HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 8

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES TALERICO, Colver, Lynn, Millett, Hughes, Vazquez

Introduced: 1/23/15
Referred: House Special Committee on Energy, Resources

A RESOLUTION

Urging the federal government to empower the state to protect the state's access to affordable and reliable electrical generation.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

WHEREAS the overreach by the United States Environmental Protection Agency continues to erode state rights; and

WHEREAS especially egregious is the Clean Power Plan for existing power plants, which places unprecedented regulations on the nation's energy producers and threatens access to affordable and reliable energy solutions for this and other states; and

WHEREAS the Regulatory Commission of Alaska should be empowered to make decisions with methodology based on the lowest production costs for electrical generation; and

WHEREAS the state would benefit from a one and one-half percent cap on electricity rate increases; and

WHEREAS utilities, communities, residents, and commercial entities should be protected from any attempts to close a coal-fired power plant in the state; and

WHEREAS the state needs coal-fired power plants to ensure the reliability of the...
electrical energy grid; and

WHEREAS the loss of other traditional electrical generation methods may cause natural gas plants to be overused or used in ways that exceed their engineered design; and

WHEREAS fostering the development and preservation of reliable, affordable, and environmentally safe electricity for communities, homes, and businesses in the state is an essential state activity; and

WHEREAS the state is better able to deal with the issues described in this resolution than the federal government;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges the federal government to empower the state government, which is accountable to the people of the state, to regulate its own energy production and use in order to protect access to affordable and reliable electrical generation for residents of the state.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United States; the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable John Boehner, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable Mitch McConnell, Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Orrin Hatch, President pro tempore of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Lisa Murkowski and the Honorable Dan Sullivan, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress; and all other members of the 114th United States Congress.