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February 27, 2012

House Finance
State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear House Finance Members;

The Alaska Municipal League is in full support of HB 250. The expiration of a program that has been so successful would be very destructive to the State of Alaska, as over 200 renewable energy projects throughout the State of Alaska have been granted funds. The economic boon to those communities has been tremendous, as diesel fuel is no longer affordable by most small communities.

The Alaska Municipal League has closely watched those communities that have been fortunate enough to be awarded funds through this program. The continuation of HB 250 and the \$50 million per year until 2018 is necessary if small municipalities are to remain viable communities in which to live and carry on business.

Thank you for your interest and dedication to this issue.

Sincerely,

Kathie Wasserman
Executive Director

Kathy Morgan
Box 342
Tok, AK 99780-0342

March 8, 2012

Representative Bill Thomas
120 4th Street, State Capitol, Room 501
Juneau, AK 998011-1182

Re: HB 250

Dear Representative Thomas:

I strongly support House Bill 250, extending the renewable energy fund. This fund is critically important to the entire State of Alaska. We need that renewable energy fund to encourage renewable energy projects that can reduce our high cost of energy and help the State meet its renewable energy production goals.

My community of Tok has benefited from the program with the building of an efficient wood-fired boiler to heat the Tok School and eventually also power it electrically. Already the school is saving thousands of dollars per year in heating costs, using a carbon-neutral fuel that otherwise threatens our homes with wildfire—and produces less pollution than standard oil boilers. Extending the renewable energy grant fund so that other communities can enjoy similar benefits, using whatever appropriate resources are available in their local area, is the right thing to do.

Tok School's heating and electrical generation projects funded by the renewable energy fund prove that there are feasible renewable alternatives that reduce our dependence on petroleum fuels and in the long run save both State money and private money. In the case of Tok's projects, as an extra bonus, while the projects are saving money for the school they are providing new jobs that benefit the community's economy and reduce our air pollution levels.

To turn renewable resource potential into reality, we need funding for projects to prove the validity and reliability of alternate energy projects in the unique conditions that we face in our state, with the wide variation and extremes of climate and ecology and the challenges of transportation and technology in remote areas. Different areas of the state have different resources that call for different solutions. Thank you for sponsoring HB 250.

Sincerely,



Kathy I. Morgan



Tok Community Umbrella Corporation
Box 547
Tok, AK 99780-0547



MARCH 8, 2012

Representative Bill Thomas
120 4th Street, State Capitol, Room 501
Juneau, AK 998011-1182

Re: HB 250

Dear Representative Thomas:

This letter is in support of House Bill 250, extending the renewable energy fund. This fund is critically important to the entire State of Alaska and is needed to encourage renewable energy projects that can reduce our high cost of energy and help the State meet its renewable energy production goals.

The cost of petroleum-based energy is high and increasing throughout the world, but particularly in Alaska. It has reached crisis proportion in some of the rural areas. There are feasible renewable alternatives that are carbon-neutral or add no carbon to the atmosphere, reduce our dependence of foreign fuels, in some cases make our homes safer, and in the long run save both State money and private money.

To turn renewable resource potential into reality, we need funding for projects to prove the validity and reliability of alternate energy projects in the unique conditions that we face in our state, with the wide variation and extremes of climate and ecology and the challenges of transportation and technology in remote areas. We also need funding to build projects that involve proven technology with an up-front capital cost that our smaller communities can't fund through local resources.

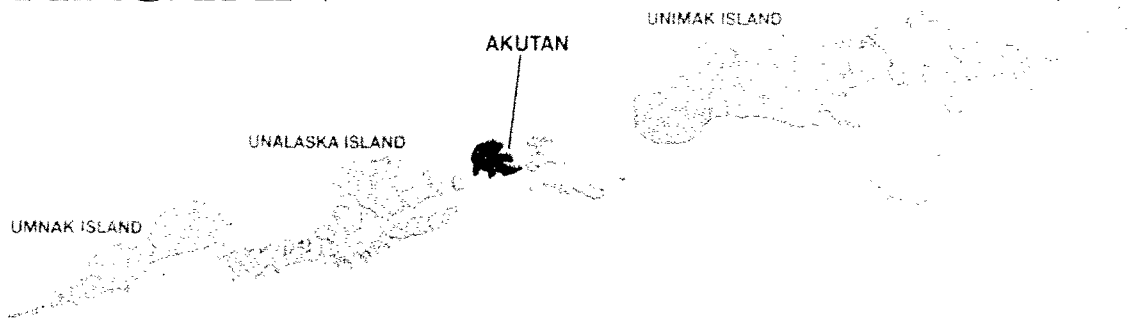
My community of Tok has benefited from the program with the building of an efficient wood-fired boiler to heat the Tok School and eventually also power it electrically. Already the school is saving thousands of dollars per year in heating costs, using a carbon-neutral fuel that otherwise threatens our homes with wildfire—and produces less pollution than standard oil boilers. Extending the renewable energy grant fund so that other communities can enjoy similar benefits is the right thing to do.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathy I. Morgan".

Kathy I. Morgan, President

AKUTAN



March 8, 2012

The Honorable Representative Bill Thomas
Alaska State Capital
Room 505
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Re: HB 250

Dear Representative Thomas:

The City of Akutan is writing to express its support for passage of House Bill No. 250, An Act Relating to the Renewable Energy Grant Fund. We support an extension of at least five years, and suggest making it a longer period.

As a result of the grant fund, the City of Akutan and Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) have jointly funded the exploration of a geothermal power resource located in the Hot Springs Bay Valley of Akutan Island, approximately five miles from the City and Native Village of Akutan. Our feasibility work is very promising as we work to bring the project to fruition. Continuation of the grant fund will be instrumental in helping communities to pursue a wide range of renewable energy projects.

Thank you for your leadership in sponsoring this bill.

Sincerely,

/s/

Mayor Joe Bereskin

cc: Hermann Scanlan, City Administrator
Representative Bryce Edgmon