## Appreciating our members

With October approaching, we're ready to celebrate National Cooperative and National Energy Awareness Month — two great opportunities to show appreciation for our members.

**Member Appreciation Day:** To kick off the celebration, on Friday, Oct. 1, all Chugach members will be entered into a random drawing for the chance to win a battery powered yard tool. Visit us from 10:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m. at 5601 Electron Drive or our drive-thru at 1120 E. 1st Ave for tips on energy efficiency and a pack of LED lightbulbs, while supplies last.

**Weekly Trivia:** Follow us on Facebook and watch for weekly trivia questions in October. Members who answer a trivia question correctly will be entered to win a gift certificate from local businesses. {1141171}

**Efficient Fridays:** Information about energy efficiency and sustainability will be available in our lobby and at our drivethru, every Friday in October from 10:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

#### National Drive Electric Week®



# Clean energy, clean car

Get charged up for National Drive Electric Week (Sept. 25–Oct. 3), an effort to raise awareness about the benefits of electric vehicles (EVs). As part of Member Appreciation Day, join us Friday, Oct. 1, between 10:30 a.m.– 1:30 p.m. at 5601 Electron Dr. to see EVs on display and to learn more about the EV experience. Owners who visit us with their EV on Oct. 1 will get a car wash gift card, while supplies last.

## COVID-19 pandemic impacts demand for electricity

Among the many impacts the COVID-19 pandemic has had on individuals, families, and businesses, there has been a significant impact on Chugach's sales of electricity. Partially due to businesses that closed or minimized operations during the pandemic, Chugach's demand for power from commercial members is down just over 8% compared to a prepandemic period.

Although there has been a slight increase in power sales among residential members, the decrease in commercial business, along with energy efficiency measures by members and other economic

factors, has had a significant impact on Chugach's revenues. As a capital-intensive industry with critical infrastructure to support and maintain, the memberowned cooperative is managing expenses and reducing costs where possible but is looking for regulatory relief.

Chugach has asked the Regulatory Commission of Alaska to modify the agreement accepted when Chugach bought Municipal Light & Power by allowing some costs to be expensed later. If accepted, the modification would significantly offset the impact of the reduction in sales.

## **Volunteers needed for Annual Meeting committees**

Chugach is looking for members interested in serving on its 2022 Bylaws, Election, and Nominating committees. These committees, which are essential to a successful annual meeting and election process, provide an excellent opportunity to learn more about your electric cooperative.

- Bylaws Committee: reviews
   Chugach's bylaws and considers
   any recommendations for
   revisions
- Nominating Committee: seeks and screens potential

nominees to run for the Chugach Board of Directors

• Election Committee:
responsible for ensuring a fair and impartial annual election

Members interested in applying for an appointment should submit an application. Applications for the committees must be received by 5 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 5.

For more information or to receive an application, call 762-4766 or visit chugachelectric.com/media/annual-meeting.

### Last call! Join the MAC

The Chugach Board of Directors is seeking volunteers to serve a one-year term on the Member Advisory Council and help inform the board on issues impacting members. Meetings begin in January 2022. Apply at chugachelectric.com on the Board of Directors page by 5 p.m. on Sept. 24.



(L to R) Chugach Board Vice Chair Bettina Chastain, Chair Rachel Morse, Exec. VP of Regulatory and External Affairs Arthur Miller and U.S. Sec. of Energy Jennifer Granholm.



# **Briefing Energy Secretary on Fire Island Wind**

Chugach staff and board members discussed the Fire Island Wind (FIW) project with U.S. Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm last month. Sec. Granholm was touring Alaska looking at renewable energy projects that

could benefit from federal funding when she included a visit to Kincaid Park with an across Cook Inlet view of Fire Island. Chugach Executive Vice President of Regulatory and External Affairs Arthur Miller, Board Chair Rachel Morse,
Board Vice-Chair
Bettina Chastain, and
CIRI President & CEO
Sophie Minich gave the
Secretary an overview of
the wind project and its
role in the overall energy
portfolio. FIW supplies
roughly 2% of Chugach's

total retail load, and the annual energy output is equivalent to the energy use of about 6,500 homes.



Keep cold air out to save energy. Seal air leaks around pipes and any gaps around chimneys and unfinished spaces behind cupboards and closets.



#### 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.

Source: Energy.gov