

View from the Legislature – Prospects for Shale Development

Speakers:

Sen. Joe Paskvan (D-Fairbanks)

Rep. Paul Seaton (R-Homer)

July 31, 2012
Anchorage Marriott Downtown

K&L GATES

Alaska Shale Conference

Opportunities and Issues Affecting Development of Alaska Shale Plays

K&L Gates LLP

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Senator Joe Paskvan

D-Fairbanks

Co-Chair, Senate Resources Committee

Joe Paskvan is an attorney and a member of the Alaska State Senate where he currently serves as the co-chair of the Senate Resources Committee. In this role, Senator Paskvan has been active in the analysis of Alaska's shale oil potential. He also serves as the Vice Chair of the Labor and Commerce Committee, Vice-Chair of the State Affairs Committee, and a member of both the Judiciary and the Armed Services Committees.

Senator Paskvan was born and raised in Fairbanks, and is a third generation Alaskan. He graduated from Monroe High School in 1970, earned a B.A. in political science from the University of Alaska Fairbanks in 1975, and completed law school at the University of Puget Sound in 1981.

Paskvan had an internship in 1981 under Judge Alexander O. Bryner of the Alaska Court of Appeals, the year after the court was established. He worked for the law firm of Rice, Hoppner, Brown, & Brunner until 1986, when he started his own partnership, Paskvan & Ringstad PC, where he still works today.

Senator Paskvan has represented District E, which includes Fairbanks and Fort Wainwright, since 2009.

He and his wife Barb, also born and raised in Fairbanks, have four children: Nicole and husband Perry Rogers, Chelsea and husband Brandon Gawryletz, Tom, and Ryan. Joe and Barb recently welcomed their first grandchild, Ryan Henry Rogers, to the family.



Representative Paul Seaton

R-Homer

Co-Chair, House Resources Committee

Paul Seaton is a businessman in fish transportation and a member of the Alaska State House of Representatives, where he currently serves as co-chair of the House Resources Committee. He also serves on the State Affairs Committee, Health & Social Services Committee, and Education Committee. He is a member of the House Majority Caucus and the Bush Caucus.

Representative Seaton has represented District 35, which includes Homer, Seward, and adjacent communities, since 2003.

Seaton has lived and worked in Alaska for over 40 years. He graduated from University of Alaska Fairbanks with a B.S. in Biology and Master of Arts in Teaching in the Biological Sciences. He received a M.S. in Marine Zoology from San Diego State College and graduated from Seward AVTEC in Diesel Mechanics.

Representative Seaton is the owner of K-N-S Marine, a fish tender business operating two vessels contracting with a variety of fish processors. As a Commercial Fisherman, Seaton fished halibut 1974-2009, Pacific cod with pots in the 1990s and Drift Gillnet salmon in Cook Inlet for 19 years.

He and his wife Tina live in Kachemak City and have two grown children and are recently grandparents. Their son Rand is a Fish Tender Captain and pursuing a Master of Arts in Teaching at University of Alaska Southeast. Their daughter Tawny is a Business Owner in Minnesota. She and her husband recently brought the newest addition to the family, granddaughter Hazel, to Alaska.