



P.O. Box 21989
612 W. Willoughby Avenue, Suite A
Juneau, AK 99802
(907) 523-2310
(907) 463-5670 fax
www.seconference.org

Southeast Conference 2009 Legislative Priorities

Energy

- Southeast Conference supports the funding of hydroelectric and other renewable energy projects in Southeast Alaska as the ultimate solution to the region's energy needs. We also support short-term policies that will alleviate the economic and social burden on communities, businesses and individuals until needed energy infrastructure is built.

Energy

Southeast Conference believes that the high cost of energy in our region is crippling our economic development. We believe that with the support for the various hydro power and other renewable energy projects in our region we can replace high cost diesel generation as a source of power. We encourage the legislature to support the regional and statewide efforts being made to craft and implement an Energy Plan, including the continuation of the Southeast Conference energy coordinator position.

- Southeast Conference supports development of the Kake-Petersburg electrical intertie link, and urges State funding for design, permitting and construction of that critical project.
- Southeast Conference supports the completion of electrical intertie projects now under construction between Juneau and Hoonah, the Reynolds Creek Hydro project and the transmission line extension on Northern Prince of Wales Island, and urges State funding and funding match for those projects.
- Southeast Conference supports all projects in the Southeast Alaska Electrical Intertie System Plan as authorized by the U. S. Congress (PL106-511).
- Southeast Conference supports continuation of a regional energy coordinator position to achieve regional energy goals, facilitate community efforts to implement a regional energy plan and to look for new opportunities for electric generation and conservation, and urges State funding for this position.
- Southeast Conference supports continued investigation of the potential to develop and export surplus hydroelectric power from Southeast Alaska to Canada and the Lower-48 States. SEC will work with the State and Canadian counterparts to coordinate efforts that further this project.
- Southeast Conference supports full funding of the Power Cost Equalization (PCE) program to assist smaller communities who rely on high cost diesel fuel to generate electricity. SEC further believes that this program's benefits should be restored to the original mandate of the program to again provide relief to public facilities, schools and qualifying businesses in these distressed communities.
- Southeast Conference supports recapitalization of the State's Power Project Loan Fund to augment grant funding and accelerate the development of renewable energy projects in Alaska. This will create a sustainable mechanism to fund future projects.
- Southeast Conference supports funding for development of alternative and clean energy projects in the region, especially in rural communities that burn high cost diesel fuel to produce energy.