

# OUTLET

July 2017 Number 353

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## Projects bring improvements to electric system

Chugach is busy this summer on a number of projects designed to improve power delivery and reliability to our members.

### ***Partnering with the City on 100th & Spenard Road projects***

We are partnering with the Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) on some projects, including the 100th Avenue corridor between Minnesota Drive and C Street. The project will complete the connection of 100th to the Old Seward Highway. As part of the project, Chugach is moving our 34.5 kV underground cable—which runs east/west—to the south to accommodate the road project. Chugach is also putting in a power pole and relocating guy wires on the east side of Minnesota to mitigate conflicts with the planned road extension. Total project cost is \$800,000 which will be reimbursed by the MOA.

Chugach is also working with the MOA on the Spenard Road project. Spenard is being reconstructed from Hillcrest Drive to 30th Avenue with a number of improvements. The Chugach work includes relocating aerial 3-phase distribution lines, putting them underground. The project will replace approximately 875 feet from 31st Avenue to Benson. The upgrade will allow for additional capacity for future load growth. {1187768}

### ***Undergrounding projects move forward***

Several undergrounding projects are also planned this summer including DeBarr Road to Muldoon. The project will retire nine distribution poles and wire along DeBarr Road, south of Fred Meyer, and install underground facilities. The Creekside Town Center, Begich Middle School, and Wal-Mart have all added to increased loads in the area, prompting the need for system improvements.

Along Boniface Parkway, 709 feet of line will be put underground north of Northern Lights. The upgrade will improve system capacity for existing and new load growth, as well as improve reliability. The summer peak loading is near the capacity limit of the current circuit, representing one of the heaviest loaded overhead line segments on the system.

### ***New equipment at Daves Creek and Soldotna***

Chugach is working with several partners on a project

on the Kenai Peninsula. Chugach is managing the replacement of thyristor valves, cooling pumps, cooling towers and control systems at the Daves

Creek and Soldotna Static VAR Compensators (SVC). The SVCs use large power electronics, very large transistors which are similar to what is in a computer, to control the flow of current through inductors and capacitors, allowing Chugach to increase the amount of power exported off of the Kenai Peninsula.

Improvements at Daves Creek SVC were substantially completed earlier in the year, and commissioning at the Soldotna SVC will run through August. The SVCs are owned by the State of Alaska through the Bradley Lake Hydro Project, and each of the six Railbelt utilities contribute financially while Chugach operates and maintains the equipment.



*A worker terminates cable in the new control cubicle at the Soldotna SVC*



*Project Engineer Andrew Laughlin explains the new and more efficient cooling skid at Daves Creek SVC*

## Rate changes

Effective July 1, 2017, a number of rate changes are going into effect. The Regulatory Commission of Alaska approved a 3 percent demand and energy rate decrease for Chugach retail members. This reduction, however, is offset by higher fuel and purchased power rates and a slight increase in the Regulatory Cost Charge. For a residential customer using 600 kWh per month, the total bill will increase from \$115.10 to \$117.60, or approximately 2.2 percent.

## Supporting Alaska's Military



Chugach was proud to support Military Appreciation Week in Anchorage. Each May, the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce sponsors a week of events recognizing Anchorage's military community. Chugach sponsored a table at the Military Appreciation Luncheon. Employees who are military veterans shared the table with active duty service members.

## Employees join fight against breast cancer



Chugach was a proud supporter of the 2017 Alaska Run for Women with team "High Voltage" raising nearly \$900 to fight breast cancer. The 25th annual event, one of Alaska's largest footraces, attracted more than 5,300 runners and walkers. Chugach has had a team for several years.

## Utilities discuss ways to save

The Anchorage Assembly unanimously passed a resolution on June 13 asking Chugach, Municipal Light & Power, and the Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) to begin "substantive steps to explore merger opportunities."

Discussions of one Anchorage utility have occurred frequently in the past three decades and were part of the discussion at the May 1 Anchorage Chamber of Commerce luncheon. Chugach is always interested in evaluating ways to save our member-owners money. We look forward to working with ML&P and the MOA on recommendations that will benefit all Anchorage residents.



Chugach CEO Lee Thibert speaks at the Chamber luncheon

## Chugach hosts national conference

Chugach hosted the three-day G&T Accounting & Finance Association 2017 Annual Meeting in mid-June. The conference is held each year and brings finance, accounting, and tax professionals together to discuss the latest best practices for the industry. Approximately 230 attendees came to the conference from across Alaska and the rest of the U.S.



Hotel Captain Cook

## Green Corner

Reducing our carbon footprint

Many idle electronics—TVs, DVD players, stereos, microwaves—use energy even when switched off to keep display clocks lit and remote controls working. Switch off power strips and unplug electrical devices when you're not using them.



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### 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.