

February 28, 2002

This letter & attachments mailed 3/1/02 to the Service List attached.

David P. Boergers, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First St NE, Room 1-A East
Washington, DC 20426

Re: Cooper Lake Hydroelectric Project – Relicensing & Public Meetings

We at Chugach Electric Association wish to take this opportunity to inform you that we have just notified the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) of our intent to seek a license renewal for the Cooper Lake hydroelectric facility. Designated as FERC Project No. 2170, the Cooper Lake powerplant and the transmission line between Anchorage and Kenai are important resources for southcentral Alaska. We are seeking renewal of the project's license to preserve the beneficial use of cost-effective hydroelectric power for a secure supply of electricity in Alaska. Enclosed is a copy of our notice, which FERC is expected to place in the Federal Register, and an invitation for a discussion of the relicensing and participation opportunities.


The relicensing process is a major undertaking that will take several years. By regulation, the FERC must be notified of our intent five years prior to license expiration, and formal application submitted no less than two years prior. The project's original 50-year operating license expires at the end of April 2007, so the application must be submitted by April 30, 2005.

As many of you know, we retained Long View Associates to conduct an outreach process in late 2001 to help us determine the best process to use for this relicensing. FERC procedures allow variation in how relicensing activities may proceed, and after carefully considering the alternatives and the information obtained from the outreach, Chugach has chosen to follow a traditional relicensing process, but with enhanced communication and participation during consultation and preparation of the application. To this end, Chugach has engaged Long View Associates, under the leadership and experience of Stephen Padula, for a principal role on Chugach's relicensing team.

Chugach will begin a number of activities this year in order to effectively accomplish the relicensing. Efforts planned for 2002 include formal and informal consultation with federal and state agencies, public groups and individuals that have an interest in the project; developing baseline data to describe existing conditions of potentially affected resources; and completing the necessary scoping studies. The details of the process that was developed with your input, and the steps we will be taking over the next few years, will be presented and discussed at public meetings on March 19 in Anchorage and March 20 in Cooper Landing. Meeting times and locations are noted on the enclosed flyer.

Please plan to attend. We look forward to meeting with you.

Sincerely,


Thomas A. Lovas
Manager, System Development
and Corporate Planning

Enclosures (3)

CHUGACH ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
Anchorage, Alaska

Public Meeting Notice

*Cooper Lake Hydroelectric Project
FERC License 2170*

Relicensing Process and Procedures

Presented by:

Stephen Padula
Cooper Lake Relicensing Consultant
Long View Associates

Introduction by:

Tom Lovas
Relicensing Project Manager
Chugach Electric Association, Inc.

Anchorage: March 19, 2002. 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM
WestCoast International Inn, 3333 W. Intl. Arpt. Rd.
Refreshments Provided

Cooper Landing: March 20, 2002. 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM
Kenai Princess Lodge
Refreshments Provided

Please RSVP by March 15 to:

Ms. May Clark, Relicensing Secretary
907-762-4547 or may_clark@chugachelectric.com