



## **KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH**

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**MIKE NAVARRE  
BOROUGH MAYOR**

### **LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARATION**

WHEREAS, on December 11, 2011, December 18, 2011, and again on December 20, 2011, a series of major windstorms resulted in widespread power outages occurring in the northern portions of the Kenai Peninsula Borough, threatening life and property; and

WHEREAS, widespread damages to the power utility occurred on December 11, 2011 in the northern portion of the Kenai Peninsula Borough affecting Cooper Landing, Moose Pass, Hope, and Sunrise, due to a major power transmission line being damaged by snow and ice accumulation and by several spans of distribution lines being knocked down from ice, snow and falling trees; and

WHEREAS, approximately 500 homes and businesses in Hope, Sunrise and Moose Pass were left without power for 48 hours due to damages that also required the installation of an emergency generator to provide power to the community of Hope; and

WHEREAS, on December 18, 2011, another storm with severe winds and heavy snow caused transmission lines to sag and trip causing power loss to Moose Pass and Sunrise residents, with approximately 500 homes and businesses being affected for approximately 24 hours; and

WHEREAS, on December 20, 2011, a third storm with severe winds and heavy snow caused transmission lines to again sag to the ground and trip off line. The community of Moose Pass was without power for approximately 60 hours, and the community of Sunrise was without power for twenty of thirty days as a result of the series of storms; and

WHEREAS, repairs to power transmission lines are continuing; and

WHEREAS, Chugach Electric, a non-profit association, has requested assistance from the Kenai Peninsula Borough for unanticipated expenses related to the storm damages, exceeding \$1,500,000.00; and

WHEREAS, KPB a second-class borough does not have the authority to provide financial support to utility companies, nor to repair or replace their damaged facilities and infrastructure, and therefore the damages exceed the capability and authority of the KPB;

THEREFORE, as Mayor of the Kenai Peninsula Borough I hereby declare a Disaster Emergency per AS 26.23.140 to exist in the Kenai Peninsula Borough in the following areas: the communities of, Hope, Sunrise, Cooper Landing, and Moose Pass, and other areas determined to have been damaged by the major windstorms described above.

FURTHERMORE, it is hereby respectfully requested that the Honorable Sean Parnell, Governor of the State of Alaska, declare a disaster emergency to exist as described in AS 26.23.020 and provide disaster assistance to the Kenai Peninsula Borough, and to the utility company that has responded to this disaster. The borough specifically requests public assistance with temporary and permanent repairs to electrical distribution systems, and technical assistance to evaluate damages.

Signed Mike Navarre  
Mike Navarre, Mayor

Date 2/1/12

ATTEST:

Johni Blankenship  
Johni Blankenship  
Borough Clerk

