



Improving people's lives, and their environments,
through sustainable energy solutions

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To whom it may concern,

ORPC Inc. respectfully offers this letter of support for the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS), HB 301 / SB 179. This a well written article of legislation that provides pathways for Railbelt utilities to be flexible with their growth and implementation of renewable energy sources, while still providing an incentive for driving an economically responsible clean energy future for the State of Alaska.

Without the framework outlined by the RPS there will be no incentive in place to begin in earnest down a path to widespread renewables, understanding that utilities have a financial responsibility to their ratepayers to provide energy at a reasonable price point. The proposed fine of \$50 is comparable to the rest of the United States and puts Alaska on par with climate goals outlined by our peers.

Personally, I am proud to be on the leading edge of economic growth in my home state and involved with the development of tidal and riverine energy resources of Alaska.

Thank you for your time and service.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Merrick Jackinsky", is positioned above the printed name.

Merrick Jackinsky
Director of Development – Alaska
ORPC, Inc.

From: Katya Karankevich <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, February 21, 2022 12:22 PM
To: Senate Labor and Commerce
Subject: Sb179

Dear Chair Costello and committee,

Alaska is dependent on one source of ever expensive natural gas for its energy in most of the state. A renewable portfolio standard as proposed in sb179 would make alaska energy independent, since renewable energy prices have been dropping to rock bottom lows over the last decade. I am an Alaskan who wants to see the state ween off of volatile Natural gas and invest in cheaper renewables through this RPS. Please vote yes to move the state into an energy secure future.

Best wishes,

Katya Karankevich
Anchorage Alaska

From: Griffin Hagle <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, February 21, 2022 1:35 PM
To: Senate Labor and Commerce
Subject: SB 179

Chair Costello and members of the Committee,

I am an Anchorage resident writing in favor of SB 179.

Power generation on Alaska's Railbelt is overdependent on a single source of fuel - fossil gas from Cook Inlet. A Renewable Portfolio Standard for the region would take advantage of one of the most hopeful advancements of the 21st century - the plummeting cost of renewable power technologies - to diversify our energy mixture and improve reliability, affordability and energy independence.

Solar and wind are already competitive with fossil fuels and are only getting less expensive. Over the last decade, utility-scale solar prices have dropped 90%, onshore wind power dropped 72% and lithium-ion batteries decreased 89%. In 2020, the International Energy Agency (IEA) concluded that solar power was the cheapest form of electricity in history. For that reason, four of five new power plants built in the United States that year were wind or solar.

This is what it looks like when math wins.

A recent report by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) found five different pathways for the Railbelt to get to 80% renewable power without impacting reliability. NREL's researchers found that transmission upgrades, batteries, flexible hydropower and fossil gas generation can keep the system balanced in times of no sun, wind or water. Moving away from our heavy dependency on fossil gas will stabilize energy prices and create good-paying local jobs in one out of the most promising economic sectors of the modern era.

Thank you for your consideration.

Griffin Hagle

[REDACTED]
Anchorage, AK

From: Kathryn Carovano <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, February 21, 2022 1:47 PM
To: Senate Labor and Commerce
Subject: SB 179

Dear Chair Costello and Members of the Labor and Commerce Committee,

I strongly encourage you to support SB-179, the Renewable Portfolio Standards Bill.

The Alaska Railbelt is well positioned to achieve energy independence and stabilize prices by investing in renewable energy.

With impressive hydro, tidal, wind and solar energy available, we should strive to diversify our energy sources so we are not so dependent on natural gas and the fluctuating prices of that commodity.

Investing in this new energy infrastructure will also create good jobs.

Investing in renewables is the way to ensure that we have stable, affordable power for our future.

Please support SB-179.

Thank you,

Kathryn Carovano, Anchorage, AK

From: Kenneth <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, February 22, 2022 4:49 PM
To: Senate Labor and Commerce
Subject: SB 179
Attachments: Solar Array and Car2.JPG

Chair Costello and members of the Committee,

As an Alaskan I fully support the goal of Senate Bill 179 to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels and legislate an energy policy that moves the state toward expanded use of alternative energy for electric Power.

Although the lion's share of my income is directly tied to the oil and gas industry, I recognize the dwindling supply of Cook inlet gas that the Railbelt energy corridor relies on heavily for power generation.

I have installed a grid tied solar array on my property and have directly experienced the advantages of adding alternative energy to the basket of power sources we can implement and rely on in the future. Naturally, small use owned solar arrays are not the silver bullet for replacing our reliance on Cook Inlet gas. Larger and more diverse systems such as wind, tidal, hydro and biomass source should also be developed and deployed.

The electric utilities are reluctant to embrace and invest in these renewable resources. I believe they need a little nudge in the right direction. I urge you and the state senate to pass this bill.

Thank you for listening.

--

Kenneth Farmer
President/Senior Consultant
Business Application Developers
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



From: Tim Hall <t[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, February 21, 2022 11:35 AM
To: Senate Labor and Commerce
Subject: SB 179 - Renewable Portfolio Standard

Chair Costello and members of the Committee, I am writing on my concerns about the Renewable Portfolio Standard Legislation. Although I am for the Alaska Railbelt Utilities to diversify their dependency on Natural Gas as the main source of fuel for the generation of electricity. I am against a government mandate that requires a set amount of generation capacity be fueled by any source. I believe that the Utility operators should be allowed to make decisions based on the market and not a mandate by the government.

Make no mistake I am very much for including Renewable sources as part of the portfolio to fuel out states electrical utilities. I also feel that the use of renewable resources should and are being implemented without being mandated. As I understand Chugach Electric Association and Golden Valley Electric Association currently have requests for projects that would increase their renewable footprints.

Thank you for your consideration on this issue,
Timothy E. Hall
Anchorage, AK