

# ARCTIC EXECUTIVE STEERING COMMITTEE

## Summary of Principals' Meeting July 22, 2022

### Overview

On July 22, 2022, the Arctic Executive Steering Committee (AESC) held its third Principals' Meeting in the Biden-Harris Administration. Dr. Alondra Nelson, Deputy Assistant to the President, performing the duties of the Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, chaired the meeting. Katie Tobin represented the President's National Security Advisor, Jake Sullivan, who serves as AESC Vice Chair.

The meeting included the following segments:

- Opening remarks by Dr. Nelson and Katie Tobin
- Discussion of the recent changes in the geopolitical circumstances facing the Arctic Region
- Progress assessments on the initiatives launched at previous AESC Principals' meetings:
  - Assisting Environmentally Threatened Communities in Alaska
  - Facilitating the Transition to Renewal Energy
  - Improving Water and Sanitation Services to Arctic Communities
  - Advancing Marine Science in the Arctic
  - Advancing Safe and Environmentally Secure Arctic Shipping
  - Cleaning up Alaska Native Lands
  - Arctic 2030
- Consideration and approval of a new initiative on sustainable development of critical materials in Alaska
- Reports from the Bering Task Force and the Arctic Resilience Working Group
- Presentation on the new Ted Stevens Center for Arctic Security Studies

### Background

President Obama created the AESC through [Executive Order 13698](#) and directed it to

provide guidance to executive departments and agencies and enhance coordination of Federal Arctic policies across agencies and offices, and, where applicable, with State, local, and Alaska Native tribal governments and similar Alaska Native organizations, academic and research institutions, and the private and nonprofit sectors.

**Next AESC Meeting:** The AESC intends to hold its next meeting in the third quarter of 2022.