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**APA LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE EXPLORATION OF
THE ROADBELT ELECTRICAL TRANSMISSION INTERTIE PROJECT**

To Whom It May Concern:

Alaska Power Association (APA), the statewide electric utility trade association, strongly supports the deployment of electric transmission infrastructure that brings reliable electricity to Alaskans and stimulates economic development. The Copper Valley/Richardson Highway region in eastern Alaska, which is not electrically interconnected, comprises vast untapped natural resources, military installations, and many communities of Alaskans paying two to three times higher than the national average for electricity.

The Roadbelt Electrical Transmission Line project currently being explored by Copper Valley Electric Association and the Copper Valley Development Association with the support of various stakeholder groups would connect the region to the Railbelt transmission grid via high voltage lines from Sutton and Glennallen to Delta Junction and sub-transmission lines extending from Gakona to Tok/Upper Tanana Region and Delta Junction to Tok/Upper Tanana Region.

The transmission project, should it be determined as economically feasible, would significantly increase Alaska's electric system reliability, allow for the integration of more renewable energy, enhance the reliability of power to military installations, provide an alternate power route for the Anchorage-Fairbanks Intertie, and enable economic development opportunities in the greater Copper Valley region.

Alaska Power Association supports the exploration underway for the Roadbelt Electrical Transmission Line project, including the analysis of transmission infrastructure options to achieve increased reliability and reasonable electric rates for residents of Sutton, Glennallen, Tok, Delta Junction and other communities in the Copper Valley/Richardson Highway region.

Sincerely,

Crystal Enkvist
Executive Director