

SEAPA

Southeast Alaska Power Agency

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March 15, 2011

To: The Alaska State Legislature

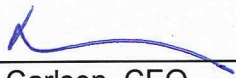
Re: House Joint Resolution No. 20

On behalf of The Southeast Alaska Power Agency (SEAPA), I am writing to inform you of our support for House Joint Resolution No. 20. SEAPA is the owner of the Swan Lake and Tye Lake hydro projects in southern Southeast Alaska. We deliver renewable hydropower to our member communities of Ketchikan, Wrangell and Petersburg. In addition, we own and maintain 175 miles of transmission lines between these communities. Ketchikan and Petersburg also own several small hydropower plants and, when combined with our facilities, we are able to meet almost all of the current power demands with renewable hydropower. However, loads continue to increase and more hydropower facilities will have to be built. We are fortunate that the geography in the region, coupled with high precipitation, lends itself nicely for the development of hydropower. There are numerous potential projects that can be developed to assure the majority of our power and energy is delivered by hydropower.

Unfortunately, most of these project reside in the Tongass National Forest and are classified as 'roadless'. The implementation of the 'roadless rule' would be not only devastating to our local economies but also devastating to our ability to develop new hydro projects.

We urge passage of HJR20 and also urge the Governor and Legislature to take whatever actions are necessary to stop the implementation of protection of inventoried roadless areas under the "roadless rule" in the Tongass and Chugach National Forests.

Sincerely,



Dave Carlson, CEO
The Southeast Alaska Power Agency

cc: Governor Sean Parnell
Congressman Don Young
U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski
U.S. Senator Mark Begich
Senator Bert Stedman
Representative Peggy Wilson
Representative Kyle Johansen
Lew Williams, III, Mayor, City of Ketchikan
Jeremy Maxand, Mayor, City of Wrangell
Al Dwyer, Mayor, City of Petersburg
SEAPA Board of Directors