

ALASKA



STATE LEGISLATURE

January 28, 2026

Dear Chair Gray-Jackson,

The Alaska Legislature has relied on Alaska Center for Energy Power (ACEP) subject matter experts for years, but in 2025, the Budget and Audit Committee contractually engaged ACEP's support for nine tasks, resulting in the production of original research, quick turnaround policy briefs and invited testimony for legislative committees and individual lawmakers. The topics the Legislature asked ACEP to provide information and context on were related to LNG import facilities, electricity rates in a changing renewables landscape, Railbelt transmission regulation, battery storage, load growth projections for the Railbelt, clean energy project licensing and permitting.

Many of the bills ACEP helped support in the first session of the 34th Legislature will be heard again in this second session and lawmakers and committees have already requested their expertise as this legislation comes up again for further and renewed consideration. The services ACEP provide to the Legislature include:

- Analyzing proposed legislation and preparing memos that outline technical observations and potential implementation challenges.
- Meeting with or surveying industry and state agency stakeholders regarding the impact of proposed bills.
- Developing supporting materials and providing expert testimony or technical assistance for committee meetings and bill hearings.
- Conducting data-driven analysis to support deeper understanding of energy topics related to pending legislation.
- Providing briefings to individual lawmakers and legislative committees on key energy policy issues.

As such, we respectfully request an amount not to exceed \$100,000 to be added to the ACEP reimbursable services agreement. We also ask the completion date to be extended to June 30, 2027. This funding will cover their experts' time to work on the requested policy papers and ensure their availability to come to Juneau to testify and present fact-based, cost-saving research to the Legislature and to the people of Alaska who engage in the law-making process.

Sincerely,

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Representative Zack Fields

Vice Chair, Legislative Budget & Audit Committee

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Senator Cathy Giessel

Chair, Senate Resources Committee