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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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# Fourth-Quarter 2013 Alaska Earnings Review Investment Costs and Production Estimates for New North Slope Projects Released

ANCHORAGE, Alaska – In connection with ConocoPhillips' fourth-quarter 2013 earnings announced earlier today, ConocoPhillips Alaska reported the following 2013 Alaska earnings facts.

As reported in the earnings supplemental information, ConocoPhillips Alaska had adjusted earnings of \$555 million in the fourth-quarter of 2013. This amount is up from adjusted earnings of \$494 million in the third-quarter of 2013. Fourth-quarter 2013 production was approximately twenty-seven thousand barrels of oil equivalent per day higher than the prior quarter due primarily to benefits from less planned downtime and seasonality, which were partially offset by normal field decline. During the fourth-quarter of 2013, ConocoPhillips Alaska incurred an estimated \$960 million in obligations to Alaska and the federal government. Of this amount, an estimated \$679 million was due to Alaska in the form of severance taxes, royalties, property taxes and state income tax.

"The fourth quarter of 2013 is similar to what we have seen historically under ACES where we pay about twice as much in taxes as we keep," said Bob Heinrich, vice president finance, ConocoPhillips Alaska. "The recent oil tax reform passed by the Legislature, which took full effect January 1, 2014, improves the business climate in Alaska. Since passage of oil tax reform, we have added two rigs to our North Slope rig fleet; announced plans for a new Kuparuk drill site, Drill Site 2S; started permitting for the Greater Mooses Tooth -1 project, a new development in the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska; and approved a 2014 Alaska capital budget of \$1.7 billion."

The two rigs added to the Kuparuk rig fleet, Nabors 7-ES and Nabors 9-ES, bring the total number of rigs working in ConocoPhillips-operated North Slope fields to six. Nabors 7-ES has already brought on new production of approximately 2,600 barrels of oil per day (BOPD). Nabors 9-ES started work in mid-January of 2014.

Work is underway to advance Kuparuk Drill Site 2S and Greater Mooses Tooth – 1 (GMT1) in the NPR-A, the two new projects announced after passage of oil tax reform. The projects could add approximately 38,000 BOPD gross to North Slope production by 2018 at a cost of about \$1.5 billion gross.

Kuparuk Drill Site 2S, to be located on the southwest flank of the Kuparuk River Field, will create approximately 230 jobs during construction. Production from Drill Site 2S will be processed through the existing Kuparuk River Unit facilities. The estimated cost of the project is approximately \$600 million gross. Estimated peak production is 8,000 BOPD gross, with first oil anticipated in late 2015. ConocoPhillips will lay gravel for Drill Site 2S during the first quarter of 2014 in order to be ready for facility construction in late 2014 followed by drilling in mid-2015. The company plans to seek internal and co-owner approval for wells and facilities in 2014.

GMT1 would create approximately 400 direct jobs and several hundred more in support positions during the construction period. The estimated cost of the project is approximately \$900 million gross. Oil would be processed through the company's existing Alpine facilities. Construction could begin in 2016 and continue in 2017, with first oil in late 2017. Estimated peak production is 30,000 BOPD gross. COPA filed permit applications for GMT1 in July 2013. Internal and co-owner approval for the project is targeted for late 2014.

The 2014 capital budget for Alaska of \$1.7 billion represents an increase of \$600 million over 2013 and is nearly double the 2012 capital budget. The increase in the capital budget supports development of Alpine drill site CD-5, facility renewal work, increased drilling, and investments to progress the AK LNG project. A peak of 1,000 new direct jobs are being created to support the increased spending and activity on the North Slope.

"Our capital spending for 2014 represents a substantial increase over past years, " said Trond-Erik Johansen, president of ConocoPhillips Alaska. "The passage of oil tax reform has increased the likelihood that Drill Site 2S, GMT-1, and other production-adding projects we have not yet announced will move ahead, keeping our future level of capital spending and overall employment at high levels. In addition, the investments encouraged by oil tax reform will create opportunities for Alaska businesses, add new revenue for the state, increase contributions to the Permanent Fund and put more oil down TAPS."

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## ConocoPhillips Alaska also reported the following regarding earnings:

#### Fourth-Quarter 2013

- ConocoPhillips Alaska estimated Alaska taxes and royalties and federal income tax = \$1.0 billion
  - ConocoPhillips Alaska estimated taxes and royalties due to Alaska = \$0.7 billion
  - ConocoPhillips Alaska estimated federal taxes = \$0.3 billion
- ConocoPhillips Alaska approximate adjusted earnings = \$0.6 billion

#### Year-to-Date 2013 -

- ConocoPhillips Alaska estimated Alaska taxes and royalties and federal income tax = \$4.0 billion
  - o ConocoPhillips Alaska estimated taxes and royalties due to Alaska = \$2.9 billion
  - ConocoPhillips Alaska estimated federal taxes = \$1.1 billion
- ConocoPhillips Alaska adjusted earnings = \$2.3 billion

Since 2007, ConocoPhillips Alaska has paid over \$30.6 billion in taxes and royalties to the State of Alaska and the federal government. Of that amount, over \$23.5 billion went directly to the State.

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ConocoPhillips has been leading the search for energy in Alaska for more than 50 years. The company is committed to responsibly developing Alaska's resources, providing economic opportunity for Alaska, operating at the highest safety standards and being good stewards of our communities. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.conocophillipsalaska.com">www.conocophillipsalaska.com</a>.

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# <u>CAUTIONARY STATEMENT FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE "SAFE HARBOR" PROVISIONS OF THE PRIVATE SECURITIES LITIGATION REFORM ACT OF 1995</u>

This news release contains forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements relate to future events and anticipated results of operations, business strategies, and other aspects of our operations or operating results. In many cases you can identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as "anticipate," "estimate," "believe," "continue," "could," "intend," "may," "plan," "potential," "predict," "should," "will," "expect," "objective," "projection," "forecast," "goal," "guidance," "outlook," "effort," "target" and other similar words. However, the absence of these words does not mean that the statements are not forward-looking. Where, in any forward-looking statement, the company expresses an expectation or belief as to future results, such expectation or belief is expressed in good faith and believed to have a reasonable basis. However, there can be no assurance that such expectation or belief will result or be achieved. The actual results of operations can and will be affected by a variety of risks and other matters including, but not limited to, changes in commodity prices; changes in expected levels of oil and gas reserves or production; operating hazards, drilling risks, unsuccessful exploratory activities; difficulties in developing new products and manufacturing processes; unexpected cost increases; international monetary conditions; potential liability for remedial actions under existing or future environmental regulations; potential liability resulting from pending or future litigation; limited access to capital or significantly higher cost of capital related to illiquidity or uncertainty in the domestic or international financial markets; and general domestic and international economic and political conditions; as well as changes in tax, environmental and other laws applicable to our business. Other factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements include other economic, business, competitive and/or regulatory factors affe