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## Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

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### **Local Boundary Commission Completes City of Akutan's Petition Process with Commissioner Bell's Signature**

(Juneau, AK) - Commissioner Susan Bell of the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, signed the City of Akutan's Amended Certificate of Boundaries, completing the Local Boundary Commission annexation process begun in 2011.

Akutan, a second-class city in the Aleutians East Borough, incorporated in 1979. In late 2011, the City of Akutan, in cooperation with the Aleutians East Borough and the Akutan Corporation, submitted a petition to the Local Boundary Commission to annex approximately 130 square miles of land and water. This annexation includes major portions of land on Akutan and Akun Islands. The waters consist of Hot Springs Bay, Akutan Bay, Lost Harbor, Surf Bay, and a portion of Akun Straits.

The City of Akutan has spent years planning for a number of large capital projects within and around their current city limits. This annexation is a key piece of the planning and development process which will give the city the authority to implement and maintain these projects.

This year, for example, an airport has been built on Akun Island which is across the Akutan Bay from the city's limits. The airport is in the final stages of construction and is now within the city's jurisdiction. Additionally, hydroelectric and geothermal power projects, now within the city limits, are in the works with operations planned to begin as early as 2014.

The new boundary certificate for the city will be available on the Local Boundary Commission website, at the City of Akutan City Hall, and the Aleutians Island Recording District office.

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