



SUSITNA-WATANA HYDRO

Clean, reliable energy for the next 100 years.

Susitna-WatanaHydro.org

2/15/2013

Alaska Energy Authority



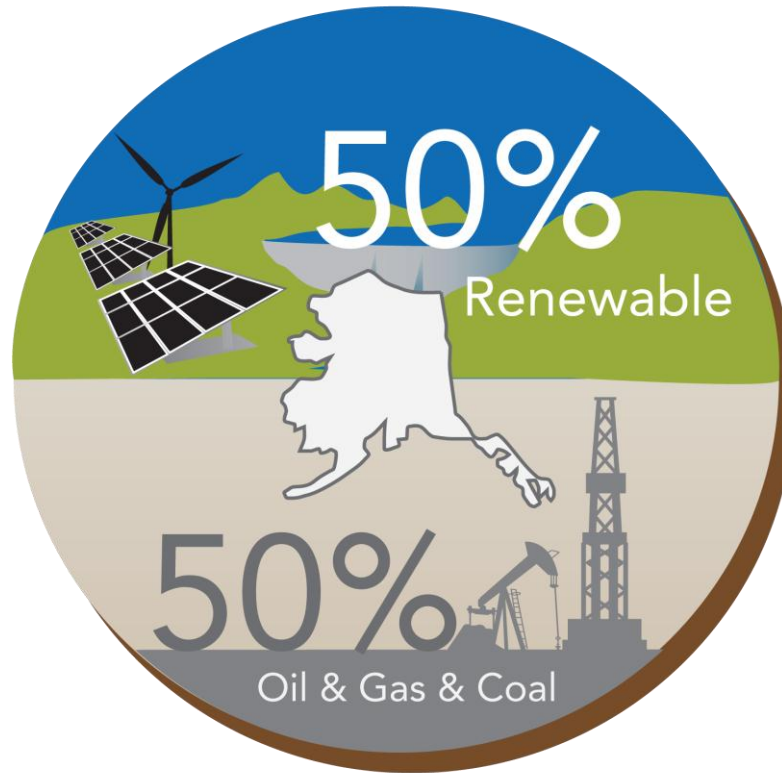
Mission: Reduce the Cost of Energy in Alaska

- Investing in Alaska's energy infrastructure
- Diversifying Alaska's energy portfolio
- Energy Planning and Policy
- Training and Technical Assistance

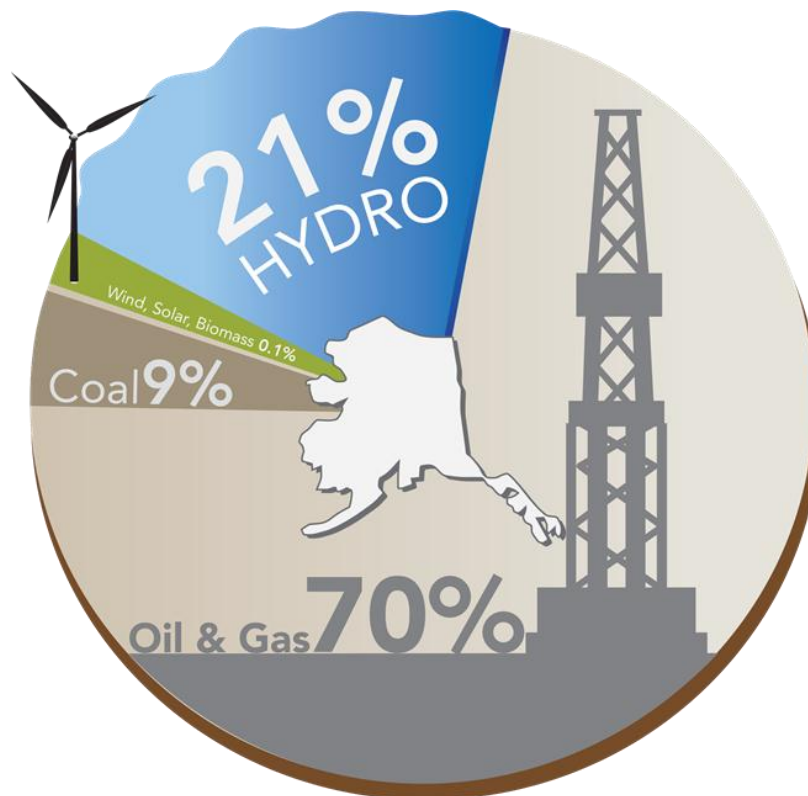
Alaska's Energy Challenges

- Varied energy costs by region
- Declining oil production / highly volatile fossil fuel costs
- Aging facilities
- Dispersed communities, no central grid
- Short and long-term solutions necessary

2025 Renewable Energy Goal



Alaska: Electricity Sources



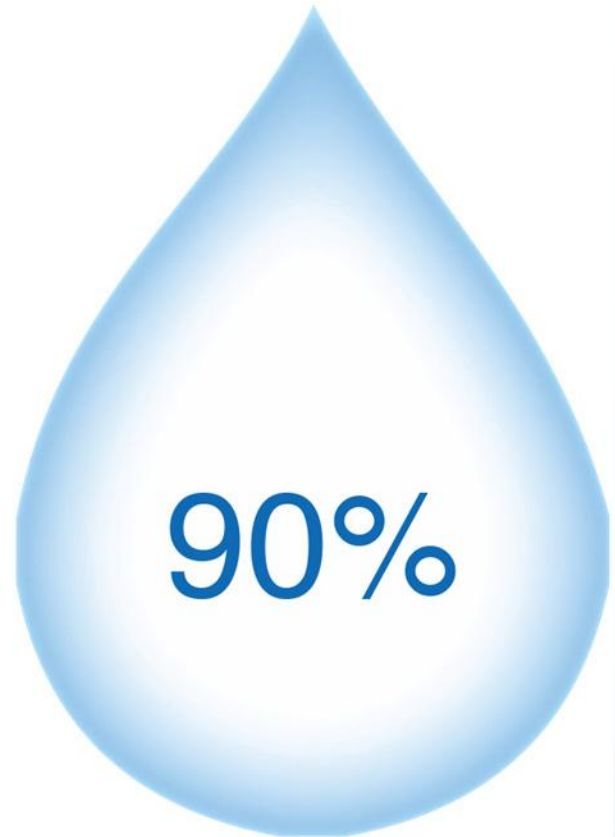
Renewable Electrical Power

Hydropower

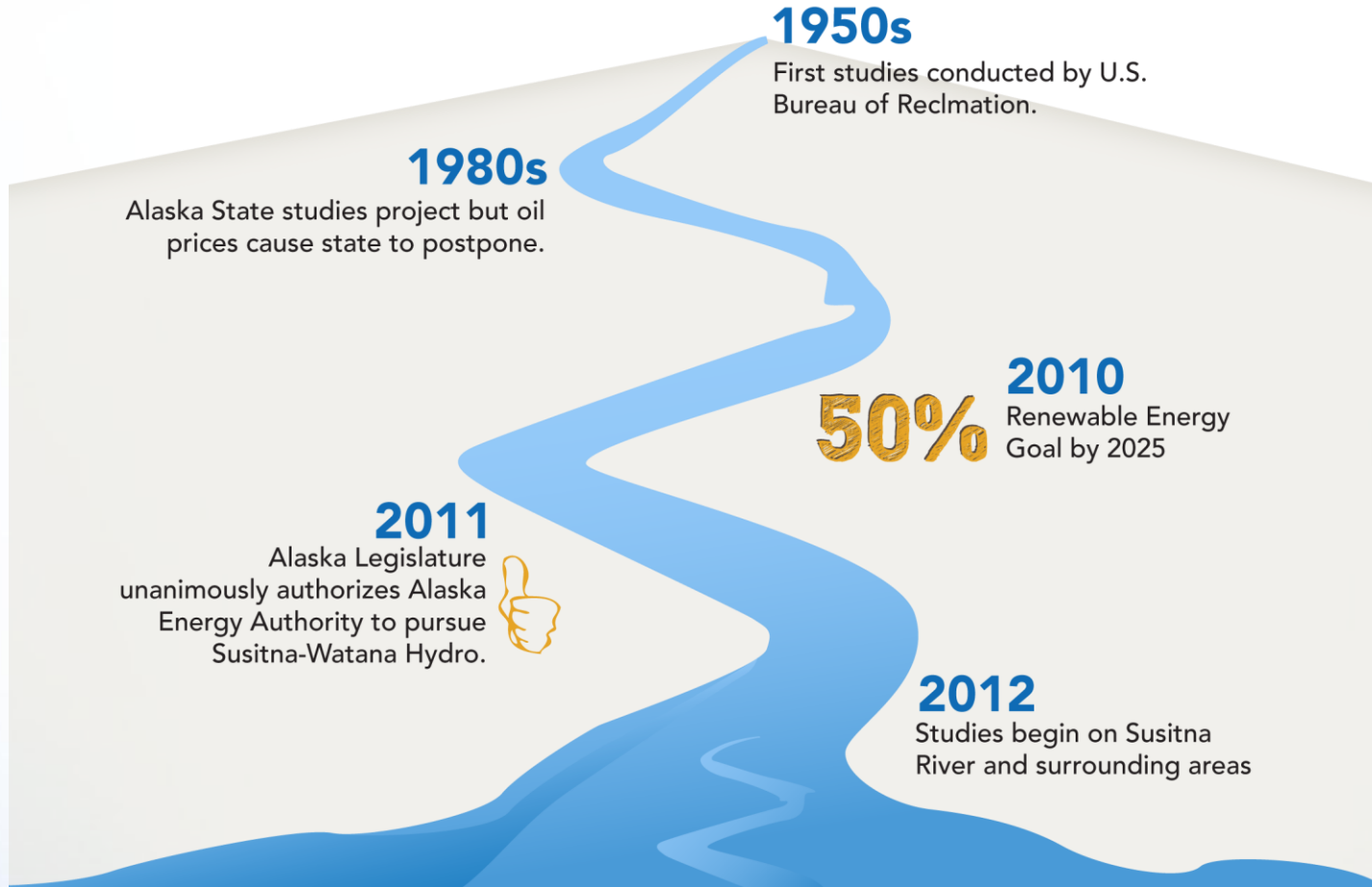
all others 10%



90%



Susitna Hydro: History



Why Susitna-Watana Hydro

- Serves ~80% of state's population
- 1,000 jobs during peak construction
- Stable electricity rates for 100+ years
- Long-term diversification
- Clean, reliable energy source
- Promotes integration of variable power sources

Project Highlights

- Susitna-River Mile 184
- 87 River Miles from Talkeetna
- 22-32 River Miles upstream from Devils Canyon
- 600 MW Installed Capacity
- 2,800,000 MWh Annual Energy
- ~50 percent of Railbelt's Energy Demand

Project Highlights

Location:

River mile 184, above
Devils Canyon

Size:

735-foot high dam

Cost:

\$5.19 billion

Reservoir:

About 42-miles long, average width of one mile

Estimated Supply:

Roughly 50 percent of Railbelt
electrical demand

Installed Capacity:

600 MW

Annual Energy

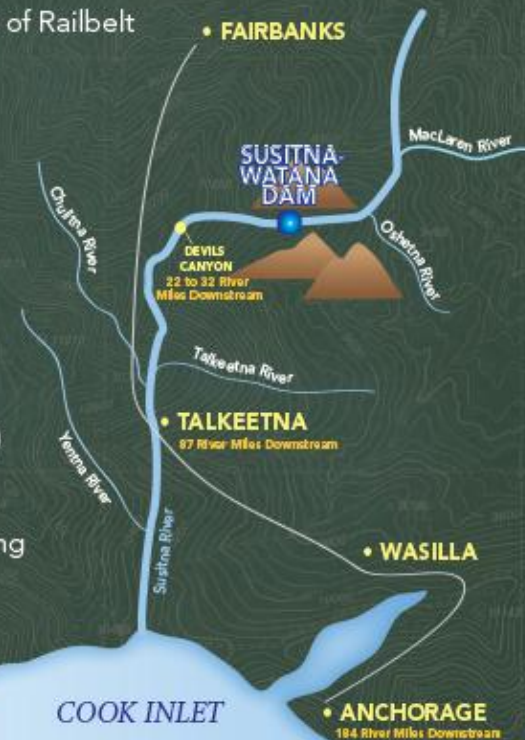
2,800,000 MWh

Licensing:

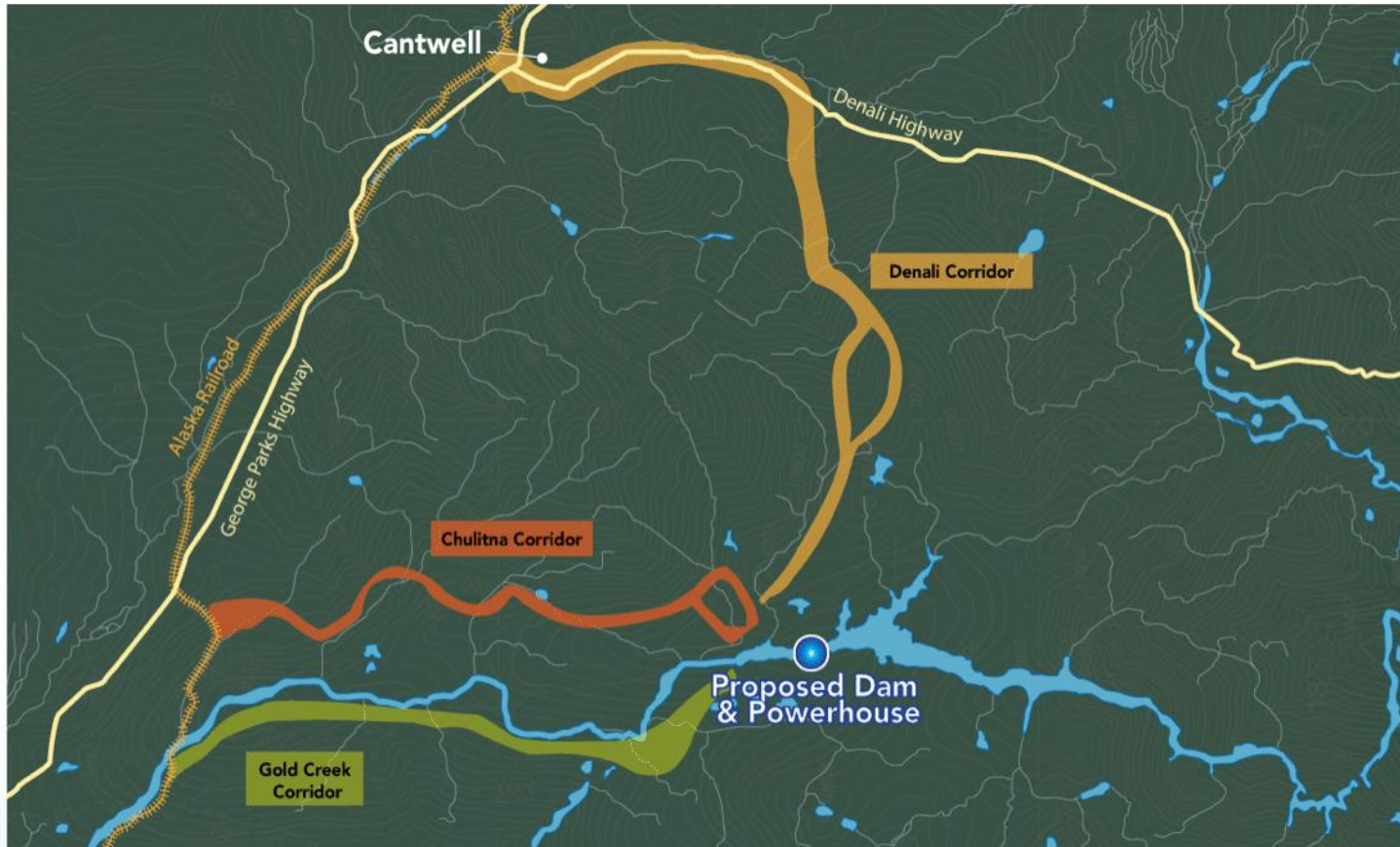
Federal Energy
Regulatory
Commission (FERC)

Project Life:

100+ years, providing
long-term,
stable rates

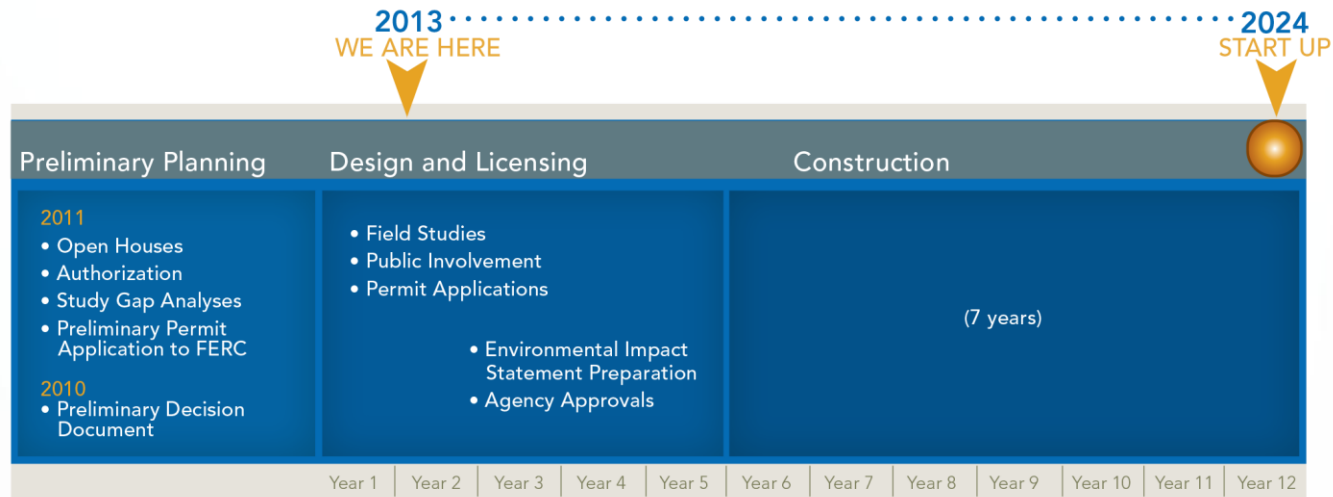


Access and Transmission Alternatives



Project Timeline

TIMELINE



Employment

- 385: Total individuals contracted to work on Susitna-Watana Hydro (Outside AEA)
- Majority of workers are Alaskans
- Hydropower licensing experience in the Pacific Northwest
- 180 individuals anticipated to be in the field 2013

Revised Study Plan

- Unprecedented effort
- Proactive approach
- 58 studies
- 186,000 acres



Susitna-Watana Hydro Environmental Program

- Early 2012 fieldwork, including important fish studies
- Development of a Revised Study Plan
 - significant stakeholder involvement
 - filed with FERC in 12/12
 - FERC Study Plan Determination on 44 studies 2/1/2013
 - FERC Study Plan Determination on 14 studies 4/1/2013



Susitna-Watana Hydro

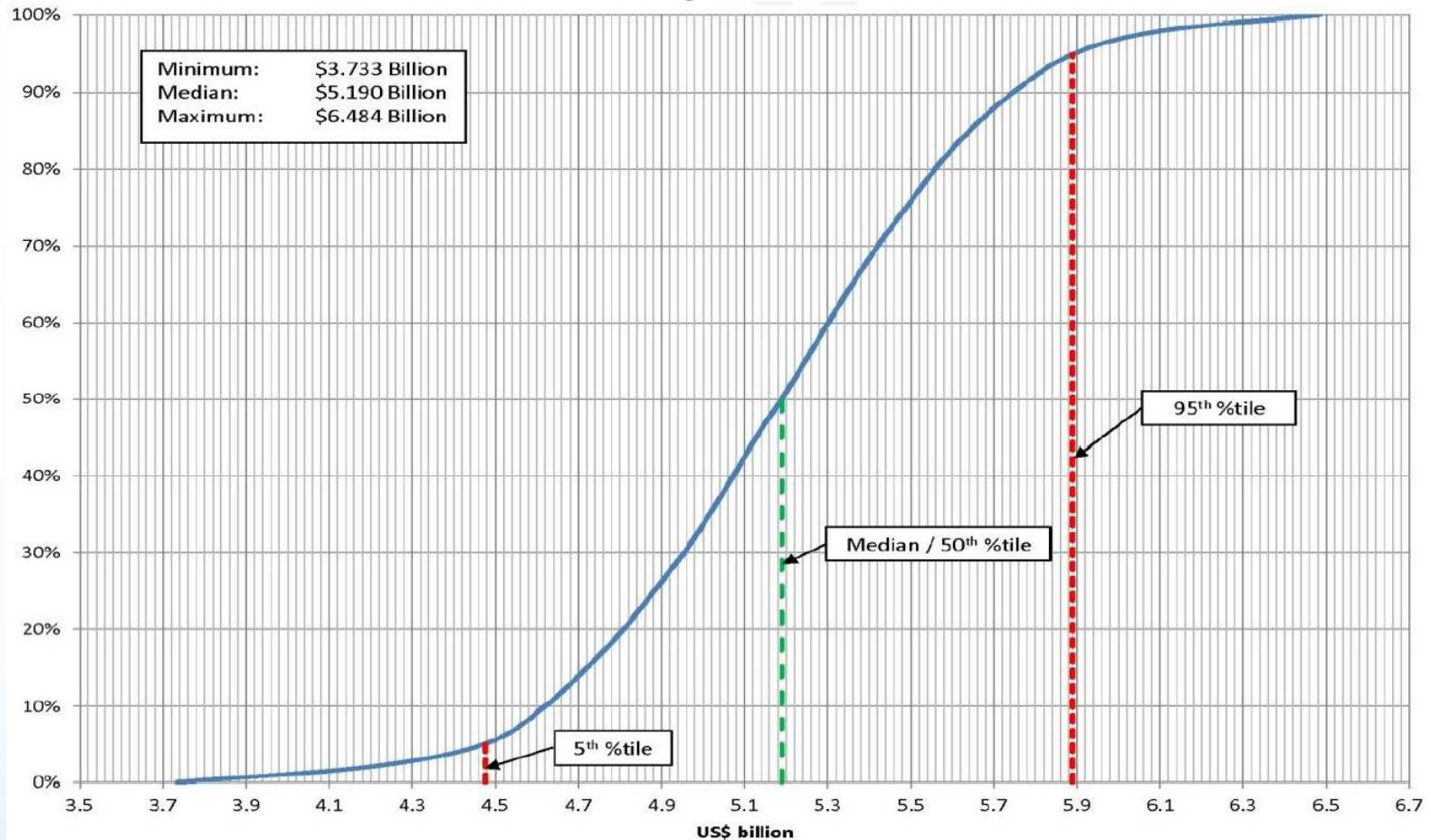
Additional 2012 Accomplishments

- Licensing progress and meeting milestones
- Synthesized historical 1980s information
- Engineering
 - Progress refining design models
 - Identified three potential access routes
 - Brought on panel of international experts as board of consultants
 - 2012 geotechnical fieldwork and surveying
 - Development of engineering and project safety study plans
- Independent Cost Estimate

Independent Construction Cost Estimate: Results

- AECOM tasked with unit-price estimate and independent construction schedule
- AECOM confirms
 - Feasible timeline
 - Roller-Compacted Concrete (RCC) dams constructible in cold climates
- AECOM recommends
 - Year-round construction
 - Consideration of early reservoir filling for early power generation
- Comparison between original and AECOM estimates within 9%
- Accuracy of the most probable estimate: -11% to +26%

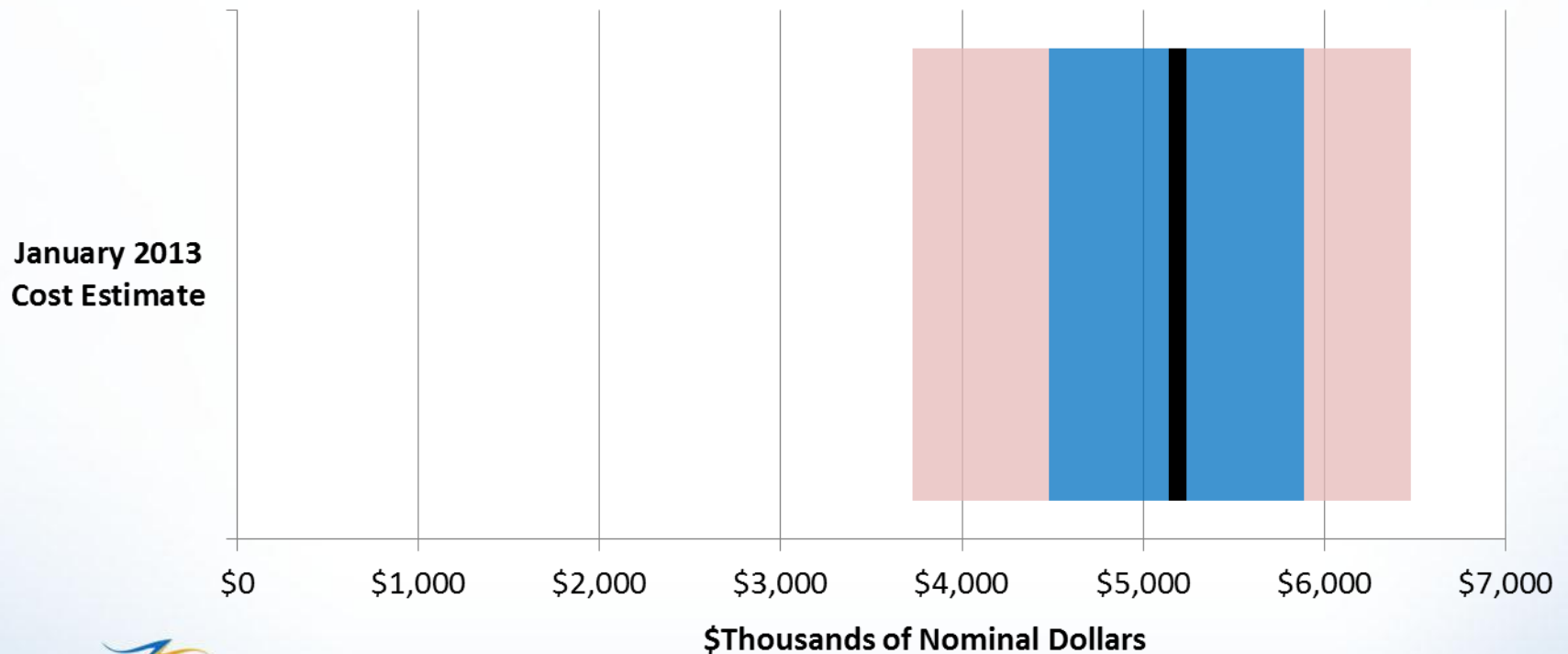
Probabilistic Range of Total Project Costs



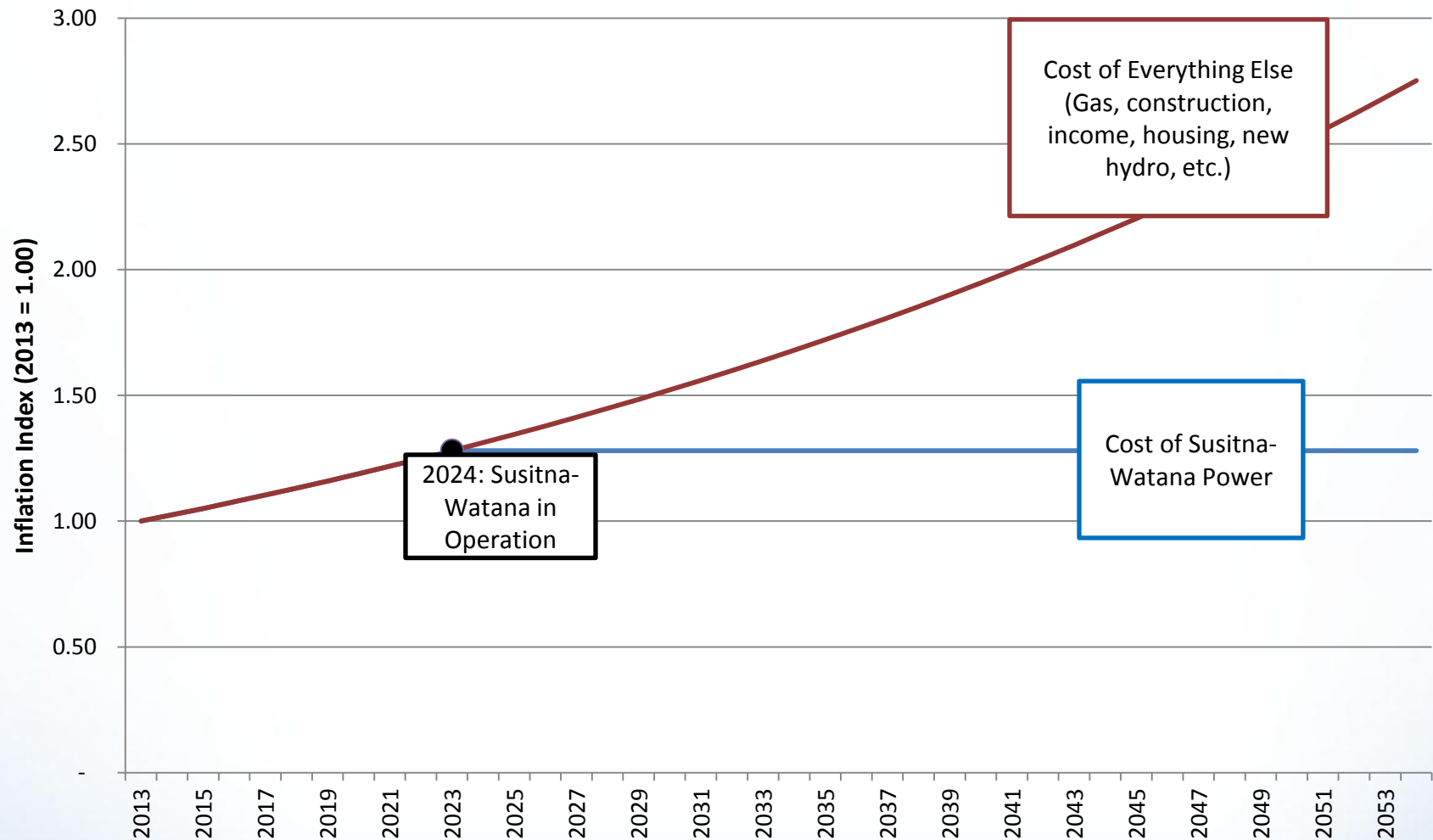
Susitna-Watana Captial Costs

	Best Estimate	Low Estimate*	High Estimate*	Minimum Cost	Maximum Cost
January 2013	\$5,190	\$4,480	\$5,890	\$3,730	\$6,480

**Low and High Estimates represent a 90% probability*



Impacts of Inflation on Susitna-Watana Power Costs



Base Case Economic Assumptions

Capital Costs (\$mill)	\$5,190
Power Production (GWh)	2,800
Interest Rate	5.00%
Debt Term (years)	30
Annual O&M Costs (\$mill)	\$16
Operation Start Year	2024

Susitna-Watana Power Costs (\$/kWh)

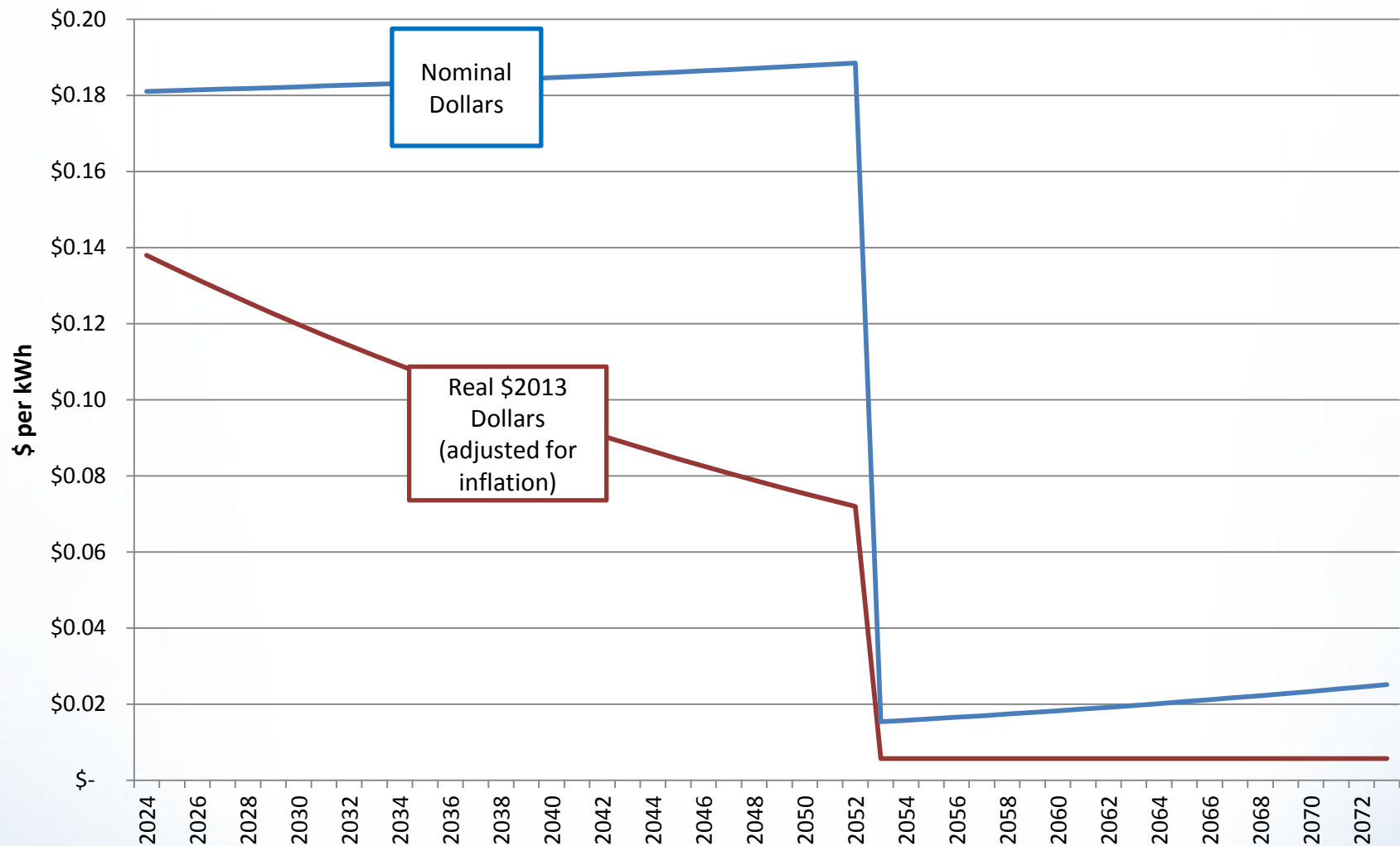
Year 1 Rate (\$2024)	\$0.181
Year 1 Rate (\$2013 Real)	\$0.138
10 Year Ave Rate (\$2013 Real)	\$0.124
25 Year Ave Rate (\$2013 Real)	\$0.106
50 Year Ave Rate (\$2013 Real)	\$0.061

Real= Adjusted for Inflation

Assumes no Direct State Financing

Susitna-Watana Power Costs: Real vs. Nominal

(Assumes no Direct State Financing)



Natural Gas Generation Comparison

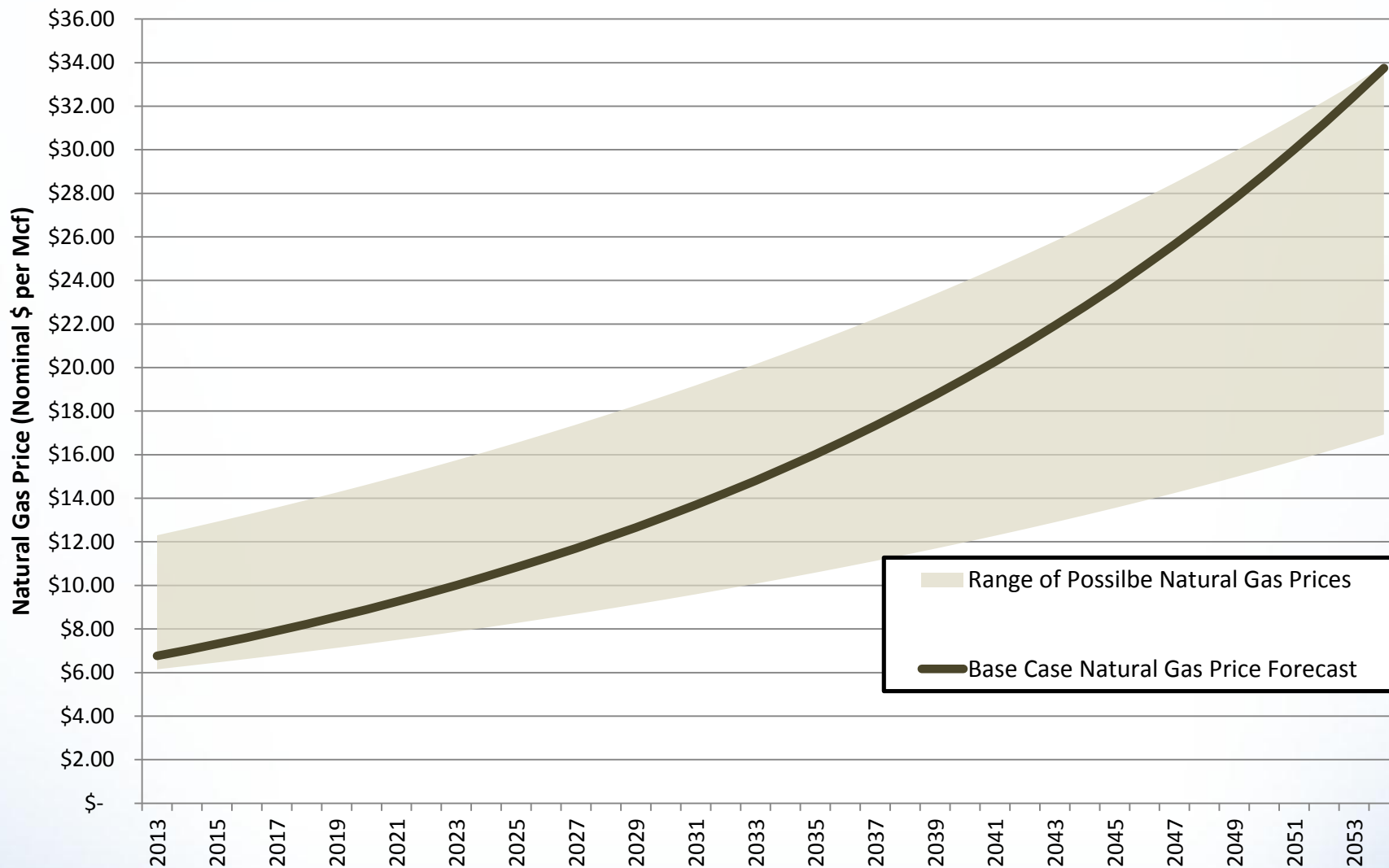
- Competitive with natural gas in the early years, much lower-cost over long-term
- Future natural gas prices are unknown
- Assume a constant efficiency and non-fuel cost for natural gas generation
 - Heat rate of 8,000 (Btu/kWh)
 - Non-fuel cost of \$0.03 per kWh

Natural Gas Price Forecast

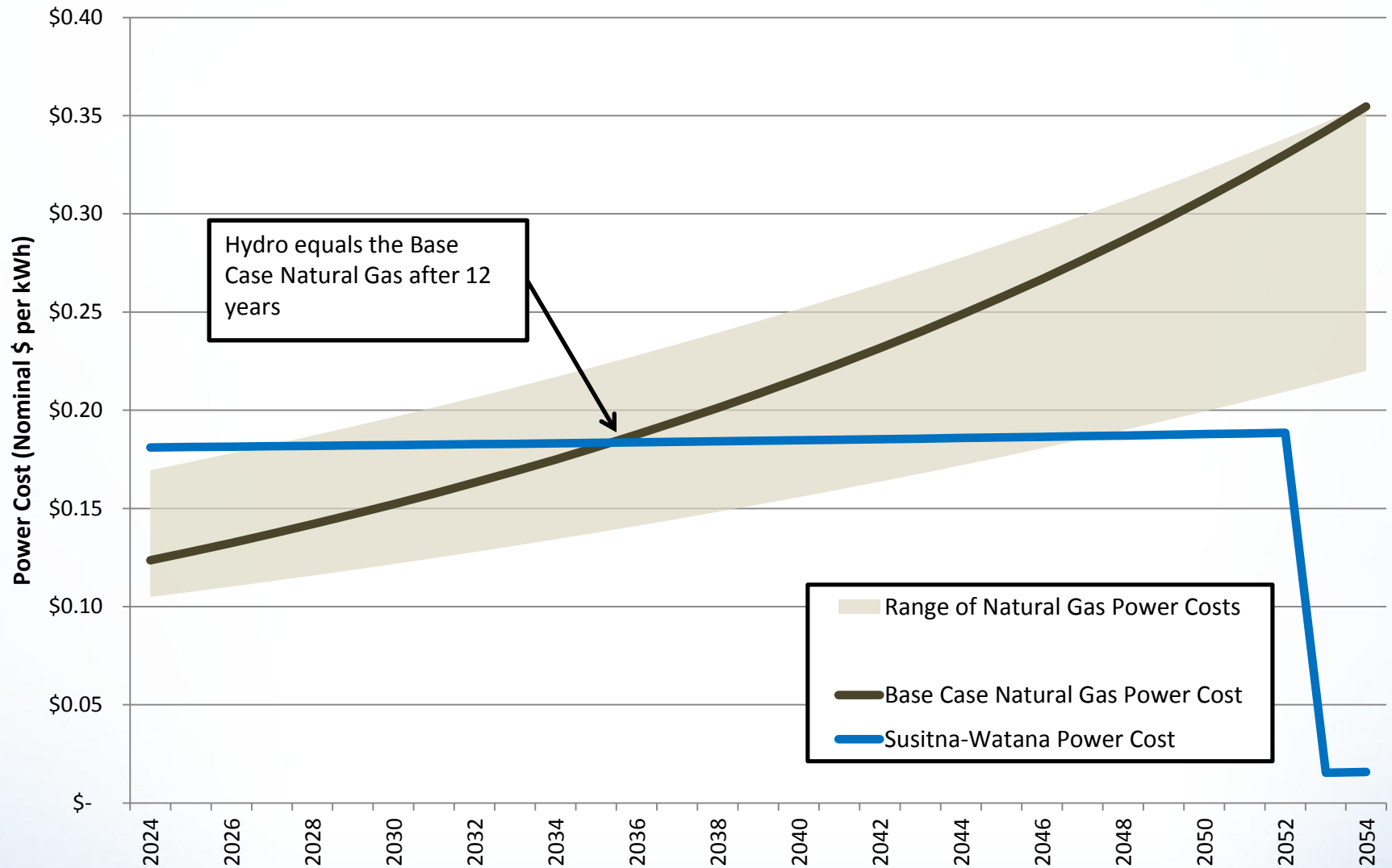
- A single forecast was needed for a “Base Case” comparison
 - \$6.50 per Mcf in 2012
 - Increases at 4% annually (1.5% greater than inflation)
- Realistically, future natural gas prices are better represented with a range
 - Prices can range \$6.00 to \$12.00 per Mcf in 2013
 - Range increase with inflation (2.5% annually)



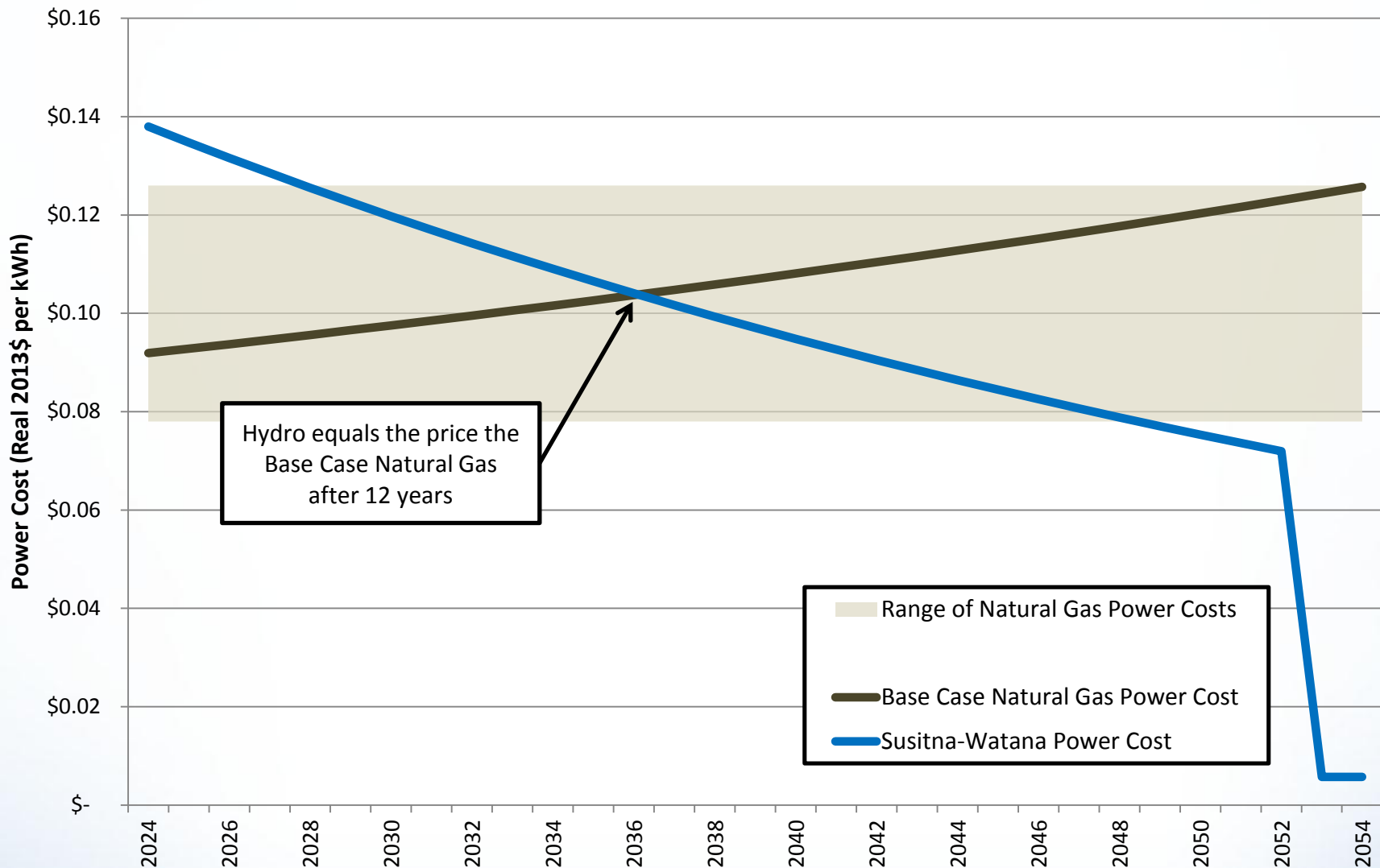
Natural Gas Price Forecast and Range



Susitna-Watana vs. Natural Gas Power Costs



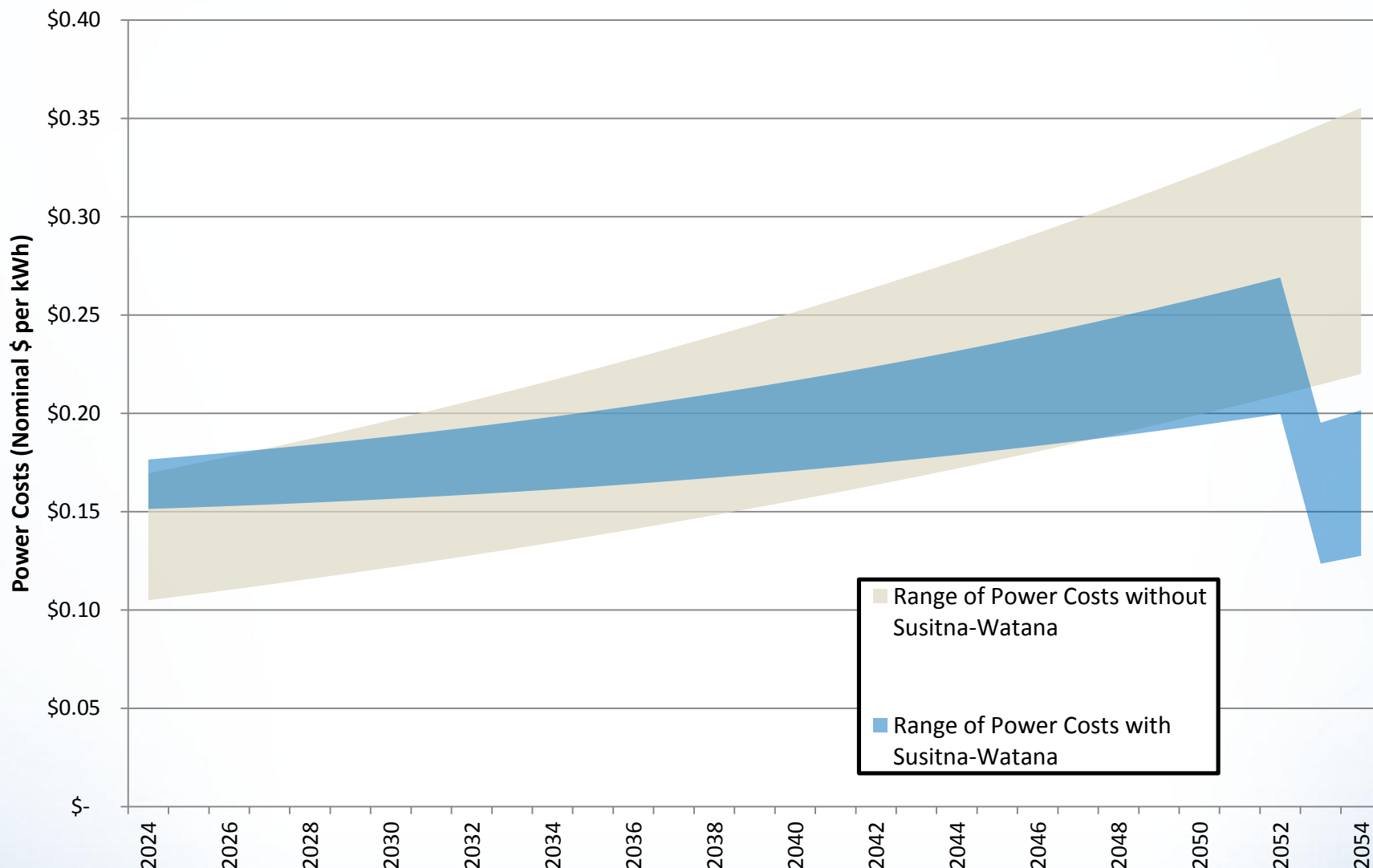
Susitna-Watana vs. Natural Gas Power Costs



Susitna-Watana Hydro Reduces Power Price Uncertainty

- Hydropower reduces electricity price uncertainty and volatility
- Following chart compares the impact of the range of natural gas prices on the average power costs under two scenarios
 - First scenario assumes 100% natural gas generation
 - Second scenario assumes 50% hydro and 50% natural gas generation

Power Costs Under Range of Natural Gas Prices



Economic Takeaways

- Susitna-Watana Hydro can significantly reduce future power cost uncertainty
- Competitive with natural gas in the early years, much lower-cost over long-term
- Equals the price of base case natural gas after 12 years without any direct State financing

2013 Goals and Milestones

- Continued stakeholder and landowner outreach
- Implement the Revised Study Plan
 - Field work agreements with Alaska Department of Fish & Game
 - Logistical support, including helicopters and field camps
 - Obtaining permits from land owners
- Resources and Procurement Plan
- Utility Precedence Agreement
- Geotechnical exploration



Project Highlights

Location: River mile 184, above Devils Canyon

Size: 750-foot high dam

Reservoir: 41-miles long, 2-miles wide (at widest)

Estimated Supply: Nearly 50 percent of Railbelt electrical demand

Installed Capacity: 600 MW

Annual Energy: 2,800,000 MWh

Licensing: Federal Energy Regulatory

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