Chugach works to manage pandemic impacts while serving members

After nearly two years of managing a significant decline in electric sales and the associated drop in revenues during the COVID-19 pandemic, Chugach Electric Association has filed a request for a rate increase with the Regulatory Commission of Alaska (RCA). The request to raise base rates by 4.1% effective Feb. 1, 2022, will be diminished, however, by a drop in fuel prices which will have a net positive impact on members. If approved by the RCA, member bills will decline on average in the first quarter of 2022 by between 0.1% and 5% depending on customer class.

The request for the base rate increase is the result of an ongoing discussion with the RCA to find a way for the utility to wait for electric use and revenues to recover as Anchorage's economy starts to turn around after weathering months of a downturn brought about by the pandemic. Chugach's revenues have declined significantly, with reductions of \$9.4 million realized from the beginning of the pandemic through Oct. 31, 2021.

The recent declines in electric sales are independent from Chugach's acquisition of ML&P which has

"Like every business in Alaska, we have worked hard to keep the company healthy, delivering reliable power to our members, while dealing with the impacts of COVID-19. It's fortunate that as we ask for this increase in base rates, members will also have the benefit of lower fuel costs which will mean bills will not increase early next year."

Chugach CEO Lee Thibert

resulted in significant cost reductions and savings during the first year following the acquisition. Chugach has incurred both increases in costs due to inflation and lower revenues due to reductions in sales since base rates were last adjusted.

Chugach's most recent base rate increase was 1.1% in May of 2020, and former ML&P customers haven't had a base rate increase since 2017. Additionally, rates went down for all customer classes in January of this year.

Chugach has requested the RCA make a decision on the recent rate filing by Jan. 24, 2022.

Annual Meeting & Election planned for May 2022

Chugach's annual membership meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 20, 2022. The goal is to have an inperson meeting for the first time in two years, but that may be altered by the COVID-19 pandemic. Voting in the annual election will begin in mid-April.

Nominations open for two board seats

Two candidates will be elected to four-year terms on



Chugach Annual Meeting 2019

the Chugach Board of Directors in the 2022 election. Members who are interested in being considered by the Nominating Committee, or running by petition, should call (907) 762-4489 to obtain a candidate

See Annual Meeting, page 2

Annual Meeting, continured from page 1

packet. Candidate applications and resumes for the Nominating Committee's review must be received by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2022.

Bylaw submissions open

Members may submit proposed bylaw changes for consideration by the Bylaws Committee until

5 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2022. Bylaw proposals or candidate nominations should be submitted to: Julie Hasquet, PO Box 196300, Anchorage, AK 99519-6300 or julie_hasquet@chugachelectric.com.

More information and forms may be found at www.chugachelectric.com/media/annual meeting.

Drive-thru closing in February

As part of Chugach's ongoing efforts to consolidate services and increase efficiencies, the service center on the North Campus at 1120 E. 1st Ave., will close on Feb. 18, 2022. The service center, which is a drive-thru, gets limited use by Chugach members. Chugach offers a number of other ways for members to conveniently pay bills and looks forward to continuing to serve walk-in members at the South Campus at 5601 Electron Drive.

FIVE EASY WAYS TO PAY YOUR CHUGACH BILL



ONE-TIME ONLINE PAYMENT: Go to www.chugachelectric.com and click "Pay Now"



BY PHONE: Available 24/7 at (907) 762-7803



AUTOPAY: Opt in by enrolling in My Account



BY MAIL: Send payment stubs and payments to P.O. Box 196760, Anchorage, AK 99519



FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF ALASKA: Cash or check payments can be made at any FNBA branch



Special holiday delivery

Chugach donated hundreds of turkeys to nine local non-profits as part of an annual holiday tradition. For the past 20 years, Chugach has delivered turkeys to non-profits to help support holiday food baskets. This year, 450 turkeys were distributed in early December. {107947}

"Chugach is committed to supporting our members and the communities we serve," said CEO Lee Thibert. "We are very pleased to continue what is now two decades of helping to make the holidays a little brighter for Anchorage families."

Chugach purchases the turkeys from Carrs/Safeway and distributes them to the charities.



From Engineering to Operations to Member Services, all of Chugach's roughly 460 employees live and work in Alaska. As a way to help our members get to know some of the Chugach team, we are starting a monthly profile where we will introduce you to those who work each day to provide safe, reliable power.



Name: Kate Ayers
Position: Manager, Key
Accounts & Sustainability
Time at Chugach: 8 years

Kate, who holds a civil engineering degree, works on our sustainability efforts and is a liaison to some of our larger commercial accounts. She enjoys shaping programs into something that are long-lasting and beneficial to the organization and to members.





Copper-bottomed pans heat faster on the stove. In the oven, ceramic and glass dishes are better than metal. With ceramic and glass dishes, you can turn the oven down about 25 degrees, and your meal will cook just as quickly.

Source: Energy.gov



The Outlet

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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.