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February 3, 2017

The Honorable Adam Wool
Representative
State Capitol Room 412
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Representative Wool,

Alaska Power Association supports House Bill 80, which would allow municipalities to voluntarily establish Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) programs for commercial building owners to use for making energy efficiency improvements.

Through a PACE program, building owners have access to low-interest financing for energy improvement projects since the loan is paid through property tax assessment. This gives lenders more confidence in the loan's repayment, thereby lowering costs.

Like other organizations that support this bill, we appreciate the PACE program being voluntary. Municipalities would have the option to decide if the program is beneficial for their communities.

We urge the committees that review HB 80 to move the bill swiftly so the House and Senate can consider the bill in the near future.

Alaska Power Association is the statewide trade association representing electric utilities in Alaska. Our members provide power to a half million people from Barrow to Unalaska, across the Interior and Southcentral, and down the Inside Passage.

Sincerely,

Crystal Enkvist
Executive Director