HB 153: Renewable Portfolio Standard HOUSE ENERGY



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April 3, 2025

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ALASKA PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP

AKPIRG is the only non-governmental consumer advocacy and public interest research organization in Alaska

We are a nonpartisan organization and our priority is ensuring ratepayers benefit statewide in the short and long term from energy policy decisions



Passing an RPS is targeted and decisive legislative action to address natural gas imports

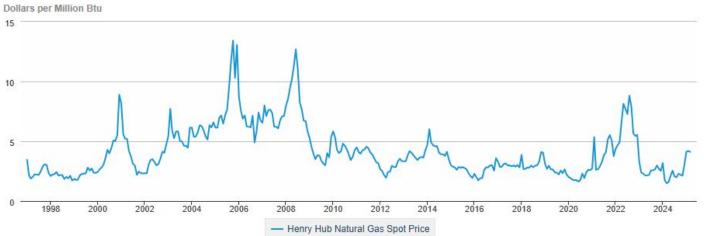
An RPS provides regulatory and economic certainty to the Railbelt



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Price Stability

Henry Hub Natural Gas Spot Price

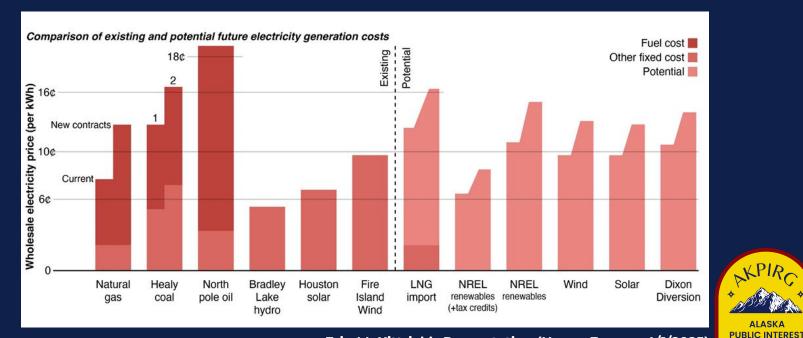


U.S. Energy Information Administration



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Bradley Lake Hydropower Upfront Investment = Long Term Stability



Erin McKittrick's Presentation (House Energy, 4/1/2025)

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An RPS fits into the larger Railbelt Context

- Strategic direction for the Railbelt Reliability Council's Integrated Resource Plan
- Aligned with the Railbelt Transmission Organization
- Moves towards Railbelt-wide unified economic dispatch
- Maximizes growing capacity, resources, and expertise at the Alaska Energy Authority



The State has initiated the most effective Railbelt utility collaborations

- Bradley Lake Project Management Committee
- Railbelt Reliability Council Reliability Standards and Integrated Resource Plan
- Matanuska Electric Association & Chugach Electric Association Tight Power Pool



Previous Utility Engagement



RESOLUTION

Support of a Renewable Portfolio Standard

WHEREAS, Chugach Electric Association, Inc. (Chugach) is proud to provide safe, reliable, and affordable electricity through superior service and sustainable practices to its more than 90,000 members; and

WHEREAS, the Chugach Board of Directors adopted sustainability as a business philosophy which broadens the focus of the financial bottom line to include social and environmental responsibility measures to create a greater long-term business value for the Association and its members; and

WHEREAS, consistent with sustainability as a business philosophy, Chugach has a goal to reduce its carbon intensity by at least 35% by 2030 and by at least 50% by 2040 without a negative material impact on Chugach members' rates and/or reliability; and

WHEREAS, Chugach desires to diversify its energy resources to assure an on-going supply of generation, operational diversity, and to reduce gas price risk and supply risk exposure; and

GVEA Position on SB 101 - Renewable Portfolio Standard

Dec. 19, 2023

GVEA is committed to reducing carbon emissions from our electric generation sources and to the integration of affordable, reliable renewable energy in our energy portfolio.

GVEA has demonstrated that commitment with past goals of renewable percentages as far back as 2005 followed by a pioneering carbon reduction goal in 2019 (<u>GVEA Renewable Energy</u>). We are actively continuing the effort to decarbonize our power generation regardless of any statewide mandate to achieve a specific RPS, (Renewable Portfolio Standard) target. While we do support many of the broad goals of the proposed RPS, we take issue with the mandated measures that could impose costs to GVEA members or significantly reduce reliability.



Electric Cooperative's & Noncompliance Fines

- An appropriate and necessary mechanism to ensure energy diversification and stability for regulated monopolies
- The Regulatory Commission of Alaska has regulatory authority to impose financial penalties on utilities (3 AAC 48.030)
 - Includes violation of reliability standards (3 AAC 46.130)



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An RPS encourages utilities to invest in their member-owners

- Unique mission and values of rural electric cooperatives– owned by those they serve
- Distributed energy resources
 - Residential solar & batteries, demand response
- On-bill financing enabled by Legislature
 - Active at Golden Valley Electric Association
- Empowers Alaskans and member-owners



THANK YOU

QUESTIONS?



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