

“House Energy Committee – Rural Challenges and Opportunities” February 5, 2026

House Energy Committee - Alaska Power Association
Legislative Fly-In Week: Juneau, Alaska



Cordova, Alaska Waterfront

Challenge: Social & Technological Change

An aerial photograph of a dam and reservoir. The dam is a concrete structure with a spillway, situated in a lush, green, forested area. The reservoir is a large body of water, reflecting the sky and surrounding trees. The overall scene is a mix of natural beauty and human-made infrastructure.

- Social Media
- Pandemic
- Big Data

- Humanization
- Collaboration
- Deliberation
- Holistic Approach

Challenge & Opportunity: Economies of Scale: Growing Sales

- Rural Alaska suffers small economies
- Growing energy sales can help
- EVs, Heat Pumps, Data, etc.
- Rates can be structured to grow sales
- Can include Winter Incentive Rates



- Commercial Air-Hot Water Heat Pumps
Cordova, Alaska



OPPORTUNITY: DATA INFRASTRUCTURE SERVERS/ EDGE COMPUTING

REQUIREMENTS: FIBER, SPACE, ENERGY CAPACITY,
RELIABILITY & SECURITY

- ▶ **Market has changed: will tolerate higher rates**
- ▶ **Requires Fiber Connectivity**
- ▶ **Needs High Reliability**
- ▶ **Doesn't grow jobs but....**
- ▶ **Doesn't put demands on housing etc.**

Challenge: Workforce Development

A scenic view of a suspension bridge over a forested valley. The bridge has a brown metal deck and white support towers. A road and a car are visible on the bridge. The background is a dense forest of tall trees.

Legislative Incentives:

- UA / Trade Schools
- Utilities
- Primary Education
- Unions

Utilities / Industry:

- Classroom Engagement
 - Field Trips
 - Interns
 - Marketing

THANK YOU! – Questions?

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