

April 9, 2025



The Honorable Ky Holland and Donna Mears
Co-Chairs of the House Energy Committee
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Co-Chairs Holland and Mears, and Members of the House Energy Committee,

The Nature Conservancy in Alaska supports the passage of a renewable portfolio standard for the electric utilities in the Railbelt region of Alaska. We thank you for introducing HB 153 which sets forth a vision for a secure, resilient, clean, and economically beneficial energy future for our state that capitalizes on Alaska's incredible renewable energy resources.

The Nature Conservancy is a nonprofit organization that has worked in Alaska for over 30 years and has offices in Juneau and Anchorage. Guided by science, we collaborate with Tribes, Native Corporations, local landowners, communities, and businesses to implement practical conservation solutions that benefit people and nature. Our organization is non-partisan, and our trustees, members, and staff come from across the political spectrum.

A renewable portfolio standard creates a predictable investment climate for clean energy businesses who can help diversify generation and stabilize energy costs in a region dependent on locally available natural gas. We expect the passage of a renewable portfolio standard would stimulate significant new private investment in local power sources, deliver significant direct benefits to our economy and ratepayers by increasing stability and decreasing costs in the Railbelt energy system, and would attract new industries interested in a clean energy economy to our state.

As supporting material, we are also submitting two related reports as an attachment to this letter. The first, "Alaska's Renewable Energy Economy: Progress and Possibility" was prepared in July 2021 by McKinley Research Group for the Nature Conservancy in Alaska and reviews the status of renewable energy deployment across Alaska while highlighting the increasing opportunities presented by renewable energy in our state. Notable impacts from investing in these opportunities include reduced energy costs for consumers, job creation, and other economic benefits. The second report, "Clean Energy Tax Credits: An Economic Impact Analysis," was prepared in March 2025 by BW Research for The Nature Conservancy, and demonstrates clean energy is critical to supporting American jobs and the economy – supporting growth in GDP and a return on investment that benefits communities directly.

Thank you for your work to call attention to the importance of renewable energy in Alaska and for the roadmap towards a stable energy future HB 153 offers. We strongly support this bill and encourage its passage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kelsey Schober".

Kelsey Schober
Director of Government Affairs
The Nature Conservancy in Alaska

From: [MANDY GERSHON](#)
To: [House Energy](#)
Subject: HB 153
Date: Wednesday, April 9, 2025 4:14:56 PM

Dear Alaska House Energy Members:

I have lived in Alaska since 1978, mostly in Anchorage. I am pleased that we will FINALLY be building an Alaska gas pipeline. However, I am extremely concerned about carbon credits and this push for renewable energy when that renewable energy is not nearly as reliant as we need it to be.

Carbon credits are just another economic means to hurt us; I certainly won't have any of that "credit." And yet, our ability to have revenue or provide heat for our very survival could be regulated by such nonsense.

Indeed, when Biden took office and began decimating our ability to drill and made it clear that he was anti-fossil fuel, I invested my PFD into a wood stove. So, now I pollute more. This is NOT what I wanted to do. Natural gas is so much cleaner, and should be less expensive. Anyone with any sense of survival in Alaska knows better than to rely on solar panels or wind. I would applaud the use of hydro-electric power, except that radicals in Anchorage have made it abundantly clear that such avenues are also at threat of extinction due to lack of common sense in lieu of some twisted form of virtue signaling. Are our lives really so worthless?

If you think Alaskan lives really are worthless, you'll pass HB 153. If you value Alaskan lives, you will refuse to pass this bill that could end up truly hurting people. Me, I'm already considering leaving Alaska behind if the Alaska Legislators continue to play such games with our lives.

Sincerely,

Manda Gershon
mgershon@mtaonline.net
907-376-5031

From: lorensenfamily@reagan.com
To: [House Energy](#)
Subject: HB153
Date: Thursday, April 10, 2025 4:20:45 AM

April 10, 2025

House Energy Committee Members Hollander, Mears, Edgmon, Kopp, Tilton, Rauscher, and Costello,

We are newly retired to Alaska, are active registered voters who vote in every election (primaries included).

We OPPOSE HB 153 RPS pushing renewable energy standards onto Alaskan energy providers. We have experienced what happens when state legislatures enact RPS standards that 1) are not realistic, 2) increase the cost of energy exponentially to citizens (oftentimes claiming to do the opposite), and 3) harm the landscape with massive unrecyclable bird killing windmills and solar panels that are expensive, unreliable, and unable to provide adequate energy needs of a state's population.

Reliable cost effective energy in Alaska is critical for the people who inhabit a state with vastly different weather conditions compared to lower 48 states.

Somehow never included in the RPS utopian dream are measures to implement nuclear, coal, and increased natural gas sources. Why? Because it does not fit the non-existent green energy utopia being promoted by the people who push legislation like HB153.

We Alaskans deserve power that works, NOT politics that don't. Vote NO on HB153.

Jennifer and Keith Lorensen/Homer, AK

From: [Juhl House](#)
To: [House Energy](#); The.Secretary@hq.doe.gov
Subject: RPS
Date: Thursday, April 10, 2025 7:58:09 AM

Our State is gushing with Oil, packed with Coal, and full of LNG.

We have enough energy sources to be strong and powerful for centuries. We have so much energy we can SELL IT.

Our government is funded by it!

Yet some irresponsible fools decided to push an anti-energy agenda similar to the UN; Forcing “renewable” energy sources on us like superstitious cultists, rather than responsible leaders.

Reducing reliable energy means no critical infrastructure. No economic growth. No hospitals and schools and homes. No National Defense. No university. Cost to pay for the experimental energy is prohibitive, add the fines and you will drive future investors and stakeholders away. The long term result would be devastation of Alaskan Civilization, turning Alaska into a park. A weak, pathetic, and very easy target for China, Russia, or a Boy Scout Troop.

The EMP Commission study showed about 90% of the population would die if there was an EMP that took out power. Economy, Defense, Law, Schools-everything breaks down, including Government.

STOP ADVOCATING FOR A SELF IMPOSED EMP ON ALASKA! It’s suicidal. I did not vote for this!

We don’t want to return to the 1700’s; we want to grow our economy, to build the exciting Alaskan dreams of our forefathers into a beautiful reality.

We don’t need politically funded crisis actors pushing depopulation agendas. We need practical leaders who will Champion our abundant & reliable energy resources, and encourage the modern technology to use them even more efficiently. Use what God blessed us with for the excellence and success for our children and the future of Alaska. NO Energy RPS for Alaska!

Thank you and God bless Alaska,
Erin Juhl Healy, Alaska