

SB 173 testimony

Senate Resources Committee

February 12, 2018

Good afternoon.

My name is Phil Steyer. I am the director of government relations for Chugach Electric Association. I am here today to note Chugach's support for clarifying in state statute that a utility that installs and uses treated wooden poles is not liable for trace amounts of preservative that may be transferred to the ground.

Chugach is an Anchorage-based, member-owned electric cooperative providing service to approximately 68,000 members at nearly 84,000 metered-locations. Chugach's service territory runs from the Anchorage Bowl to the northern Kenai Peninsula and from Whittier to Tyonek.

Chugach has nearly 900 miles of overhead distribution line on its system supported by treated wooden poles.

Chugach appreciates the sponsor's effort to clarify this issue and the committee's attention to it today.

Thank you.