



The Railbelt Reliability Council (RRC) Presentation to House Energy

January 30, 2025

Presented by Ed Jenkin, CEO
 Lou Florence, Board Chair

Agenda

The Railbelt Power System

Why the RRC was Formed

- Regional System Costs
- Reliability

Who is the RRC

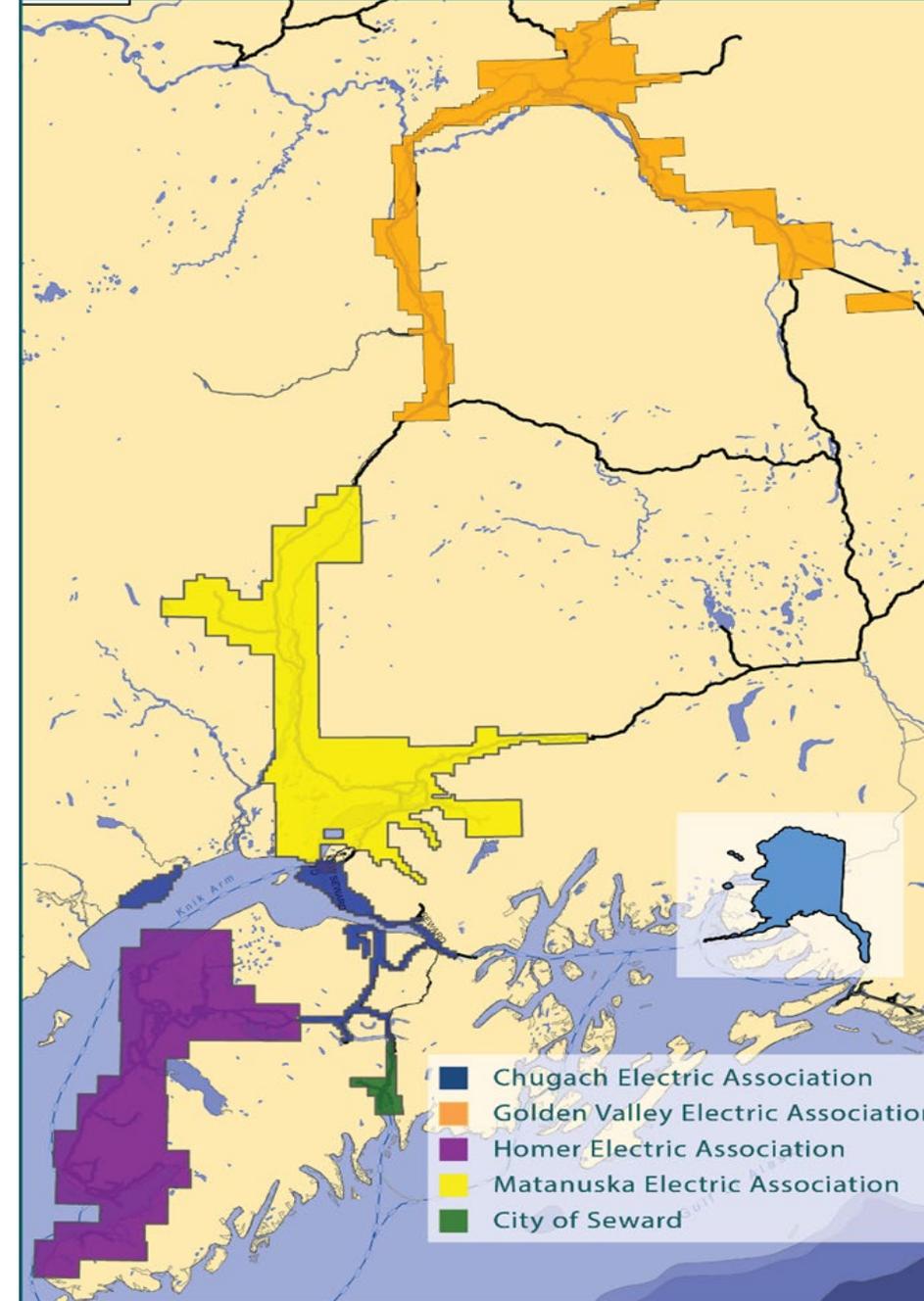
- SB123 to RCA Regulations
- A Stakeholder Board
- The Technical Advisory Council (TAC)
- Working Groups

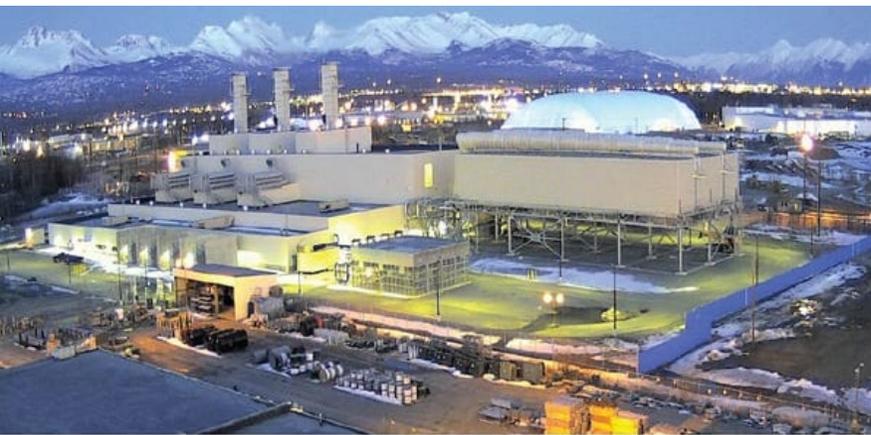
Program Status

- Planning
- Standards

The Railbelt Bulk Electric System

- An interconnected network of ~700 miles of high-voltage transmission lines, providing a physical path to serve approximately 750 MW peak load from ~2 GW of installed generating capacity
- Operated by 5 interconnected public utilities, 1 DoD contractor, and the State of Alaska.
- Encompassing three regions connected by single transmission lines with stability limits of about 10% of the peak load.
- Providing electricity for nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ of Alaska's population.





Why the RRC - Reduce Long-Term Costs



- Generation Planning
 - Utility Generation
 - CEA 2013 - 200MW 3X1 Combined Cycle Facility (w/ ML&P)
 - MEA 2014 – 171MW Reciprocating Engine Facility
 - ML&P 2016 – 129MW 2X1 Combined Cycle Facility



- Transmission System Concerns

Why the RRC – Ensure Reliability

Reliability Standards Development and Enforcement

- System Modeling
- Generation and Load Balancing
- Facilities Interconnection
- Transmission Planning
- Monitoring and Enforcement

Who is the RRC

Legislatively Established Electric Reliability Organization

- **Establish reliability standards** through an open and transparent public process (AS 42.05.765).
- **Monitor and enforce compliance with reliability standards**, including investigation of alleged and possible imposition of penalties for confirmed compliance violations (AS 42.05.775).
- **Develop and adopt a comprehensive Integrated Resource Plan (IRP)** for the applicable Bulk Electric System (AS 42.05.780).

Commission Regulated

- The commission shall adopt regulations governing electric reliability organizations (AS 42.06.770)

Who is the RRC

Who Pays for the RRC

- The RRC is funded through a surcharge that is allocated to load-serving entities (Railbelt utilities) through the ERO tariff.
- As public-power utilities, the only way to pay for these costs is through consumer electric rates or operating margins.
- As anticipated in the regulations, most LSEs have implemented a transparent per-KWh line item on customer bills, similar to the Regulatory Cost Charge.

Who is the RRC

A stakeholder organization

- The RRC is governed by a thirteen voting-member :
 - 6 utilities (CEA, GVEA, HEA, MEA, Seward, Doyon Utilities)
 - Alaska Energy Authority
 - 2 Independent Power Producers
 - 1 seat advocating for residential-small commercial interests (Alaska Public Interest Research Group)
 - 1 seat advocating for large commercial and/or industrial users (Fairbanks Gold Mining Inc./ Kinross)
 - 1 seat representing electricity consumers who advocate in support of the reduction of environmentally harmful greenhouse gas emissions and/or other environmental concerns regarding the Railbelt electric system (Renewable Energy Alaska Project)
 - 1 independent, non-affiliated member
- The RCA and RAPA each hold one non-voting, ex-officio seat on the Board

Who is the RRC

CEO & STAFF

INDEPENDENT TECHNICAL GROUP

WORKING GROUPS

Program Status – Integrated Resource Planning

Integrated Resource Planning

- Staffing
- Policy Development
- Independent Technical Expertise
- 2026 Completion

Program Status - Standards

Standards Development

- Weekly operational standards working group meetings
- Four standards before the RCA for approval
- Additional standards before the RRC Board for transmittal
- Critical Infrastructure Protection standards development started
- 28 Standards to be completed in 2025



**RAILBELT
RELIABILITY
COUNCIL**

ELECTRIC RELIABILITY ORGANIZATION

Questions

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