



PROVIDING POWER IN RURAL ALASKA

PRESENTED BY
ALASKA VILLAGE ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE
TO
THE HOUSE ENERGY
COMMITTEE

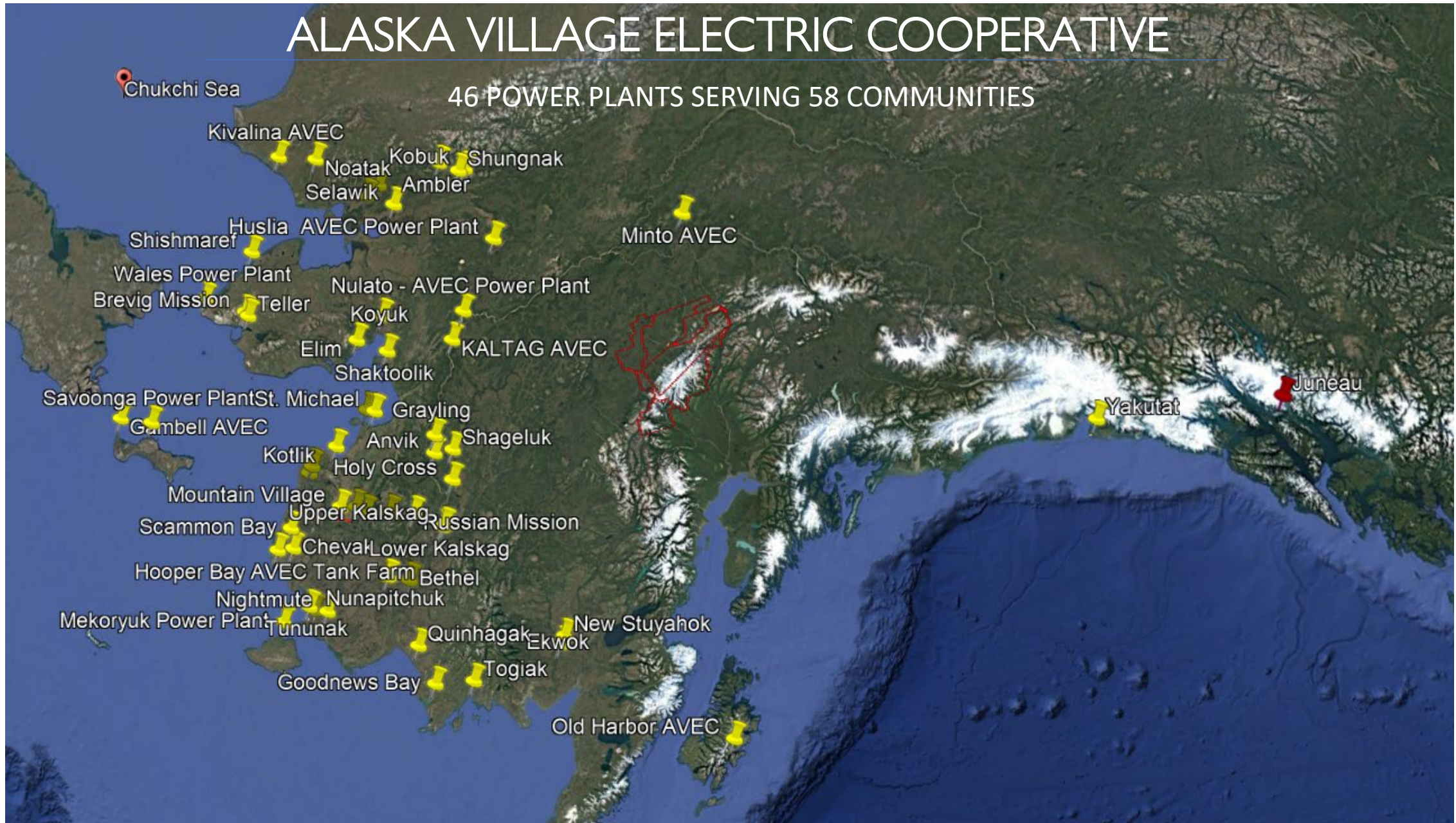
FEBRUARY 5, 2026

Bill Stamm, President & CEO
bstamm@avec.org
www.avec.org

Hooper Bay, AK

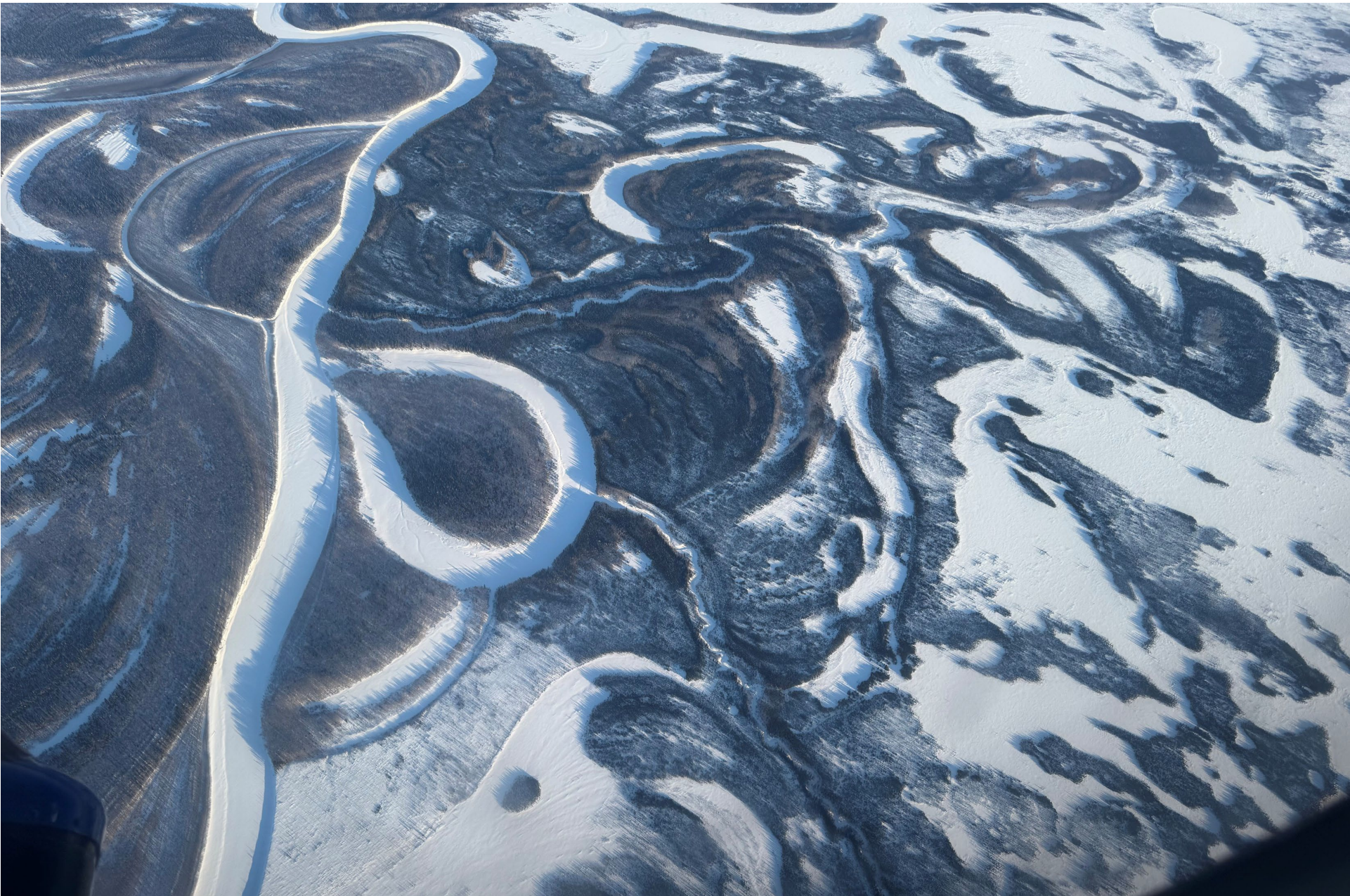
ALASKA VILLAGE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

46 POWER PLANTS SERVING 58 COMMUNITIES













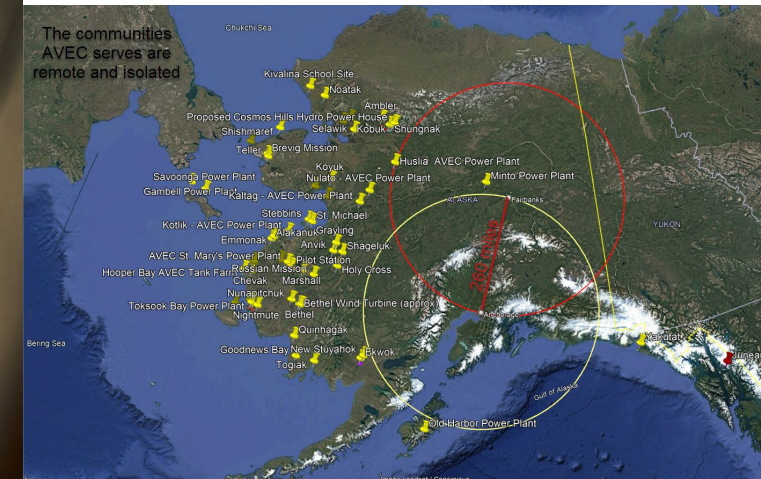
COOPERATIVE: OWNED BY THE MEMBERS WE SERVE



8,500 Members

**11,500 Metered
Locations**

31,000 Population



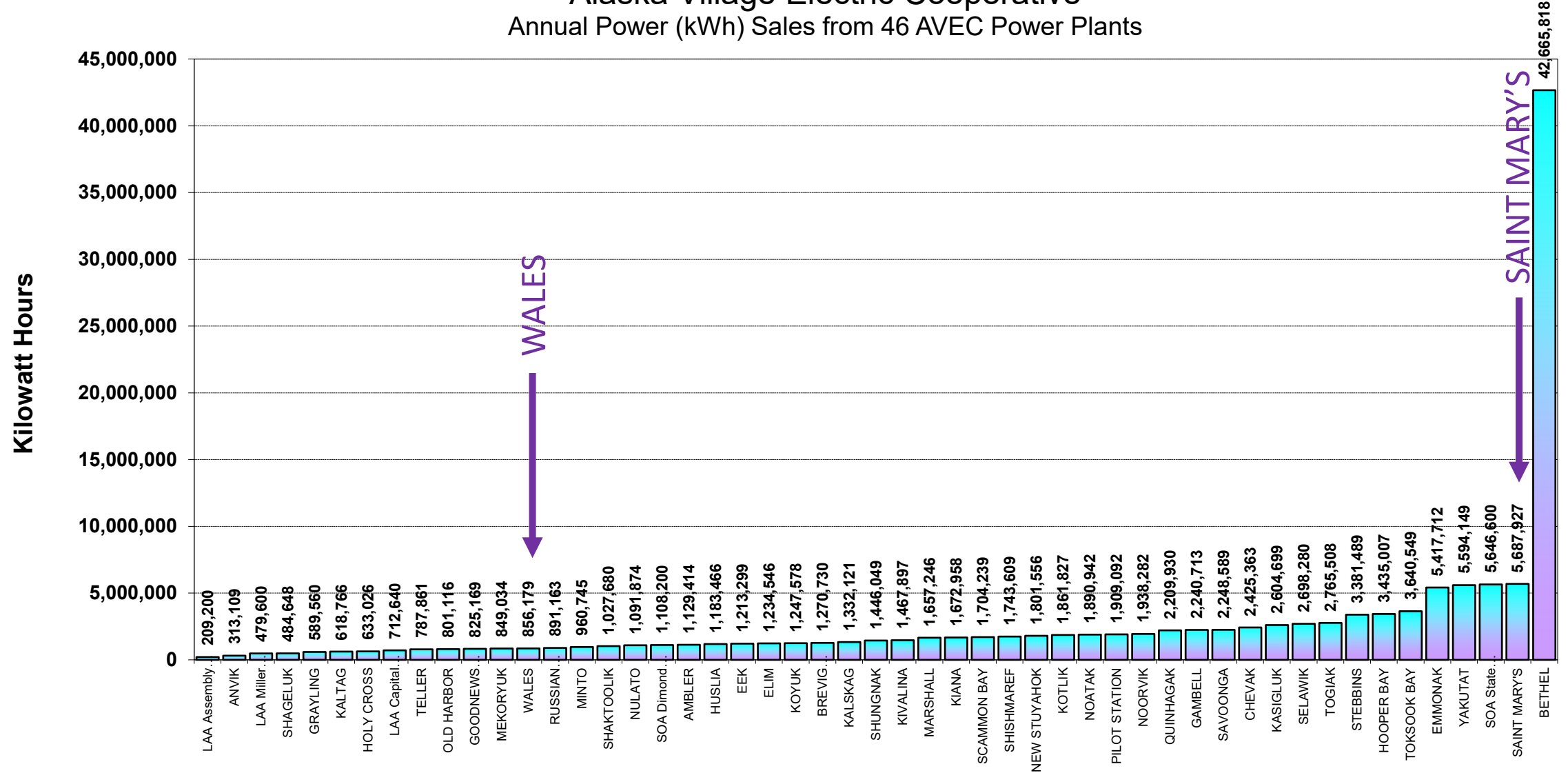


Savoonga, AK



Alaska Village Electric Cooperative

Annual Power (kWh) Sales from 46 AVEC Power Plants





CAPITAL PROJECTS IN MANY PLACES

- ANVIK- 3-phase conversion and power plant upgrades to integrate solar and energy storage
- BETHEL- 3.8MW Power Generation Module Installation
- BULK FUEL UPGRADES- Tank farm replacements in Kivalina, Kobuk, Noatak, Quinhagak and Wales, and assisting AEA with Eek, Russian Mission, Quinhagak and the non-AVEC community of Tuluksak
- CYBER SECURITY- installing high speed internet connections with firewalled routers to allow separation of IT, OT and 3rd party networks in all power plants
- GAMBELL- Replace (3) 100kW Wind Turbines
- GOODNEWS BAY- Power Plant voltage conversion, switchgear and engine replacements in preparation for installation of (2) 100 kW wind turbines
- HUSLIA- Line Extension for 40 lot subdivision to allow homes to be moved away from river erosion
- MARINE POWER FEASIBILITY STUDY- Evaluation of all AVEC communities' potential for hydrokinetic power generation
- MEKORYUK- Replace (2) 100 kW Wind Turbines
- MINTO- Power plant and tank farm replacement
- NEW STUYAHOK- Power Plant upgrades and 500 kw solar array with energy storage
- NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH- Power Plant upgrades to accommodate Tribal IPP solar battery projects in Ambler, Selawik, Kiana, Noorvik and Kivalina
- OLD HARBOR- Design support for Tribal IPP Owned 250kW run-of-river hydro project
- SHUNGNAK-KOBUK –Intertie replacement with proof-of-concept AC/DC overhead line

MOBILIZATION AND FREIGHT COSTS ARE HIGH



All workers, materials, equipment, tools, and fuel must be flown or barged in, (except for Minto).

There is limited infrastructure on the receiving end in most communities.

We work at the forefront of technology. However, due to community size and location, many methods of getting work done hasn't changed much in 50 years.



2. An 8000 lb. generating unit is placed upon a sled by block-and-tackle and manpower.



SHARING DEDICATED, TALENTED STAFF MAKES IT WORK



- **48 Full-time employees in Anchorage**
- **24 Full-time travelling technicians**
- **11 Full-time employees in Bethel**
- **2 Full-time Operators in Yakutat**
- **120 Part-time local Power Plant Operators**

Able to share in-house expertise, mechanics, linemen, construction, engineers, project managers, accountants, member's service representatives, purchasing, warehouse, and logistics. With local power plant operators on the front line of operations.





Fuel Delivery:

- Typically, May-Oct
- Lighterage Barges fill from Tankers and deliver to coastal and river communities
- Bulk Fuel Storage, strive for 14 month's supply.
- Some communities are Fly-in only

Difficulties:

- Cost
- Aging infrastructure
- Limited Suppliers
- Weather



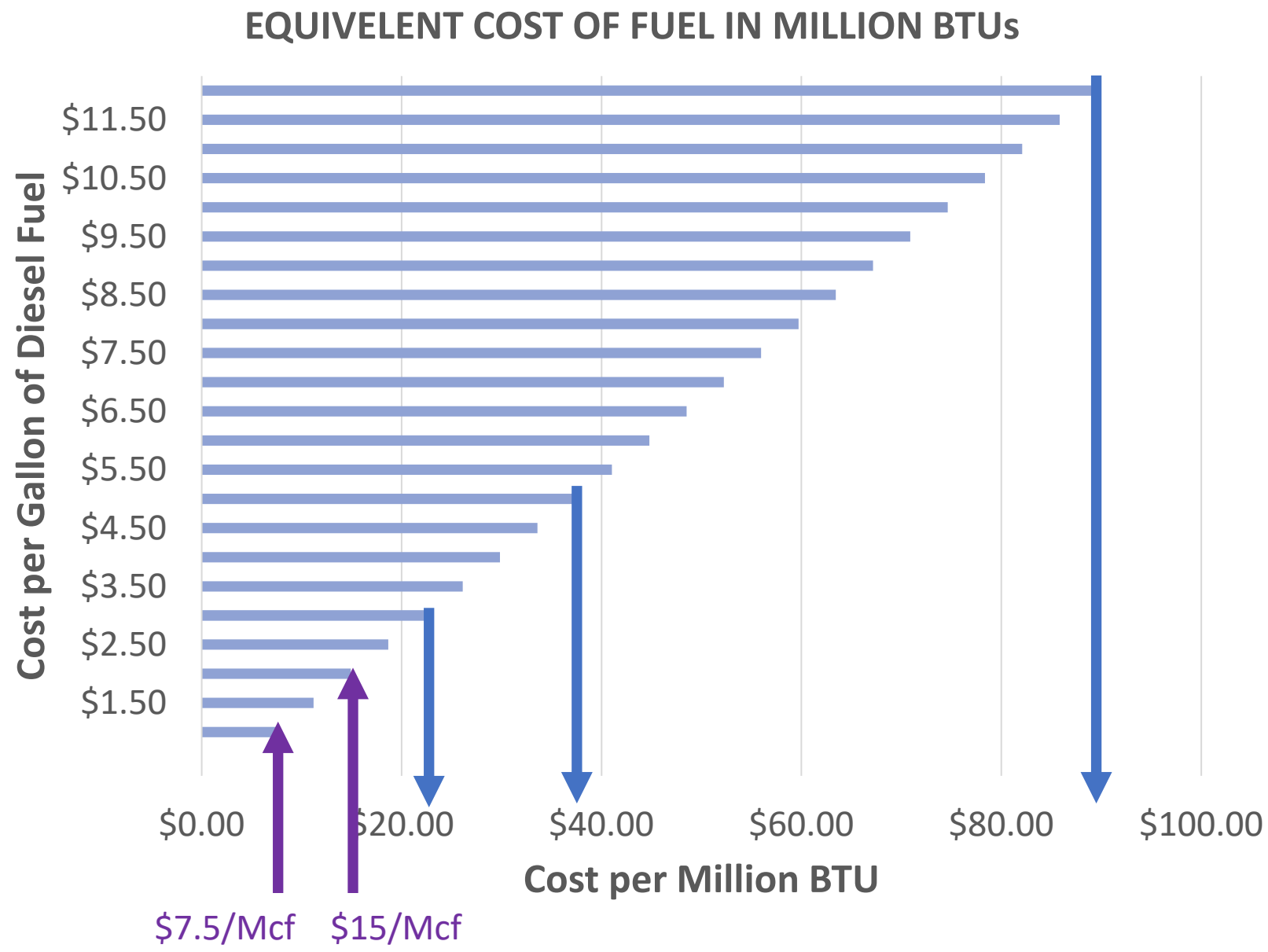
2025 AVEC Delivered Fuel Costs:

Barge Delivery:
\$3 to \$5 per gallon

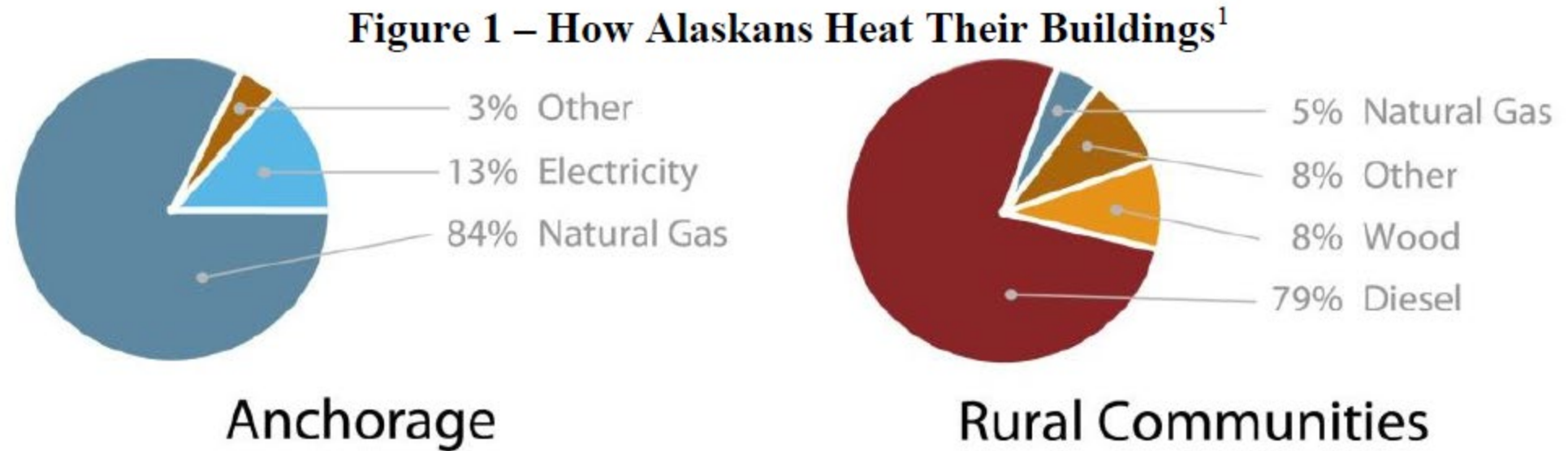
Air Delivery:
\$10 to \$12 per gallon

Fun Facts

- 7.5 gallons of diesel fuel provides about 1 million BTUs
- 1 Mcf of natural gas provides about 1 million BTUs



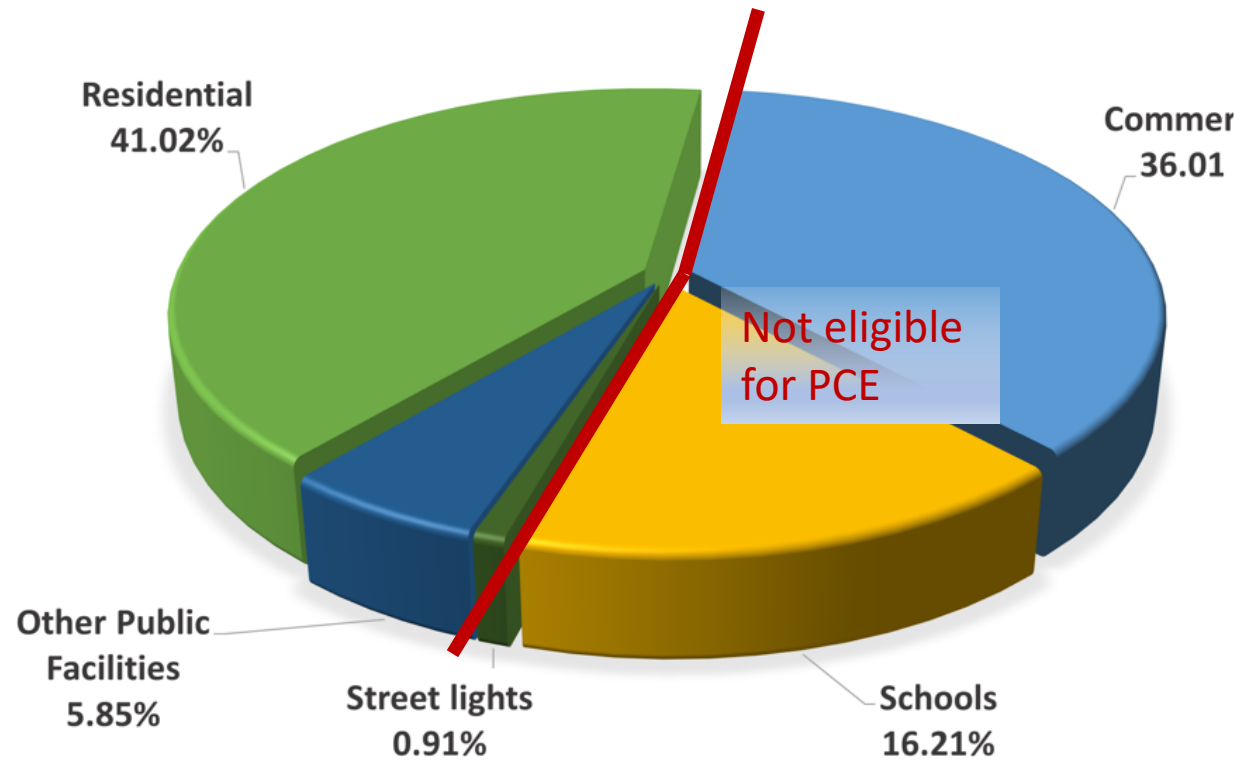
Heating is Typically more Expensive than Electricity



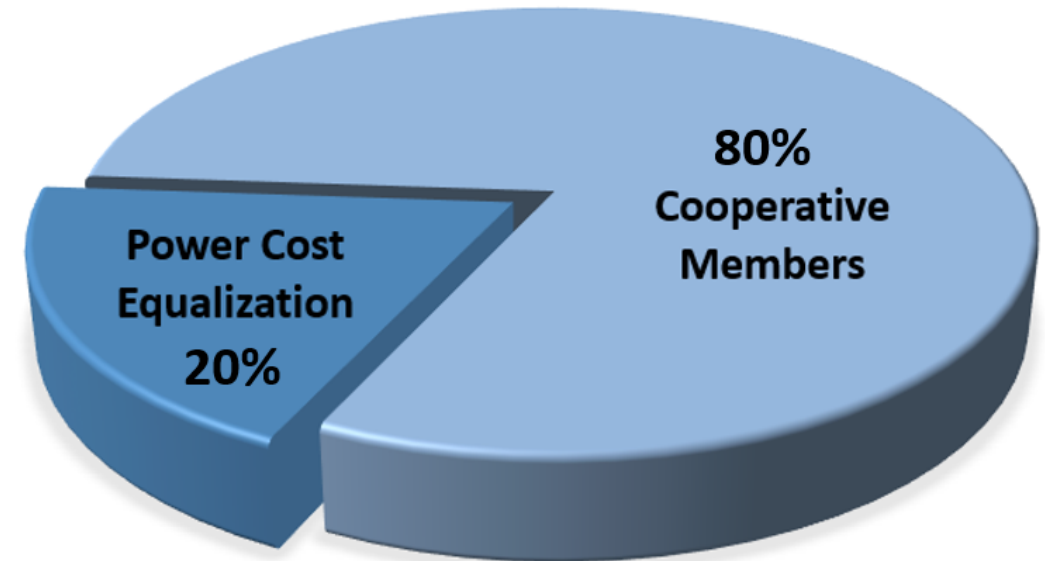
Graphic taken from: “Energy for a Sustainable Alaska, The Rural Conundrum”
A Commonwealth North Study Report, February 2012

The Impact of Power Cost Equalization

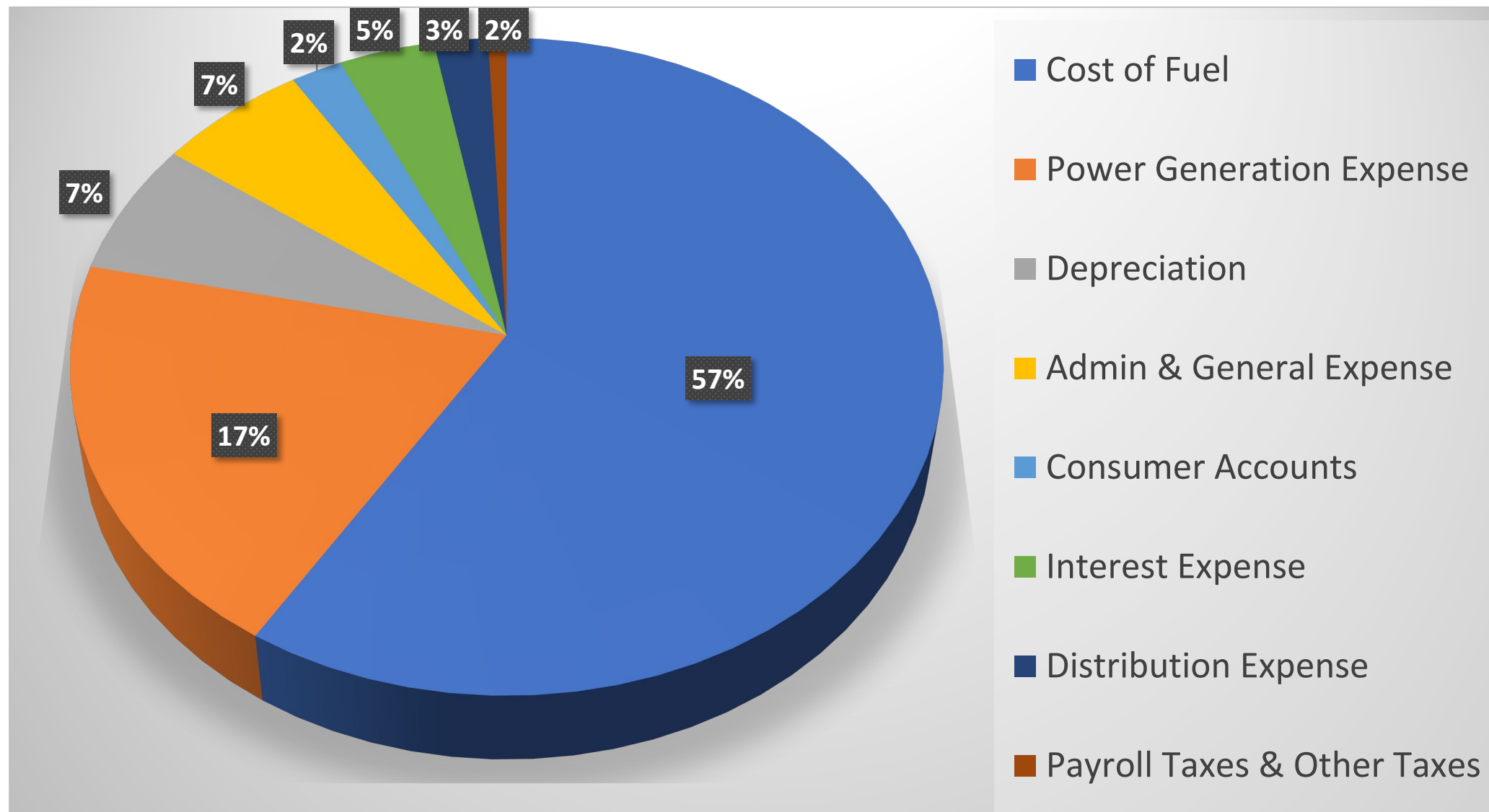
SOURCE OF REVENUE BY CONSUMER CLASS



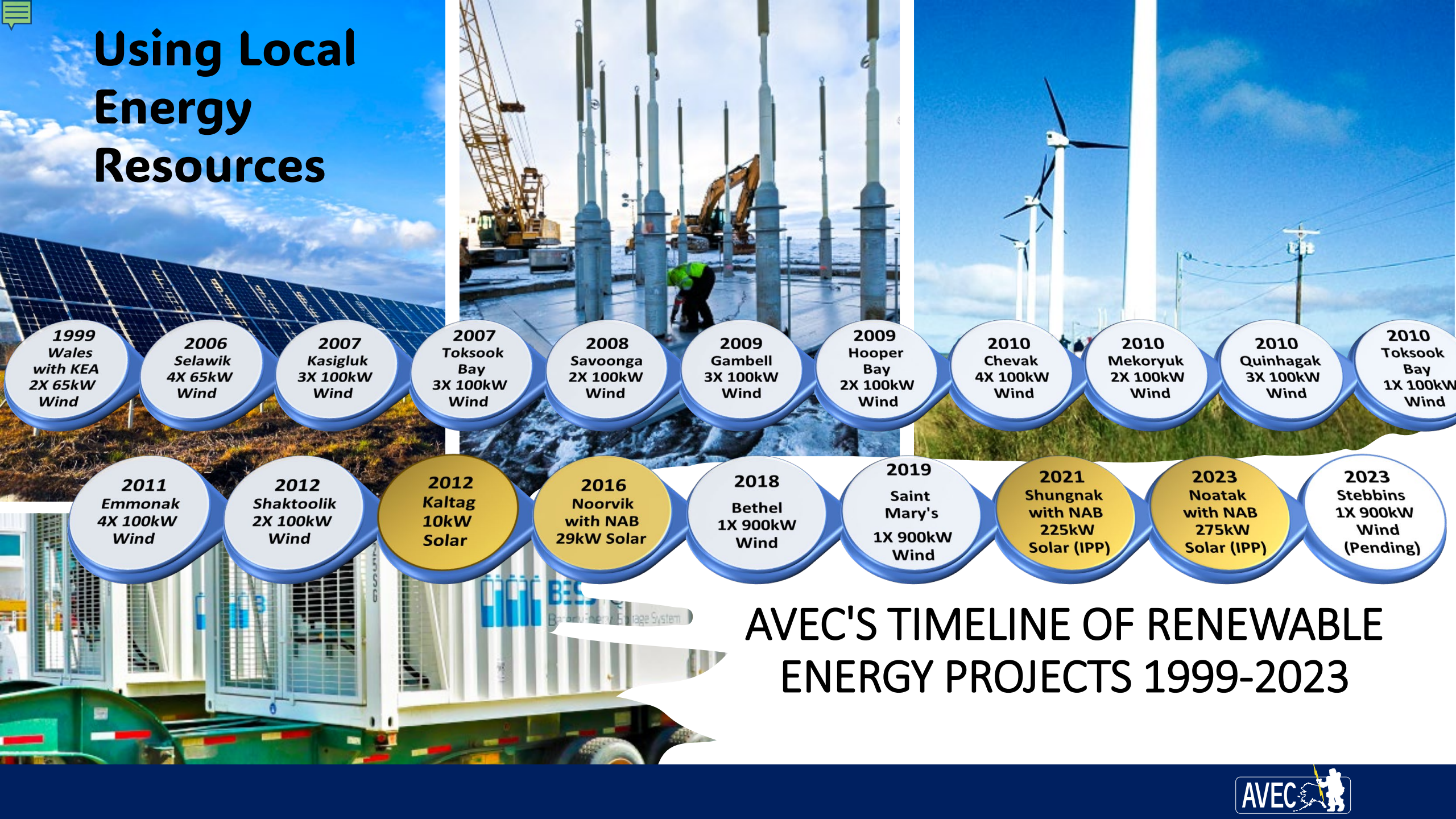
SOURCE OF REVENUE FROM PCE



WHERE AVEC SPENDS ITS MONEY



Using Local Energy Resources



AVEC'S TIMELINE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS 1999-2023

St. Mary's Family of Projects

- 900kW EWT Wind Turbine and Distribution Upgrades
- 20 Mile Intertie to Mt. Village
- 3MW Power Plant in St. Mary's
- Conversion of Mt. Village Power Plant to Standby
- 35-40% Annual Diesel Displacement (without energy storage)
- GBS Energy Storage (2026)

Mountain Village

Yukon River

AVEC St. Mary's Power Plant

St. Mary's
St. Mary's

900kW EWT

Pitkas Point



900 kW EWT



Image © 2021 CNES / Airbus
Image Landsat / Copernicus

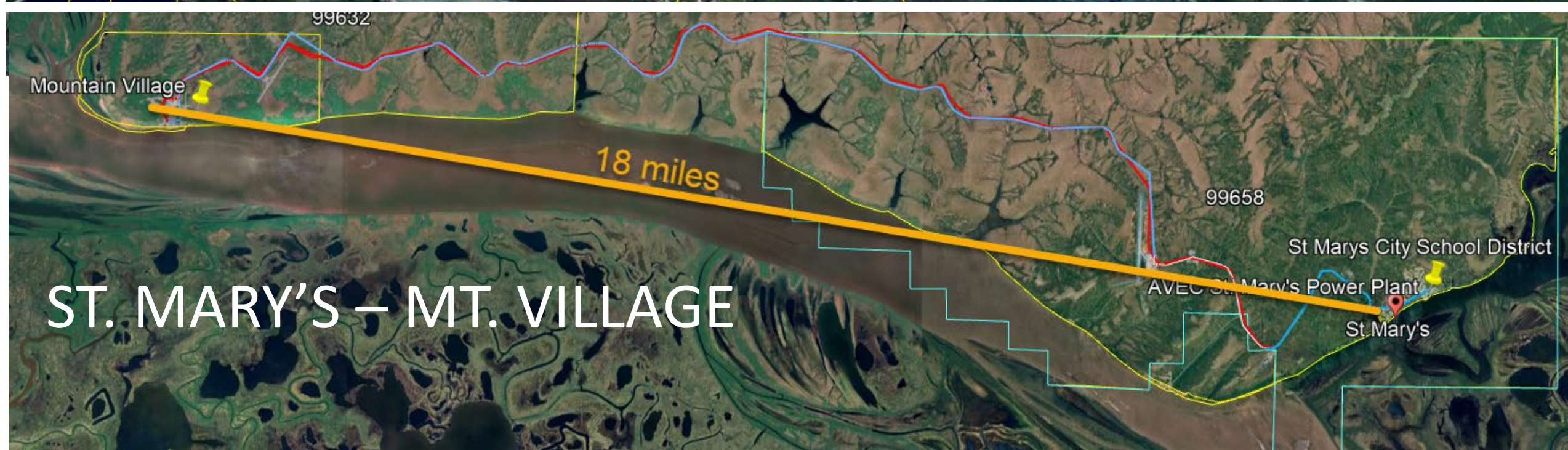
Google Earth

JUNEAU



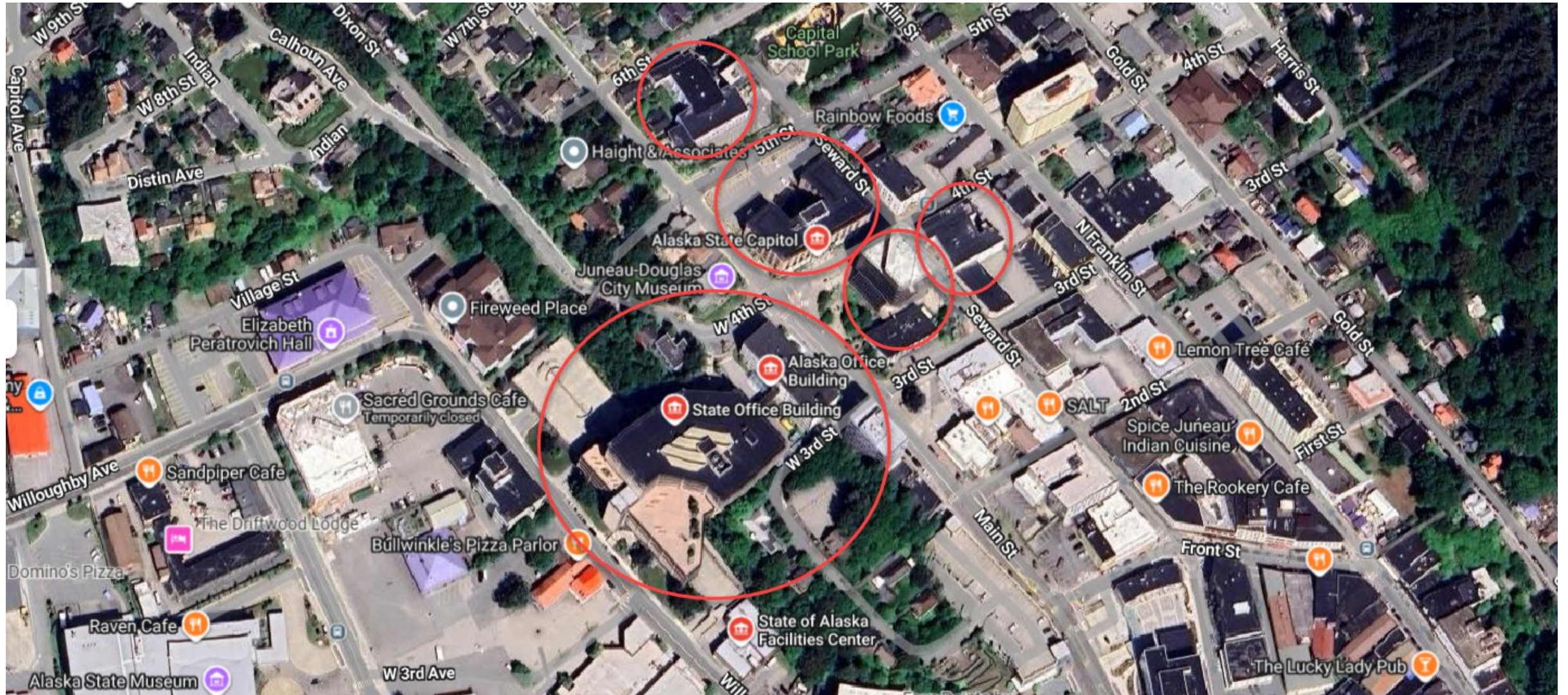
Mountain Village

ST. MARY'S – MT. VILLAGE



STATE LEGISLATIVE AND OFFICE BUILDINGS

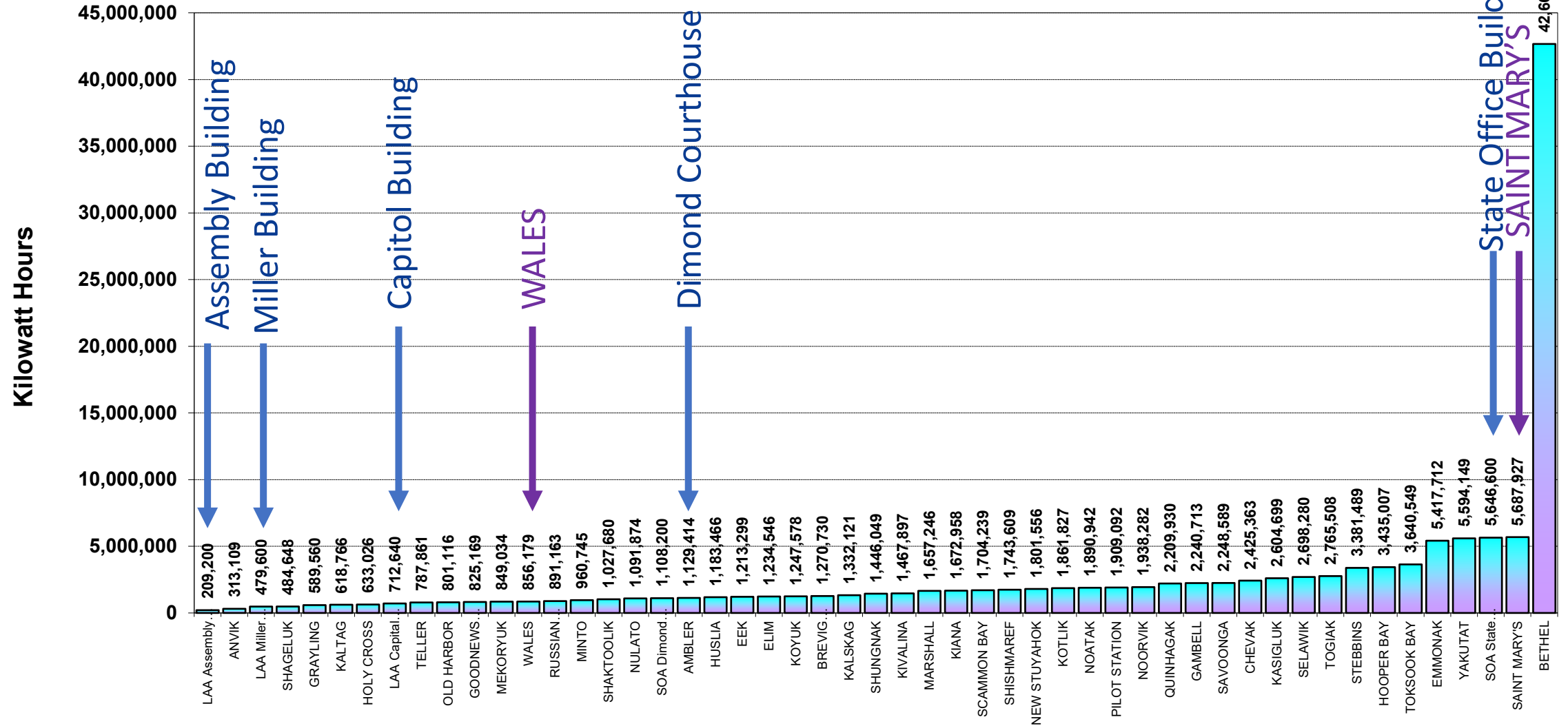
Juneau, Alaska





Alaska Village Electric Cooperative

Power (kWh) Sales Comparison Juneau Buildings to 46 AVEC Power Plants



Why is electricity expensive in rural Alaska?

- Small population – AVEC's average village is ~400 people
- Small loads – AVEC's average village load is ~160 kW
- Poor economies of scale, which in turn limits economic growth
(Expensive power = Less Consumption (less kWh Sales)= Higher cost per kWh)
- Isolated systems - reliability relies on (self) redundancy
- Utilities are capital intensive, and capital is expensive
- Remote and difficult to access, transportation and freight is expensive
- Fuel is expensive – delivery and storage costs often exceeds diesel purchase cost
- Operations and maintenance is more expensive, freight, travel, lodging, it all adds up

AVEC Strategies to Reduce Power Cost



Improve generation efficiency



Minimize distribution losses



Interconnect villages to improve economies of scale



Add renewable generation and energy storage where practical



Capture and sell recovered heat and excess wind energy



Promote energy education, workforce development



Support economic growth in communities we serve

Thank you,



**Bill Stamm, bstamm@avec.org
President & CEO
Alaska Village Electric Cooperative**

