



c/o Matanuska Electric Association, Inc. Post Office Box 2929, Palmer, Alaska 99645 (907) 761-9212

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Matanuska Electric Assn., Inc.
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March, 18, 2014

Honorable House of Representative Charisse Millet
Co-Ch. House Special Committee on Energy
State Capital
Juneau, Ak. 99801

Dear Representative Millet

I am writing to you today as chairman of the ARCTEC Board of Directors, to express my full support for HB 340, 'An Act directing the Regulatory Commission of Alaska to provide a report to the legislature relating to electrical transmission in certain areas of the state and providing for an effective date.'

On January 7, 2011, five Railbelt utilities created a new Generation and Transmission utility, The Alaska Railbelt Cooperative Transmission and Electric Company, (ARCTEC) to collectively handle common energy needs and challenges. Utilities comprising the ARCTEC membership include Chugach Electric Association, Matanuska Electric Association, Seward Electric System, and Golden Valley Association.

ARCTEC provides a platform for the Railbelt utilities to unite around common opportunities and concerns. We believe a single transmission operator and economic dispatch of generation resources time has come. It will improve the Railbelt system for the benefit of all represented electric cooperatives and their members. If constructed and managed properly, a single operator could level the playing field for customers and power producers statewide with consistent, regulated wholesale power costs. This model would also optimize the distribution of energy in the Railbelt system by economically dispatching Railbelt generation assets resulting in substantial savings for Alaskan residents. The health and vitality of our states core electric and transmission system, the reasonable electric rates that result, will drive economic growth and improve the quality of life as well.

I urge you to support HB 340 to allow further exploration of this concept and

determine the best model to provide Alaskans with this economic benefit for our residents, businesses and communities. Thank you for your consideration on this very important legislation.

Sincerely,



Willard E. Dunham, Chairman
ARCTEC Board of Directors
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