



Legislative session produces mixed results

The 28th Legislature produced mixed results for Chugach and other Railbelt utilities. Here's an update on how the main issues on Chugach's 2014 State legislative agenda fared.

Renewable Energy Fund

The capital budget passed by the Legislature included \$22.8 million for the Renewable Energy Fund administered by AEA. From that, Chugach is projected to receive a \$3.5 million grant to help pay for its Stetson Creek diversion project at the Cooper Lake Hydroelectric Project.

Grid unification

Chugach's top priority during this year's session was to promote the idea of unifying the Railbelt transmission grid to achieve mandated uniform reliability, set the stage for economic dispatch, perform required transmission improve-

ments, and better enable open access. Creating an Independent System Operator (ISO) could achieve those goals. ISOs are common in the Lower 48 and Canada. A Railbelt ISO would provide a non-profit, independent organization to plan, finance, build and operate a unified transmission network that operated under set reliability standards with costs paid through a unified tariff. Bills were introduced in both the House and Senate to advance the ISO. While neither bill passed, the Legislature did include \$250,000 in the capital budget for the Regulatory Commission of Alaska to study the feasibility of an independent transmission organization for the Railbelt.

Capital projects

Chugach remains focused on unconstraining the transmission system between the Bradley

Lake Hydroelectric Project and Anchorage. Through its membership in the regional generation & transmission organization known as ARCTEC (Alaska Railbelt Cooperative Transmission & Electric Company), Chugach supported funding for four Railbelt projects, including the rebuild of two sections of the 115-kilovolt line between Anchorage and the Kenai Peninsula. Unfortunately the capital budget approved by the Legislature did not include funding for any of the ARCTEC-proposed projects.

Susitna-Watana hydro project

The capital budget included \$20 million for the Alaska Energy Authority to use to continue to progress toward filing a license application with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a major new hydro project for the Railbelt. The Susitna-Watana Hydroelec-

tric Project is proposed to be a 600-megawatt plant at river mile 184 of the Susitna River, above Devils Canyon.

RCA sunset

The termination date for the Regulatory Commission of Alaska was extended to June 30, 2022. The RCA is the State agency that has oversight and regulatory authority over utilities, including Chugach. Chugach favored an extension.

Metals theft

The Legislature approved HB 305, which addresses metals theft by targeting the transaction between a seller and a scrap metals dealer. The legislation calls for the collection of certain information when selling scrap metal. The bill resulted from the efforts of contractors,

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Chugach project selected for technology grant

An innovative project Chugach proposed to test a means of regulating wind power has been selected for grant funding. The demonstration project will combine a flywheel and battery in a one-megawatt multi-stage energy storage system to help compensate for the variability of power generated by wind turbines.

The flywheel system, which will have a very high cycle life but a smaller capacity, will provide the first stage response to

grid instabilities. The battery system, with a higher capacity that is able to provide power for longer durations, will provide the second stage response. The objective of the demonstration is to design and operate the combined system with optimized capital and lifecycle costs, with the flywheel system providing complete response to short duration events, thus reducing the number of cycles required from the battery system. A larger version of the pilot

system could provide significant grid stability and also facilitate integration of intermittent energy sources.

Chugach's project was one of five selected by the Alaska Energy Authority for a grant from the Emerging Energy Technology Fund. The \$720,000 grant

will pay half the estimated cost of the project, with Chugach funding the balance.

**CHUGACH ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

MAY 22, 2014

DENA'INA CIVIC & CONVENTION CENTER

**REGISTRATION OPENS AT 6 P.M.
MEETING BEGINS AT 7 P.M.**

Solid-state lighting advances

Solid-state lighting products have gained more and more shelf space in retail stores across the country in recent years. LED (light-emitting diode) lights are available in a variety of choices to replace incandescent bulbs. Over the past decade, the U.S. Department of Energy has partnered with industry in the research and development of solid-state lighting. Both LED and OLED (organic light-emitting diode) technologies have received attention.

The potential for energy savings are behind the effort. According to DOE, switching to LED lighting over the next two decades could save the country \$250 billion in energy costs over that period, reduce the electricity consumption for lighting by nearly one half, and avoid 1,800 million metric tons of carbon emission. Chugach members continue to use more efficient lighting products to reduce consumption. In a 2013 survey, 23 percent of Chugach members polled reported they'd switched to



A selection of LED bulbs are available as drop-in replacements for incandescent bulbs in screw-type sockets.

different light bulbs to help cut their electric bills. Customer behavior influences both their individual bill and overall consumption. In the past decade the average monthly residential usage for Chugach customers has fallen from about 700

kilowatt-hours to 650 kwh.

For more information from DOE on solid-state lighting, go to <http://www1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/ssl>.

Coming soon

In late May Chugach will launch the MyPower Reports program, designed to inform residential members about their energy use and assist them in taking steps toward reducing energy consumption. The report, which builds on the MyPower

pilot program launched last year, will show members their current energy use compared to approximately 100 nearby, occupied homes with similar characteristics – such as square footage and fuel types. The MyPower Reports will be

emailed to randomly selected residential members. Chugach has partnered with Opower, an energy information company, to administer the Email MyPower Reports.

Want to learn about your home's electricity use, see how you compare to your neighbors and learn ways to save money? Join MyPower today, visit www.chugachelectric.com for more information.

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electric and telephone utilities and their trade associations, scrap dealers, law enforcement and the Alaska Railroad. In 2013 thieves stole copper

ground wires at Chugach's Daves Creek Substation, necessitating \$9,200 in repairs and an 80-minute outage for more than 600 customers in Moose

Pass and Cooper Landing.

Bills passed by the legislature are still subject to review and action by the governor.



Right Tree, Right Place

Chugach is certified by the Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree Line USA utility. A certified staff arborist can help customers determine what type of plants and trees should be planted near utility rights of way. Call Chugach at 762-7660, or go to www.chugachelectric.com for planting tips and information on recommended trees and shrubs.

Arbor Day is a day designated to encourage Americans to plant trees. Arbor Day is observed in Alaska on the third Monday in May.

Contact us

Hours	Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Main number	563-7494
Toll free	(800) 478-7494
Member Services	563-7366
Member Services fax	762-4678
24-hour payment line	762-7803
Credit	563-5060
Power theft hotline	762-4731
Danger tree hotline	762-7227
Street light hotline	762-7676
Underground locates	811
Regulatory Commission of AK	(800) 390-2782
or	276-6222
To report a power outage	
In Anchorage	762-7888
Outside Anchorage	(800) 478-7494

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.applicantpro.com>. Chugach only accepts applications for open vacancies.

The Chugach Outlet

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5601 Electron Drive • P.O. Box 196300 • Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6300

Monthly residential service costs (based on 650 kwh)	
Customer charge/month	\$ 8.00
Energy charge \$0.09432 x kwh =	\$61.31
Fuel \$0.04564 x kwh =	\$29.67
Purchased power \$0.00537 x kwh =	\$3.49
FIW renewable energy adj. \$0.00146 x kwh =	\$0.95
<small>(Fuel, Purchased power and FIW renewable energy adjustment factors effective Apr. 1, 2014)</small>	
Subtotal	103.42
2% MOA Undergrounding Charge =	\$ 2.07
Regulatory Cost Charge \$0.000578 x kwh =	\$ 0.38
Total bill	\$105.87

Member number hide-n-seek

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.

CHUGACH
POWERING ALASKA'S FUTURE

