Study of a Proposed Hydroelectric Project on the North Fork of the Snow River

Chugach Electric Association, Inc.
Why a hydro project?

- Sustainable
- Renewable
  - Reduces CO2 emissions
- Dispatchable
- Long-term rate stability
Chugach’s generation profile

- Gas-fired – 76%
  - Southcentral Power Project
  - Beluga
- Hydroelectric – 20%
  - Cooper Lake Power Project
  - Eklutna Power Project
  - Bradley Lake Power Project
- Wind – 4%
  - Fire Island
Future generation decisions

- Assurance of adequate generation and fuel resources
- Chugach uses Integrated Resource Planning
- Evaluation of resource options
- Long-term planning
  - 20+ year horizon
- Requires information on potential options
Why this site?

- Snow River hydroelectric project potential has been recognized for decades
  - USGS (1960’s)
  - AEA (1980’s)
- Basin has attractive hydro project characteristics
  - Water flow
  - Reservoir storage potential
  - Elevation difference
  - Near existing infrastructure
    - Port, highway, railroad, transmission line
Watershed - reservoir
Proposed facilities (2 alternates)
Land ownership
FERC process

- Secure FERC Preliminary Permit
  - Provides 3 years to study concept
  - Can be extended

- FERC License Application
  - Supported by studies, engineering, proposed protection, mitigation and enhancement measures

- FERC Review
  - Comprehensive
  - Dam safety
  - Conditions

- Construction
Project needs to be feasible

- Can you license it?
- Can you finance it?
- Can you build it?
- Does it make financial sense?
Prospective timeline

- Preliminary Permit: 3-5 Years
- License application: 2-3 Years
- Construction: 3 Years
Those that have been made:
- Secure a Preliminary Permit
- Study the potential of the concept
- Fund 2017 activities

Those that have not been made:
- Continue studying the concept past 2017
- Whether to submit a license application
- Whether to build the project
Key early activity

- Understand Forest Service wild and scenic classifications
- Gather existing resource information
- Field reconnaissance/site evaluation
- Evaluate effects of jokulhlaups
- Identify information needs
Questions?