



## Interior Alaska – The “Place” To Do Business

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March 12, 2015

Honorable Senators Bishop & Micciche  
Co-Chairs, Special Committee on Energy  
Alaska State Legislature

RE: Letter of Support for Senate Bill 57 – Clean Air Act Plan

Dear Senators Bishop and Micciche,

The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce supports SB 57, an Act relating to the development of state emission standards in accordance with the federal Clean Air Act.

SB 57 protects Alaska's ratepayers from the EPA's proposed rule regulating existing power plants. The proposed rule is built on assumptions that are unworkable in Alaska due to limited availability of viable energy options. For example, the Interior does not currently have access to natural gas for power generation; nor is there existing capacity available on the Intertie to send more gas-fired power from Southcentral Alaska.

Coal is Interior Alaska's lowest-cost source of energy. On a per Btu basis, coal is half the cost of natural gas, one-third the cost of naphtha, and one-sixth the cost of diesel. If Golden Valley Electric Association were forced to shut down Healy #1, a coal-fired power plant, energy costs in Interior Alaska would be significantly higher. Bringing Healy #2 online will double the amount of coal-fired power capacity available to GVEA, which will stabilize rates and have potential savings of as much as \$30 million annually, because of coal's much lower cost relative to other fuels. Yet, the EPA's proposed rules threaten GVEA's ability to provide this opportunity.

Our community is already facing exorbitant energy costs that continue to impact our economy. The Chamber's Board of Directors remains committed to supporting efforts that reduce the cost of energy. We urge you to support Senate Bill 57.

Sincerely,

**GREATER FAIRBANKS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

Lisa Herbert  
Executive Director

Jennifer Imus  
Board of Directors, Chair

### INVESTORS

#### DIAMOND

Alaska Airlines  
BP Exploration  
ConocoPhillips  
ExxonMobil  
Fairbanks Daily News-Miner  
Fairbanks Memorial Hospital &  
Denali Center  
Flint Hills Resources Alaska  
Mt. McKinley Bank

#### PLATINUM

Alyeska Pipeline Service Co.  
Doyon, Limited  
Fred Meyer Stores  
Golden Heart Utilities  
Wells Fargo Bank Alaska

#### GOLD

Carlson Center  
Denali State Bank  
Design Alaska  
Doyon Utilities LLC  
First National Bank Alaska  
GCI  
Kinross Fort Knox Mine  
Lynden  
Northrim Bank  
Sumitomo Metal Mining Pogo LLC  
Usibelli Coal Mine  
WAL-MART Stores, Inc.

#### SILVER

Agency 49  
Alaska Communications  
Alaska Railroad  
Alaska USA  
Dr. Christopher Henry  
Henry Orthodontics  
Everts Air Cargo, Everts Air AK  
Exclusive Paving & University  
Redi-Mix  
Fairbanks Natural Gas  
Flowline Alaska  
General Teamsters Local 959  
Gene's Chrysler, Jeep & Dodge  
Hale & Associates, Inc.  
JL Properties, Inc.  
Key Bank  
MAC Federal Credit Union  
Personnel Plus  
Sam's Club  
Seekins Ford Lincoln  
Shell Exploration & Production Co.  
Spirit of Alaska FCU  
State Farm Insurance  
Tammy Randolph, Agent  
Ed Randolph, Agent  
Tanana Valley Clinic  
TDL Staffing  
Totem Ocean Trailer Express  
Tower Hill Mines-Livengood  
Gold Project  
University of Alaska Fairbanks  
Verizon Wireless  
Vivlamore Companies  
Yukon Title Company