

HJR

46

# HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(9)

Date Referred: April 26, 1995

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Date of Committee Action: 4-27-95

The RESOURCES Committee considered:

HJR 46

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 46

ENDORISING FALLS CREEK HYDROPOWER PROJECT

Endorsing development of the Falls Creek hydropower project.

recommends it be replaced with the following committee substitute CS HJR 46 (RES)  the same title  
 a new title

additional referral to \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

attached amendment(s)

ADOPTS: \_\_\_\_\_ Letter of Intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S): (Dept) \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVES PREVIOUS: (Dept/Date) \_\_\_\_\_

fiscal note(s) \_\_\_\_\_

fiscal note(s) \_\_\_\_\_

zero fiscal note(s) \_\_\_\_\_

zero fiscal note(s) \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNING <u>WITH RECOMMENDATIONS</u>	DP	DNP	NR	AM
<i>W. M. Nichols</i>	X			
<i>James W. Perry</i>			X	
<i>Robert Ford</i>	X			
<i>Alma White</i>	X			
<i>Janice Barnes</i>	X			
<i>W. K. Williams</i>	X			
<i>Joseph ...</i>	X			

CHAIR'S SIGNATURE *W. K. Williams*

# Alaska State Legislature

REPRESENTATIVE  
**JERRY MACKIE**

ALASKA STATE CAPITOL  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801-1182  
(907) 465-4925

PO. BOX 795  
CRAIG, ALASKA 99921  
(907) 926-3008 OFFICE  
(907) 826-2930 HOME

## House of Representatives

### SPONSOR STATEMENT

ON

HJR 46

The location of a hydroelectric site at Fall Creek and its potential for development have been known for quite some time. I was aware of the proposal two years ago and the efforts of Gustavus Electric Company to bring it to a status of active consideration.

The site is located approximately one-half mile within the Glacier Bay National Park at the boundary adjacent to state land and the community of Gustavus. While the impact of this project on the integrity of the park would appear to be minuscule, any possibility of consideration is totally at the discretion of the park service.

Recent changes in Washington, D.C. have signalled an adjustment of attitude by federal land managers toward projects that may be mutually beneficial to federal interests as well as state and local desires. It is because of this change that Gustavus Electric Company and the community of Gustavus have recently been encouraged to actively pursue a cooperative agreement with the park service.

It is therefore important that the state is on record supporting consideration of the project. And now is most timely for this resolution.

9-LS1119F ✓  
Cramer  
4/27/95

**CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 46(RES)  
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION**

**BY THE HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**Offered:  
Referred:**

**Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE MACKIE**

**A RESOLUTION**

1 **Endorsing development of the Fall Creek hydroelectric project near Gustavus.**

2 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 **WHEREAS** electricity used in Glacier Bay National Park and Gustavus is provided  
4 by diesel generation; and

5 **WHEREAS** power consumption in this area is projected to increase; and

6 **WHEREAS** a small hydroelectric project at Fall Creek could satisfy the needs of  
7 Glacier Bay National Park and the community of Gustavus well into the 21st century; and

8 **WHEREAS** hydroelectric generation at Fall Creek would result in fuel savings,  
9 reduced operating and maintenance costs, and provide the necessary improvements and  
10 upgrades to the existing power system to meet demand, and thereby reduce power costs to  
11 consumers; and

12 **WHEREAS** the Fall Creek hydroelectric project is intended to be financed solely by  
13 private capital; and

14 **WHEREAS** issues related to Glacier Bay National Park are frequently contentious, but  
15 the community of Gustavus and the National Park Service agree that the Fall Creek  
16 hydroelectric project could be environmentally sound and economically advantageous; and

17 **WHEREAS** the community of Gustavus recently reaffirmed support of the Fall Creek

1 hydroelectric project in a unanimous vote; and

2       **WHEREAS**, because the site of the proposed hydroelectric project is within the  
3 boundaries of Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, an Act of Congress will be needed to  
4 change designation of the land status;

5       **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature endorses private development  
6 of the Fall Creek hydroelectric project and encourages the Congress to enact appropriate  
7 measures to redesignate the land status; and be it

8       **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the National Park  
9 Service and other federal agencies to cooperate with the project developer and state agencies  
10 for expeditious permitting for the Fall Creek hydroelectric project.

11       **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Bruce Babbitt, Secretary of  
12 the U.S. Department of the Interior; Roger G. Kennedy, Director, National Park Service, U.S.  
13 Department of the Interior; Robert Barbee, Alaska Regional Director, National Park Service,  
14 U.S. Department of the Interior; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank  
15 Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of  
16 the Alaska delegation in Congress.

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Affected Agency: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: Fall Ck hydropower project BRU: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor: Mackie Components: \_\_\_\_\_  
Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

OPERATING	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99	FY 2000	FY 2001
Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Contractual	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Supplies	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Equipment	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Land & Structures	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Grants, Claims	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL

REVENUE

FUNDING: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

General Fund	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Federal Fund	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

POSITIONS:

Full-Time	0	0	0	0	0	0
Part-Time	0	0	0	0	0	0
Temporary	0	0	0	0	0	0

Estimated FY 95 Impact: 0

ANALYSIS: (ATTACH A SEPARATE PAGE IF NECESSARY)

Prepared By: House Resources Committee Date: 4/27/95  
Division: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: 465-6547

Approved By: Rep. Joe Green Co-Chairman  
Agency: House Resources Committee Date: 4/27/95

DISTRIBUTION (BY PREPARER)  
LEGISLATIVE FINANCE  
LEGISLATIVE SPONSOR

REQUESTOR  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
AGENCY(IES)

# Gustavus Community Association



Post Office Box 62  
Gustavus, Alaska 99826

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4-24-95

DICK LEVITT  
P.O. BOX  
GUSTAVUS AK  
99826

DEAR MR. LEVITT

THE GUSTAVUS COMMUNITY ASSOC. HAD AN ADVISORY VOTE FROM  
THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP. THE VOTE APPROVING THE PROPOSED  
HYDRO ELECTRIC PROJECT IS AS FOLLOWS; 29 IN FAVOR, 0 AGAINST.

THANK YOU

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tom Morrow".

TO MORROW  
PRESIDENT G.C.A.

Paul Berry  
PO Box 143  
Gustavus

Thursday, April 20th, 1995

Dick Levitt  
Gustavus

Hello Dick:

I appreciated your presentation at the GCA meeting tonight and I wanted to express my support for the Falls creek Hydro project. I'm an environmentalist / preservationist by nature but I'm also a user of electricity.

I appreciate your efforts to involve and inform the community about all this as well as your apparent respect for the various views in regards to land swaps. I'm left with the impression that you've thought things through and have asked some questions.

Changing the status of NPS Wilderness lands or the Dude Creek Crane Refuge is a loaded issue. I'd rather see the Fall Creek Wilderness acres swapped with other non-wilderness NPS acres. Also as Rita Wilson mentioned there are lands within the Dude Creek Refuge that are potential sites for Gustavus's future Landfill / Septage facility, and transferring them to the NPS would probably eliminate that.

I donno, as I'm sure you've realized this project has or will have a life of it's own especially in the hands of our Congressional deligation.

Thanks again for keeping the community informed,

*Paul N. Berry*

*TRI Bed & Breakfast  
P. O. Box 214  
Gustavus, Ak 99826  
(907) 697-2425*

April 25, 1995

Senator Fred Zharoff  
Capitol, Room 121  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Zharoff:

We are writing this letter in support of the Gustavus Electric Company's proposed hydroelectric project at Falls Creek, Gustavus, Alaska. We believe this project will be of benefit to the citizens of Gustavus and the citizens of Alaska.

We request support from the Alaskan State Legislature for this project and convey this support to our congressional delegation in Washington, D.C.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,



Thomas Imboden  
Rhio Imboden Harper

# Gusto Building Supply

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P.O. BOX 10 GUSTAVUS, ALASKA 99826

(907) 697-2297 FAX (907) 697-2291

Senator Zharoff

my husband and myself  
are in strong support  
of The Electric Company's  
effort to develop Falls Creek  
as a hydro power project.

Please accept this letter as  
our endorsement

Deeise LHealy  
Jim Healey

BEAR TRACK MERCANTILE  
BOX 259  
GUSTAVUS, AK. 99826  
907-697-2358

Senator F. Zharoff  
Alaska State Senate  
Juneau, Ak. 99811  
April 25, 1995

Subject: Hydro Electric power

Dear Sen. Zharoff;

I have been asked by Dick Levitt of the Gustavus Electric Company to supply a short note to your office concerning the Hydro. Project that Dick has been working on for years. I would like to add our names to the list of supporters for this project. The majority of existing commerce within Gustavus has been developed since the inception of the Gustavus Electric Company. Hydro. power is a clean, and for most of the year, a dependable source of electricity. The continued growth of Gustavus will benefit from this type of power generation.

We ask that you help garner support for this proposal during this legislative session. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely;

Bruce Tedtsen -- John Nixon

( HI !!! Sandy)

Senator Zharoff m



This letter is in support of  
the Fall Creek Hydroelectric project as  
proposed by Hudsons Electric Company.  
Please do everything in your power to  
see that congressional action proceed  
to make this project possible.

Thank you, I am  
Aimée M. Young  
owner

THE SALMON RIVER SMOKEHOUSE

SHOOTING STAR LANE • BOX 40 • GUSTAVUS, ALASKA 99826 • (907) 697-2330



# Glacier Bay COUNTRY INN

Al & Annie Unrein  
Innkeepers

April 25, 1995

The Honorable Senator Fred Zharoff  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol Building  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Zharoff:

It is our understanding that there is a joint resolution currently in process that would allow Gustavus Electric to develop Falls Creek for hydro-electric power.

We are in strong support of this development. Dick Leavitt through Guscavus Electric has provided electrical service to the Gustavus area since 1985 and has spent a huge amount of money and effort doing so. As the community has grown, the demands on the present power system have increased tremendously. Tapping the resources at Falls Creek for hydro power would take a lot of pressure off a system that is being used at (and beyond) capacity. Not only would the use of hydro power be more efficient and less expensive, but it would be better for our environment.

We urge you to support the resolution to allow Gustavus Electric's development at Falls Creek. Please contact us if we can be of help.

Sincerely,

Al and Annie Unrein

*somewhat out of the way... a whole lot out of the ordinary*