Fairbanks North Star Borough
Mayor's Office
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March 10, 2015

Ms. Emily Ford
Legislative Coordinator
Alaska Energy Authority
813 W. Northern Lights Blvd.
Anchorage, AK 99503

Dear Ms. Ford

On behalf of the Fairbanks North Star Borough, I am writing to support the Property Assessed Clean Energy Act (PACE financing legislation contained in House Bill 118 and its companion, Senate Bill 56. The Fairbanks North Star Borough is the second largest municipality in the state, and faces some of the highest energy costs in the nation. Our community eagerly awaits delivery of natural gas to our city gates. When it arrives, numerous businesses-as well as home, utilities and government entities- will begin upgrading and replacing their power and heating systems. Additionally, assisting our local businesses to convert to more efficient natural gas energy will help improve our local air quality.

It is precisely for these reasons that I write in support of HB 118 and SB 56.

A well-conceived and executed Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program will help Alaska businesses achieve needed energy retrofits, resulting in greater efficiencies and cost savings-all of which will make our businesses more successful and our economy more secure.

It is my understanding that similar programs in other states have resulted in reduction of energy costs, reduction of energy demand on local utilities, enhancement of property values and economic stimulation and development.

I strongly commend the concept of Property Assessed Clean Energy, and I thank the Administration for their work in bringing this idea forward.

Sincerely,

Luke Hopkins
Mayor
Fairbanks North Star Borough