



Chugach Electric Association, Inc. **OUTLET**

www.chugachelectric.com January 2016 Number 335

Railbelt utilities making progress on transmission business plan

Chugach and the other Railbelt electric utilities continue to make progress on a business model for more effective operation of the region's transmission assets.

In late December, Chugach and the other utilities jointly submitted a report to the Regulatory Commission of Alaska summarizing their progress. The group is voluntarily evaluating how the formation of a transmission company can provide overall benefits to the region. The Railbelt utilities continue to work

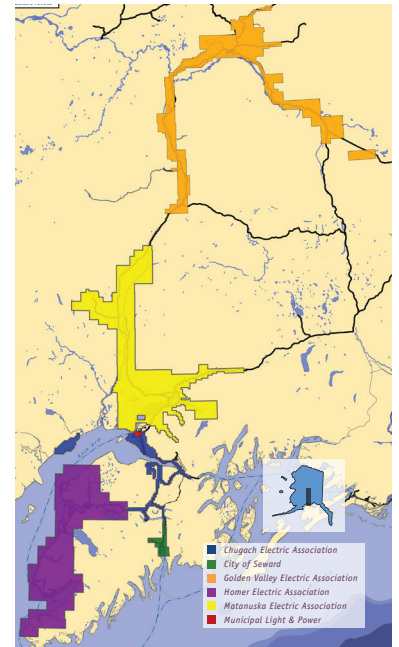
with American Transmission Co., a Wisconsin-based transmission-only utility formed through a similar effort in 2001 in the Midwest.

The December update to regulators was the second following a study by the RCA of the Railbelt transmission system. The RCA summarized its findings in a June letter to legislative leadership. The report concluded that many benefits could be achieved by creating a new organization to manage the transmission assets

of the Railbelt. Those benefits include the ability to plan, finance, construct, operate and maintain upgrades and additions to the regional transmission system.

The December report from utilities to the RCA outlines progress on a business plan for transitioning from a network of separately operated transmission assets to a new transmission company. Work on the business

See Railbelt, page 2



Most of the Railbelt transmission assets are owned by six electric utilities and the Alaska Energy Authority.

Middle school students awarded for taking energy efficiency pledge

Chugach – along with Matanuska Electric Association, Municipal Light & Power, and Renewable Energy Alaska Project – held the 2015 Power Pledge Challenge for middle school students in the Anchorage School District and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District. The grand prize-winning class, Ben Walker's 3rd period science class at Romig Middle School, was presented with an award by Alaska First Lady Donna Walker in December.

More than 2,000 local

middle school students, from 74 classrooms in 10 middle schools, participated in the 2015 Power Pledge Challenge. This two-week challenge, held in cooperation with the Alaska Energy Authority, aimed to help youth better understand how they use energy, how to calculate the cost of their usage and the importance of taking measures to use energy efficiently at home and school. {1108792}

Representatives from Chugach, MEA, ML&P and REAP visited participating

Alaska First Lady Donna Walker scoops ice cream for students at Romig Middle School with ML&P General Manager Mark Johnston and Chugach Senior Vice President Lee Thibert.



classes and presented on how to calculate energy usage, energy efficiency, and specific and realistic ways in which students can reduce their usage. Students completed a hands-on activity from the AK EnergySmart curriculum, a resource developed

in Alaska. To qualify for the challenge, students then conducted an online home energy audit with their families and identified specific actions they would take to use energy more efficiently.

See Students, page 2

Students (cont'd from page 1)

Each student who completed the online energy pledge earned a single entry for their class into a drawing to win a field trip to a local power plant and a pizza party. One student winner was drawn from the Anchorage School District and another from the area served by the Matanuska-

Susitna Borough plus the ASD area from Eagle River to the Knik River. For the grand prize, each classroom that had 75 percent or greater student participation in the pledge was entered to win an ice cream party with Alaska First Lady Donna Walker.

Members continue energy efficiency efforts

Chugach members continue to take steps to reduce their electric energy consumption. In a recent member attitude survey of residential customers, 73 percent reported taking steps in the last year to conserve or lower their use of electricity.

Lighting was most frequently targeted. Eighty-six percent of those who conserved said they had replaced incandescent lights with compact fluorescents or

LEDs. The next most common responses were:

- Switching off power strips when devices were not in use.
- Purchasing an ENERGY STAR appliance.
- Using energy-saving or sleep features on electronics.
- Replacing an older computer with a more efficient model.
- Replacing a cathode-ray



Annual meeting and election notes

Chugach's annual membership meeting will be held on Thursday, May 19, 2016 at the Dena'ina Civic & Convention Center.

Two directors will be elected to the Chugach board in the upcoming 2016 election.

Members who are interested in either meeting with and being considered by the Nominating committee or running by petition should call 907-762-4791 to obtain a candidate packet. Candidate applications and resumes for the Nominating Committee's

review must be received by 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5, 2016.

Members may submit proposed bylaw changes until 5 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 14, 2016.

Bylaw proposals or candidate nomination packets should be submitted to:

Tom Schulman
PO Box 196300
Anchorage, AK 99519-6300
tom_schulman@chugachelectric.com

More information and forms may be found at www.chugachelectric.com or by calling 907-762-4177.

TV with a more efficient model.

The survey findings illustrate a long-term trend of Chugach residential customers using less electricity. Twenty years ago the average residential

customer used 750 kilowatt-hours per month. Ten years ago the monthly average was 700 kwh. For the past few years it has averaged 650 kwh per month.

Railbelt (cont'd from page 1)

plan and transmission-only utility model will continue in 2016. The concept will require approval by the governing bodies of the

participating utilities before a formal application is filed with the RCA for permission to form the new transmission business.

Once the Railbelt utilities' year-end report is filed, it will be available on the RCA website at:

<http://rca.alaska.gov/RCAWeb/Filings/FilingDetails.aspx?id=970368bd-2dbe-4f6b-b516-00675f59590f>

The Chugach Outlet

A Publication of Chugach Electric Association, Inc.
5601 Electron Drive • P.O. Box 196300 • Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6300

Corporate Mission: Through superior service, safely provide reliable and competitively priced energy.

Corporate vision: Powering Alaska's future

Personnel policy: It is a policy of Chugach Electric Association, Inc., to recruit, hire, train, compensate and promote persons without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, disability, veterans status, age or any other classification protected by applicable federal, state, or local law. Chugach is also an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Current openings are posted on the employment page at <http://chugachelectric.com>. Chugach only accepts applications for open vacancies.

Member number hide-n-peek

Find your member number (in brackets) in the Outlet and get a \$100 credit on your electric bill. Call Chugach's service center at 563-7366 to claim your prize.

Contact us

Hours

Main number
Toll free
Member Services
Member Services fax
24-hour payment line
Credit
Power theft hotline
Danger tree hotline
Street light hotline
Underground locates
Regulatory Commission of AK
or
To report a power outage
In Anchorage
Outside Anchorage

Monday - Friday
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
563-7494
(800) 478-7494
563-7366
762-4678
762-7803
563-5060
762-4731
762-7227
762-7676
811
(800) 390-2782
276-6222
762-7888
(800) 478-7494

Monthly residential service costs

(based on 650 kwh)

Customer charge/month	\$ 8.00
Energy charge \$0.11470 x kwh =	\$74.56
Fuel \$0.03263 x kwh =	\$21.21
Purchased power \$0.01487 x kwh =	\$9.67
FIW renewable energy adj. \$0.00245 x kwh =	<u>\$1.59</u>
<small>(Fuel, Purchased power and FIW renewable energy adjustment factors pending Regulatory Commission of Alaska approval)</small>	
Subtotal	\$115.03
2% MOA Undergrounding Charge =	\$ 2.30
Regulatory Cost Charge \$0.000732 x kwh =	<u>\$ 0.48</u>
Total bill	\$117.81