

**CHUGACH ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**Anchorage, Alaska**

**OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

**September 26, 2007**

**ACTION REQUIRED**

**AGENDA ITEM NO. XI.**

**Information Only**  
 **Motion**  
 **Resolution**  
 **Executive Session**  
 **Other**

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**TOPIC**

Release historical benchmarking and supporting documents (1995-1999) useful for members to evaluate the economic efficiency and performance of Chugach Electric.

**DISCUSSION**

Chugach participated in a series of benchmarking projects from 1995 to 1998. The intent was to see how Chugach Electric compared to the best practices of other utility companies. The intended benefit was to judge whether our costs in certain areas are reasonable or deserve a closer look. The benchmarking reports were issued and presented to management and the board prior to 1998 and they have never been released to the member-ratepayers.

As far back as March 1997, the Outlet stated that “we intend to begin reporting measures that will improve our accountability to the membership and help you be an informed voter in co-op elections.” Therefore, it is long overdue that these key studies (which cost member-ratepayers approximately \$500,000) be released in order to increase transparency and public reporting.

Given that we are now part of a public process that is exploring potential business arrangements between Chugach and ML&P, it is imperative to have all benchmarking studies out on the table for the membership to review. Once our benchmarking has been made public, it will encourage ML&P and the Municipality to make similar information public so that all Anchorage residents can make properly informed decisions regarding the future of their electric utilities.

**MOTION**

Move that under Board Policy 128.II.D3 it is in the best interests of the Association to release the documents following historical benchmarking and supportive documents:

1. NRECA-PACE’95 Results Conference, Herndon VA [12/14/95] attended by Lee Thibert. The first benchmarking that CEA participated in.
2. 12/95 - NRECA-PACE’95 (Distribution & Procurement & Materials Management)

3. 12/96 - UMS Power Delivery (Distribution, Substation & Transmission Operations and Maintenance) Benchmarking
4. 6/97 - UMS Management Assessment of the Cooperative's Positioning to Successfully Compete in the Changing Electric Utility Business Environment
5. 1/98 - UMS PACE Customer Service '97
6. 1/98 - UMS PACE Infrastructure Development '97 (Engineering Design, Planning, Construction Management, ROW Land Services, Asset Management)
7. 1/98 - UMS Generation Benchmarking
8. 10/14/98 - Chugach Board Restructuring Retreat, Increasing Competitiveness in the Alaska Electric Utility Industry to Better Serve Consumers. October 13-15, 1998. Alyeska Prince Hotel, Girdwood, Alaska.
9. 10/21/99 - Chugach Board Restructuring Retreat #2, Increasing Competitiveness in the Alaska Electric Utility Industry, WHAT NEXT? October 21, 1999. Chugach Electric Association Boardroom, Anchorage

### **Manner of Release**

1. Proprietary restrictions: All documents are to be made available to members of Chugach Electric. Those with proprietary restrictions that specifically prohibit disclosure to Chugach members will be redacted in a manner suitable to the proprietary requirements of the other party to the relevant confidentiality agreement (UMS, for example).
2. The finalized documents (original version if no confidentiality agreement exists, and redacted version if confidentiality agreement exists) will be converted into PDF format and made available for direct download by members from the Chugach web site.
3. There will be no fees associated for access to the benchmarking documents.
4. The member shall not have to state any "proper purpose" for access to the documents.