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Governor Mike Dunleavy
STATE OF ALASKA

August 8, 2023

Ms. Laura Simeon, CEO
Aniak Traditional Council
P.O. Box 349
Aniak, AK 99557

Via Email: aniaktribe88@yahoo.com

Dear Ms. Simeon,

Thank you for reaching out to my office about the recent and unaffordable rate increase for Aniak Light and Power customers. One of my top priorities as Governor is to reduce the cost of energy in Alaska, especially in rural areas of the state unconnected to our main grid, so it was very important to find a prompt and fair solution working within our statutory and regulatory structures governing rates and fuel cost recovery.

A new power rate for Aniak Light and Power Company, Inc. (ALPC) has been approved by the Regulatory Commission of Alaska (RCA) as of July 28, 2023, one month after the June 28, 2023, public meeting of the RCA when the members heard from dozens of residents about the severe impact of the rate increase.

Under the direction of the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, the RCA worked closely with ALPC to resolve this issue in a timely manner, and my office provided regular updates of this work to Representative Edgmon who had expressed his concerns on behalf of his constituents. During this time, based on RCA direction to ALPC, no customers were disconnected, and customers will be rebilled for the months of June, July, and August at this new, lower rate. The amount of Power Cost Equalization support has been set at the statutory maximum to further reduce the burden on ratepayers as ALPC recovers its fuel costs.

Although this particular situation has been resolved with a lower, more affordable rate, the cost of energy in rural communities such as Aniak remains too high, and I will continue to work with you and your fellow Alaskans to secure long-term solutions for affordable energy across the state through efforts that include my Energy Security Task Force that is meeting now and will deliver a report with recommendations this fall.

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My office and commissioners will continue to monitor the situation in Aniak, and take any steps deemed necessary steps to ensure we prevent similar cases from happening in the future.

Sincerely,



Mike Dunleavy
Governor

Enclosures: RCA 8.1.23 letter to Aniak Community Members
RCA 7.28.23 Letter to Aniak Light and Power Company, Inc.

cc: Representative Bryce Edgmon