



Enriching Our Native Way of Life

March 19, 2019

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska Senate
State Capitol Room 508
Juneau, AK 99801

Support for SB 91: Nuyakuk River Falls Hydroelectric Site

Dear Senator Hoffman

Bristol Bay Native Corporation (BBNC) supports SB 91 to amend AS 41.21.167 to list Nuyakuk River Falls as a potential hydroelectric site within Wood-Tikchik State Park and to direct the Wood-Tikchik State Park Management Council to amend the Park Management Plan to also include Nuyakuk River Falls as a potential hydroelectric site.

BBNC supports the efforts of Nushagak Electric and Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (NETC) to study the feasibility of building a run-of-the-river 30 megawatt hydroelectric project at the Nuyakuk Falls. This project has the potential to provide renewable power to at least six Bristol Bay communities, reducing their reliance on diesel and State of Alaska PCE assistance while also lowering the cost of electricity for community members. As a secondary benefit, the power distribution lines built for this project can also accommodate fiber optic cables which would allow NETC to provide broadband internet service to the connected communities. Collectively, these improvements would stimulate positive long-term economic benefits throughout much of the Bristol Bay region.

For these reasons, BBNC supports SB 91 and asks the State Senate to enact it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel L. Cheyette". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Daniel L. Cheyette
VP Lands and Natural Resources

cc:

Senator Chris Birch
Chair Senate Resources Committee

Senator Natasha von Imhof
Co-Chair Senate Finance Committee

Senator Bert Stedman
Co-Chair Senate Finance Committee