA PRUDHOE BAY AND ANWR ADVANTAGES / PROS**

The improvement of local infrastructure, roads and railways leads to other economic developments and increases in local tax revenues allowing reinvestment in the local economy.

Modern oil and gas exploration and exploitation techniques may do little damage to the local Alaskan Tundra environment and ecosystem. Local flora and fauna can have their habitats protected and oil spills can be prevented or dealt with effectively.

The Trans-Alaskan Pipeline which moves oil from north to south Alaska has been developed to do little environmental damage. It is refrigerated below ground or has radiators to expel heat to the air to prevent damage by melting the permafrost or negatively impacting the delicate tundra ecosystem. 420 miles of pipeline are well above ground to protect the ecosystem and allow caribou to migrate freely.