

Board appoints Robbins

Doug Robbins was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Chugach board of directors. The board



Director Doug Robbins, left, is welcomed to the board by Chairman Jim Nordlund

voted unanimously to make the appointment at its Dec. 16 meeting after interviewing 14 Chugach members interested in serving on the body. The vacancy was created by the October passing of Director Pat Kennedy.

Chugach is a member-owned cooperative electric utility, governed by a 7-member board of directors elected to staggered 3-year terms.

Robbins, 54, is a retired petro-

leum geologist and manager who spent 26 years with Marathon Oil Company. He earned a bachelors degree in geology from Carleton College in Minnesota and a masters in geology from Indiana University.

Robbins will serve on the board until next spring's annual election, at which time a Chugach member will be elected to serve for one year to complete the unexpired balance of former-director Kennedy's term.

Co-located facilities



In early December, Alaska Communication's contractor installed a cellular telephone antennae atop a Chugach power pole at the corner of Aero Avenue and West Northern Lights Boulevard. The communications company will pay Chugach for the use of the pole. Where practical, the MOA Planning Department supports the use of power poles as cell towers to avoid the installation of an additional structure in a neighborhood. This is the second agreement Chugach has reached in recent years to permit a communications antennae on top of a power line structure.

SPP receives air permit

The Southcentral Power Project achieved a significant milestone when it received a key permit from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation on Dec. 20. The document, known as a final Title I Air Quality Construction Permit, keeps the project on schedule. In its review, DEC analyzed predicted emissions from both the exist-

ing generating units at the site as well as those planned as part of SPP to ensure air quality would not be degraded.

SPP will be a highly efficient, 183-megawatt, natural gas-fired, combined-cycle power plant. It is a joint project between Chugach and Municipal Light & Power. Chugach will

own 70 percent of the project and its output, with ML&P taking the remaining 30 percent. The plant will use only about three-fourths of the gas to make a kilowatt-hour compared to the system average today, saving customers millions in avoided

See Permit, page 2

Governor's budget supports energy

The proposed operating and capital budgets released by Gov. Parnell on Dec. 15 include strong backing for energy activities.

The budget contains \$65.7 million for the Alaska Energy Authority to conduct planning, design and permitting for a major hydro project on the Susitna River. The proposed project could provide up to half the electric energy needed in the Railbelt. In November, the AEA

released a decision document concluding that Susitna should be considered the primary hydroelectric project for the region.

The governor's budget also includes funding for weatherization, renewable energy and natural gas pipeline activities.

For more on the budget, go to: <http://gov.alaska.gov/parnell/press-room/full-press-release.html?pr=5600>

Take the Pledge: Be a Watt Buster

Chugach members are invited to a "Take the Smart Power Pledge" Open House, from 3:30 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 26, in the Member Services Lobby. The event will unveil a new type of pledge drive – members can take the ENERGY STAR pledge and become an active Watt Buster. See the ENERGY STAR home display and pick up tips for making homes more energy efficient.

Free smart strips while supplies last. Learn more at SmartPowerAK.com.



Permit (cont'd from page 1)

fuel costs annually. SPP is being built on a portion of Chugach's headquarters complex near Minnesota Drive and International Airport Road.

In January the contractor for the project will file for a building permit with the Municipality of Anchorage. The site for the project has been cleared and



Artist's rendering of SPP

Watt Buster research completed

Equipment that tells consumers how much electricity they're using does make them more aware of how they use energy. But that knowledge doesn't always result in lower electric consumption.

That was among the key findings in a research project conducted in 2010 to determine whether building energy monitors would result in less electric use. The Watt Buster project had a residential and commercial component. It was funded in part by a matching grant from the Alaska Energy Authority. Download the report at <http://www.akenergyauthority.org/buildingenergymonitors.html>.

graded. The project schedule calls for 2 years of construction beginning in 2011, start-up at the end of 2012 and commercial operation at the beginning of 2013.

For more on SPP, see the project link at www.chugachelectric.com.

In the residential component of the research project, 96 residential members used building energy monitors for approximately four months in 2010, ending June 30.

Some subsets of the residential Watt Buster group did reduce their electric consumption, but not everybody did. In fact, for the entire group, there was little change in consumption from the same months the year before.

The commercial component of Watt Buster found that many commercial customers are taking steps to become more energy efficient and their decisions about energy efficiency

Rate refund approved

Many Chugach retail customers will soon see a modest rate refund on their bills. The refunds are the result of the conclusion of a rate case in October 2010. Interim rates were in effect while the case was before the Regulatory Commission of Alaska. Since the final approved rates were lower than the interim rates for some customers, refunds were in order. Chugach's proposed refund plan was approved by the RCA in December.

The specific amount of each refund will depend upon an individual customer's consumption during the year interim rates

were in effect. For residential customers, the average refund is \$1.72. For large general service customers, the average refund is \$22.50. Small general service customers will not receive refunds since they were not subject to interim rates.

The amount of refunds, plus interest and tax adjustments, will appear as special line items on customers' bills. For inactive accounts, Chugach will mail checks for refunds of \$1 or more, while smaller amounts will escheat to the State of Alaska – along with returned checks.

Annual meeting notes

Members may submit proposed bylaws changes by Feb. 1 for consideration by the Bylaws Committee in advance of the upcoming annual meeting.

Applications for four board seats must be submitted by Mar. 4 to be considered by the Nominating Committee. More information and forms may be found at www.chugachelectric.com.

Nominations or bylaw proposals should be submitted to:

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

initiated more efficient lighting, counseled employees and modified operations.

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.

Contact us

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	278-3121
Regulatory Commission of AK	(800) 390-2782
or	276-6222
To report a power outage	
In Anchorage	762-7888
Outside Anchorage	(800) 478-7494

Hours

5601 Electron Drive
(effective Sept. 27, 2010)
Monday - Friday
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

The Chugach Outlet

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

Monthly residential service costs (based on 700 kwh)

Customer charge/month	\$ 8.00
Energy charge \$0.070630 x kwh =	\$49.44
Fuel \$0.042410 x kwh =	\$29.69
Purchased power \$0.005160 x kwh =	\$3.61
(Fuel & purchased power adjustments effective 1/1/11 - 3/31/11)	
Subtotal	\$ 90.74
2% MOA Underground Charge =	\$ 1.81
RCC \$0.000552 x kwh =	\$ 0.39
Total bill	\$92.94