

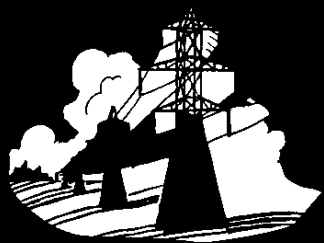
**9-16-09
Statewide Energy
Policy, Haines
Public
Testimony,
HB 218, HB 219**

<target><bill>HB 218</bill><subject>9-16-09 Statewide Energy
Policy, Haines Public Testimony, HB 218, HB
219</subject><comm>HENE26</comm></target>

AK/BC Intertie:

Southeast Alaska's contribution to the green energy solution.

With 27 miles of line, Alaska and Canada can create a pipeline through which excess power can reach the North American power grid. Power sales through the intertie will benefit local, state, and federal economies, create jobs, and provide a source of renewable green energy to a continually-growing, power-hungry market.



Southeast Alaska has the potential to out-produce Hoover Dam.

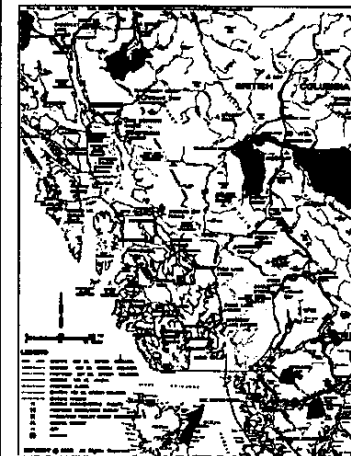
Alaska-Canada Energy Coalition

Alaska-Canada Energy Coalition
 c/o City & Borough of Wrangell
 PO Box 531
 Wrangell, AK 99929
 Phone: 907-874-2381
 Fax: 907-874-3952

Alaska Canada Energy Coalition (ACEC)

Our Mission:

To provide a credible catalyst to the construction of the AK-BC Energy portion of the Southeast Alaska Intertie grid.



Tel: (907)874-2381

Alaska-Canada Energy Coalition

Objectives:

1. Affordable energy for all of Southeast Alaska
2. Stimulus for economic development
3. "Green" energy for North America

Affordable Energy for Alaska

- Hydroelectric power is the least expensive form of power in Alaska by 15% and the least expensive form of heat by a factor of 3.5-to-1. (Alaska Energy Authority)
- 2007 Energy reports states, "Thomas Bay/Swan Lake-Tyee are believed to be able to provide energy for all of Southeast's needs as well as export excess energy." (alaskapower.org)

Economic Development

- The 2009 economic stimulus package included \$6.5 billion for renewable energy and \$11 billion for energy transmission.
- \$150 billion for clean energy over 10 years.
- Administration goals include 10% of U.S. energy from renewable sources within 3 years, 25% within 15 years.

Alaskan administrative goals include 50% of state power from renewable energy by 2050.

The Alaska-Canada Intertie is vital to ensure the economic feasibility of the development of over 3000 Megawatts of possible power at 80+ developable sites in Southeast Alaska alone.



Bradfield Canal, near the planned Alaska-Canada Intertie route

Green Energy

- National energy demand will increase 30%-50% over the next 20 years. *
- National renewable energy will grow by 50% over the next 20 years. *
- Oil is projected to reach \$189 per barrel by 2030. *
- International energy demand will increase 50% in the same period. *

*US Department of Energy

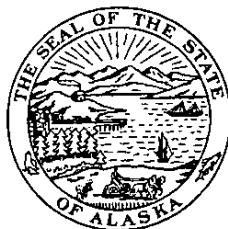
The Alaska-Canada Intertie is an integral part of the future of energy and of the new Alaskan energy economy. The Intertie has support at the international, national, state, and local levels, and is the foundation for feasible energy development in Southeast Alaska.

Alaska-Canada Intertie Coalition

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Alaska Legislature
House and Senate Special Committees on Energy



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AGENDA

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

1:30 p.m.

**Haines High School, Karl Ward Gymnasium
698 Old Haines Highway, Haines, Alaska**

Rep. Charisse Millett, Chair

- 1) Opening remarks by Mayor Jan Hill, Haines, Alaska
- 2) Presentation on Southeast Energy Issues by Robert Venables, Energy Coordinator, Southeast Conference
- 3) Public testimony on HB 218, HB 219, statewide energy plan



Ottawa, Canada K1A 0A2

Release

Date: September 16, 2009
For immediate release

PRIME MINISTER STEPHEN HARPER ANNOUNCES CANADA'S INVESTMENT IN NORTHWEST TRANSMISSION LINE

Expected to Increase Renewable Energy Potential of Northern British Columbia

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Prime Minister Stephen Harper today announced funding for the construction of the Northwest Transmission Line in northern British Columbia, which could eventually connect with Alaska, reflecting Canada's commitment to clean energy.

"Our government is supporting environmentally sound infrastructure and initiatives that promote cleaner, greener energy," said the Prime Minister. "The Northwest Transmission Line will facilitate the development of green energy and help provide British Columbia's northern and remote communities with more sustainable and affordable power."

The project could advance a potential connection between southeast Alaska and the North American transmission grid via British Columbia.

In February 2009, Prime Minister Harper and President Obama launched the *Clean Energy Dialogue*. Today, they discussed a progress report on the *Dialogue* focusing on clean energy research and development, a more efficient energy grid, and carbon capture and storage. The Prime Minister also highlighted a number of new projects that demonstrate progress on these discussions.

"Our government is pursuing joint projects with President Obama and his Administration. Our government is taking action to promote cleaner energy use," said the Prime Minister. "The British Columbia Northwest Transmission Line will build a more efficient electricity grid, increasing our use of clean and renewable sources of energy generation in the years to come."

To learn more about Canada's Economic Action Plan, visit www.actionplan.gc.ca. For more information on Government of Canada investments in infrastructure, visit www.creatingjobs.gc.ca.

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PMO Press Office: 613-957-5555
This document is also available at <http://pm.gc.ca>

Canada



Backgrounder

NORTHWEST TRANSMISSION LINE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Government of Canada is supporting a green infrastructure project in northern British Columbia involving the construction of a 335-kilometre transmission line that will contribute to the development and use of green energy in the area. This project has been selected as a priority for funding under the new federal Green Infrastructure Fund.

The Northwest Transmission Line will extend British Columbia's high voltage transmission grid into the Northwest portion of the province. The transmission line will benefit local communities by providing them with the potential to access clean electricity in the future, thereby reducing their reliance on diesel generation, resulting in more reliable energy service for the communities and a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.

The area surrounding the project has a significant potential to generate green power. There is currently an estimated 2000 megawatts of renewable energy in the area from small hydro, geothermal, wind and biomass sources. A number of potential generation projects in the area are already being considered under British Columbia's current Clean Power Call, representing almost 500 megawatts of renewable energy that would be immediately served by the Northwest Transmission Line project. These projects depend on access to robust transmission infrastructure for their development.

The project is also a key step in a potential interconnection between southeast Alaska and the North American transmission grid via British Columbia.

This project, estimated at \$404 million, and is expected to be ready for construction in the spring of 2010.

The Government of Canada will set aside funding of up to a maximum of \$130 million for this project.

Federal financial support for this green infrastructure project is conditional on the signing of a contribution agreement with the British Columbia government under the Green Infrastructure Fund.

ABOUT THE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE FUND

Through Canada's Economic Action Plan, the federal government is providing \$1 billion over five years for a Green Infrastructure Fund (GIF). The Fund supports sustainable energy generation and transmission, along with municipal wastewater and solid waste management infrastructure. Targeted investments in green infrastructure can improve the quality of the environment and will lead to a more sustainable economy over the longer term.

About the Program

The fund focuses on green priorities including clean energy generation and transmission infrastructure, building and upgrading wastewater treatment systems, and improving solid waste management. Sustainable energy infrastructure, such as modern energy transmission lines, contributes to improved air quality and lower carbon emissions.

Eligible projects are those that promote cleaner air, reduced greenhouse gas emissions, and cleaner water and fall within any of the following categories: wastewater infrastructure; green energy generation infrastructure; green energy transmission infrastructure and solid waste infrastructure, and carbon transmission and storage infrastructure.

How it Works

The new \$1 billion Green Infrastructure Fund will be allocated based on merit to support green infrastructure projects on a cost-shared basis. The fund will focus on a few, large scale, strategic infrastructure projects. The merit of the projects will be based on assessment criteria such as eligibility, leveraging financial investments and project benefits.

Proponents can summarize their project in a letter. If there is interest, proponents will be invited to submit a more detailed proposal that describes the project and its components, cost estimates, expected results and benefits. For all projects selected for funding, eligible recipients will enter into contribution agreements with Canada. These agreements will outline eligible and ineligible costs as well as federal cost sharing and limits.

Who is Eligible?

Eligible recipients include provinces, territories, local or regional governments; public sector bodies, non-profit organizations and private companies, either alone or in partnership with a province, territory or a government.

Thomas Bay Energy Development

Cascade Creek Hydroelectric Project

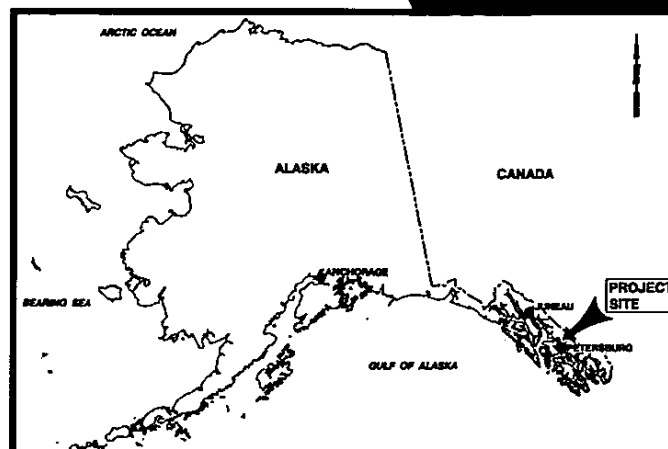


Southeast Alaska

Project Description

FERC No. 12495-002

The Cascade Creek Project would be located approximately 15 miles north of Petersburg, Alaska, on Swan Lake and Cascade Creek. The Project would utilize the natural impoundment of Swan Lake with a surface area of approximately 579 acres and usable stored capacity of 5,790 acre-feet (af), assuming a 10 ft operational draw-down. A lake siphon would be used to draw water from below existing minimum Swan Lake low-water level to the power conduit. The power conduit would consist of an approximately 16,000 ft long, 12 ft diameter tunnel bored portal to portal from the intake siphon to the powerhouse. The last 2,200 ft of tunnel before the powerhouse would be lined with steel. Tunnel gradient would be approximately 9 percent.



The powerhouse would be located approximately 1/4 mile south of the mouth of Cascade Creek on Thomas Bay at approximately Elevation 20. The powerhouse would be a building approximately 120 ft by 80 ft. It would house four impulse-type turbines, each with a total rated head of 1,500 ft and a flow capacity of 300-600 cubic feet per second (cfs). The installed capacity would be 70 MW. Discharge from these units would be directed by a short tailrace into Thomas Bay.

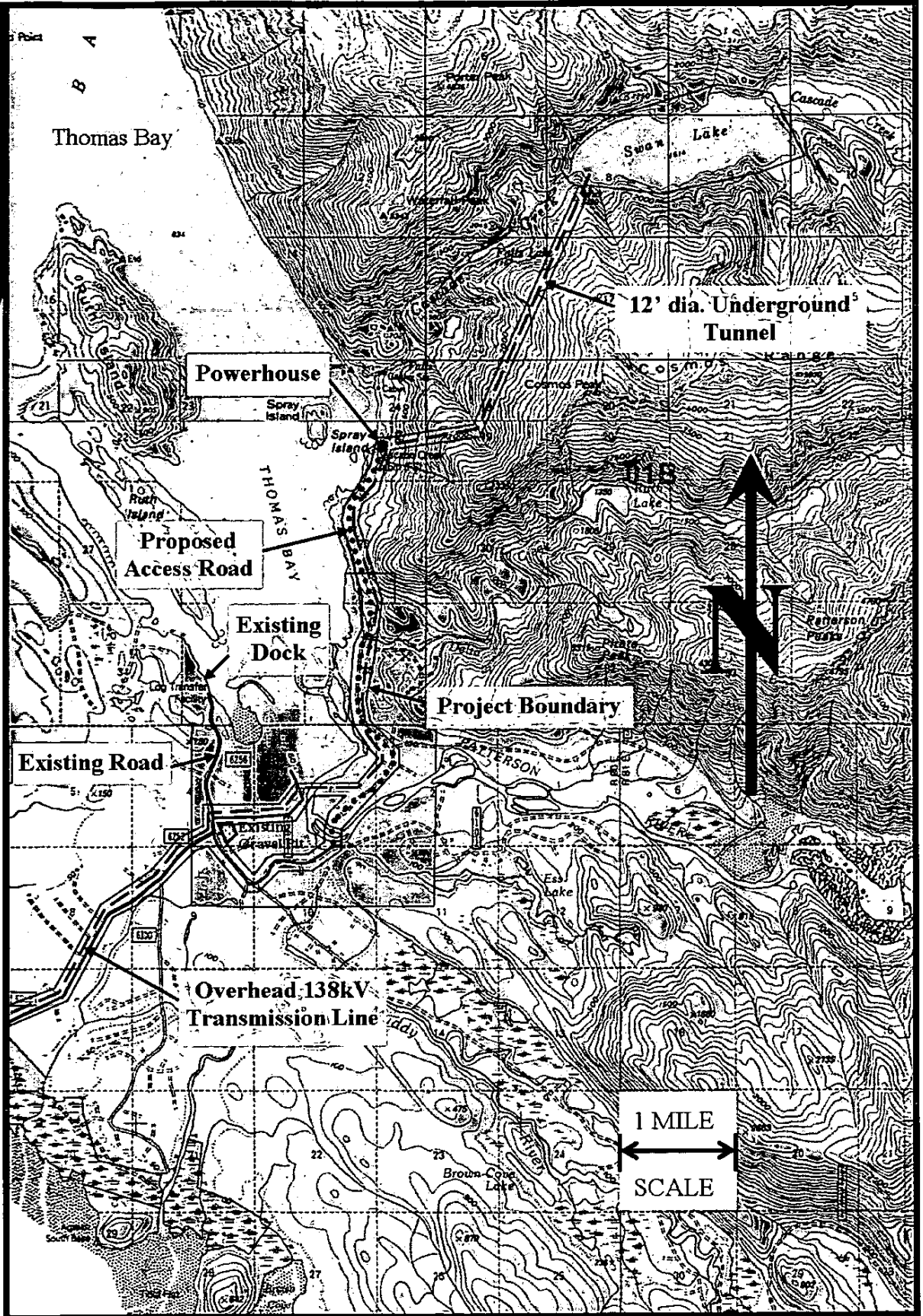
The primary transmission line would be roughly 13 miles long, consisting of an overhead/submarine 138 kilovolt (kV) segment running south from the Cascade Creek Project powerhouse to the existing Petersburg substation southwest of Petersburg. This substation is the terminus of an existing 138 kV transmission line connecting the Tye Lake Hydro Project to Wrangell and Petersburg.

The primary transmission line would be roughly 13 miles long, consisting of an overhead/submarine 138 kilovolt (kV) segment running south from the Cascade Creek Project powerhouse to the existing Petersburg substation southwest of Petersburg.

This substation is the terminus of an existing 138 kV transmission line connecting the Tye Lake Hydro Project to Wrangell and Petersburg.

Generation Features

Usable Stored Capacity	5,790 af
Operational Draw-down	10 ft
Elevation Drop	1,500 ft
Average Annual Flow	220 cfs
Power Conduit (diameter/length)	12-ft / 16,000-ft
Installed Capacity	70 MW
Turbine Type/Number	Impulse/4
Estimated Average Annual Energy	200,000 MWh



Cascade Creek Project Boundary & Facilities Map

Project Benefits

- **Southeast Alaska Regional Energy Security.**

The Cascade Creek Project will produce enough energy to 100% back-up the current and proposed Southeast Alaska Intertie grid system. Real energy security means that ratepayers have insurance against expensive diesel as back-up generation...forever.

- **Low Cost Power for Rural Southeast Alaska.**

The Project will provide competitive and long-term, low cost electricity to rural Southeast Alaskan communities through their local utilities, removing the disadvantage for communities dependent on diesel generation.

- **Good for the Environment.**

The Company has spent thousands of dollars designing the Cascade Creek Project to mitigate environmental intrusion on the local environment and ecosystems. The Project will displace 14,285,700 gallons of diesel and will reduce the nation's carbon footprint by displacing 178,626 metric tons of carbon dioxide annually.

- **Good for Southeast Alaska.**

The Project will provide a direct \$170 million dollar investment, creating economic development and year-round economic growth from the emerging clean power industry in Southeast Alaska. Cascade Creek, LLC will create real family wage jobs for high unemployment communities in Southeast Alaska with strong local and Native hire policies.

- **Good for Alaska.**

The Project will bring the economic justification to connect Alaska to the North American grid, allowing Alaskan utilities to import low cost, competitive power when it is needed, during winter months. This will also allow Alaska to develop the wind, tidal, and hydropower industries to service local and non-local energy needs, creating hundreds of high-paying jobs in Southeast Alaska in the next few years.

- **Good for America.**

The Cascade Creek Project will reduce our nations need for imported oil. The Project will contribute to our nation's effort to become energy self-sufficient with reliable and proven renewable hydropower.

For additional information please contact:

Duff Mitchell
Cascade Creek, LLC
PO Box 23000
Juneau, AK 99802
ph: 907-586-3333

www.thomasbayhydro.com

Cascade Creek LLC
PO Box 23000 • Juneau, AK 99802



CRYSTAL IMAGES

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Alaska House Senate and Energy Committee Members

September 15, 2009

Senators McGuire, Hoffman, Kookesh, Stedman, Wielechowski
Representatives Edgmon, Millet, Dahlstrom, Johansen, Ramras, Peterson, Tuck

Dear Alaska State Legislature Energy Committee Members and other interested parties:

I am speaking here today as a Haines resident and small business owner.

I understand the legislature is considering setting up new energy authorities and funding mechanisms in order to support and provide incentives for renewable energy in Alaska.

Fifty years ago, when Alaska's constitution was written and we became a state, Alaska's leaders had the vision and sensibility to provide to the people of Alaska ownership of Alaska's resources. At that time and today, one of these primary resources was and is Alaska's wild fish stocks.

So my request to you today is to remember the people of Alaska and Alaska's wild fish stocks as you further deliberate actions within the state regarding the siting of and funding support for new hydro-electric projects in Alaska. I urge you to not provide blind support and open-ended funding to any and all projects, bad or good, cost-effective or not, in the name of renewable energy without consideration to Alaska's wild fish stocks. Politics should not be used to force unhealthy decisions on Alaska's economy and resources.

In the upper Lynn Canal and in Southeast Alaska, we have abundant choices for hydro-power sites.

The current site for which funding is being heavily lobbied by certain politicians and by Alaska Power and Telephone (AP&T) is for the Connelly Lake hydro-project, located in the sensitive salmon spawning grounds of the upper Chilkoot Watershed above Chilkoot Lake. Many people in our community are strongly opposed to a hydro-power project in this location. AP&T's application to FERC for this project in June, received opposition filings from numerous organizations, including the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Recent studies by AP&T have indicated that a more cost-effective option for the next hydro-project in the upper Lynn Canal to be Schube Lake near Skagway. Here no road and dam have to be built. Here there is not the issue of impact to salmon. Therefore, I urge you to proceed with care and caution delegating authority for funding and decision-making regarding renewable energy projects in Alaska.

Sincerely,


Kathleen Menke

More information about this issue can be found on the Chilkoot Watershed Coalition website: www.akmk.com/chilkoot and in the copy of a recent Chilkat Valley News article attached to this letter.

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF SPORT FISH

SEAN PARNELL, GOVERNOR

P.O. Box 115525
Juneau, Alaska 99881-5526
Phone: (907) 465-6184
Fax: (907) 465-2772

September 22, 2009

The Honorable Representative Bill Thomas
219 Main Street
Haines, AK 99827

Dear Representative Thomas:

Thank you for contacting staff regarding the State of Alaska Joint Committee Meeting on Energy held on September 16, 2009 in Haines. You inquired about the Alaska Department and Fish and Game's (ADF&G) past correspondence and concerns regarding the proposed Connelly Lake hydropower project with specific reference to a comment heard from a member of the public.

As explained to you by staff, the proposed project is currently in a FERC preliminary licensing phase, which means FERC is gathering preliminary information to determine whether this proposed project should be subject to a FERC license. As part of our responsibilities for managing fish and wildlife and our role in this process, ADF&G provided written concerns and issues that should be addressed to avoid and minimize negative impacts to fish and wildlife resources. This process is still ongoing and there are insufficient data available to evaluate and perform a comprehensive assessment regarding project merits at this time. Therefore, I can only conclude the member of the public, who stated the department opposed this project proposal, misrepresented us.

We appreciate you bringing this issue to our attention.

We look forward to working with the project applicant on this proposal to provide a project in the best interest of the state. We believe FERC's expertise and licensing process provides the best opportunity to achieve this outcome.

Please call me at 465-6184 if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Charles O. Swanton
Division of Sport Fish, Director

Cc: K. Howard, ADF&G
R. Bentz, ADF&G
J. Klein, ADF&G
C. Estes, ADF&G
J. Yuhas, ADF&G
R. Clark, ADF&G
S. Maclean, ADF&G
J. Ferguson, ADF&G
B. Frenette, ADF&G
J. Timothy, ADF&G
R. Bachman, ADF&G
R. Chapell, ADF&G

AP&T takes closer look at Schubee Lake hydro potential

By Matt Hawthorne

Alaska Power and Telephone is researching a potential hydroelectric source on the east side of upper Lynn Canal, but representatives say the company continues to pursue a project at Connelly Lake in the upper Chilkoot River valley.

AP&T regional manager Stan Selmer said the utility is currently seeking cost estimates for a hydroelectric development at Schubee Lake.

"It's being looked at as a potential project," Selmer said. "We have interest in it. There is a lot of energy in the lake."

Schubee Lake is located at an elevation of 3,300 feet on the east side of Lynn Canal. It covers 260 acres with an average depth of 300 feet, and its outflow was measured at 80 cubic feet per second on the day the lake was surveyed this summer.

The utility reconnoitered the

lake in July. The research was spurred by the request of Haines resident Rob Goldberg.

Goldberg, who suggested the utility look into the lake at a meeting last winter, said he is encouraged by what AP&T found. He hopes Schubee Lake can provide an alternative to the Connelly Lake project.

"I think it's a project the whole community could get behind."

The lake could generate up to 13 megawatts of power, Selmer said. "There's a significant amount of water in the lake."

Power in that quantity could bridge peaking diesel demand in Haines and Skagway in winter months, Selmer said. Demand at peak times in the winter months exceeds the utility's available hydroelectric capacity and requires it to fire up diesel generators.

Viable plans to harness the potential power in Schubee Lake

would necessitate boring a tunnel through a ridge to divert the water into the Kasidaya drainage to the north. There, the water could be directed through the existing Kasidaya Creek powerhouse, or an additional powerhouse could be built at 1,100 feet in order to use the water twice.

The utility has dismissed the concept of building a penstock downhill from the lake to a sea-level powerhouse has been eliminated economically unfeasible and an inefficient use of the water.

Boring a tunnel to the lake from sea-level isn't being considered because the tunnel through the mountain to Kasidaya drainage "is superior."

AP&T is attempting to get cost estimates for the mile-long tunnel to Kasidaya next month.

Selmer said the cost could be as high as \$15 million. "I think we'll find the cost to build this tunnel puts this project well into the future."

But Goldberg said he's encouraged thus far. "It looks like the cost will be a lot less (than Connelly Lake) ... and there's no habitat issues."

Opponents to Connelly Lake, a 12-megawatt project estimated to cost \$33 million, have argued that the project would endanger fish and wildlife habitat in the Chilkoot River drainage.

Selmer said Connelly Lake

remains the highest priority for the company, but will continue to investigate options at Schubee Lake.

In addition to researching the cost of a tunnel, the utility needs to factor in permitting in the Tongass National Forest, helicopter-only access to the lake, lake thaw limited to mid-summer, and continued reliance on an underwater cable from Skagway

to Haines. The company will choose "a superior project for a superior price," he said.

Even if Schubee Lake doesn't prove a viable option in the immediate future, Selmer said, "It is encouraging to know that there is a hydro source that could be utilized."

For now it is "full steam ahead with Connelly."



[Return to the regular page.](#)

PM announces Canada's investment in Northwest Transmission Line

Expected to Increase Renewable Energy Potential of Northern British Columbia

16 September 2009
Washington, D.C.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper today announced funding for the construction of the Northwest Transmission Line in northern British Columbia, which could eventually connect with Alaska, reflecting Canada's commitment to clean energy.

"Our government is supporting environmentally sound infrastructure and initiatives that promote cleaner, greener energy," said the Prime Minister. "The Northwest Transmission Line will facilitate the development of green energy and help provide British Columbia's northern and remote communities with more sustainable and affordable power."

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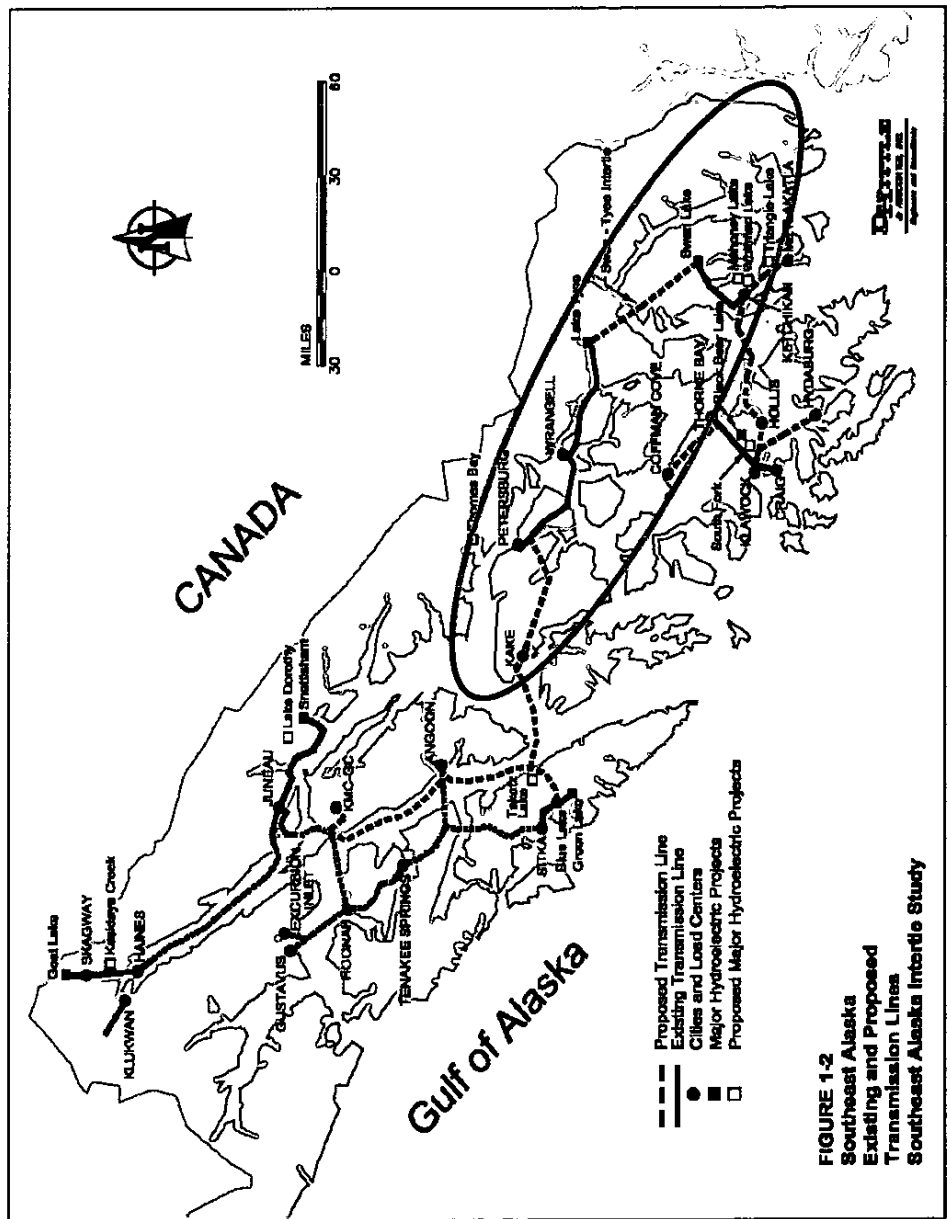
"Our government is pursuing joint projects with President Obama and his Administration. Our government is taking action to promote cleaner energy use," said the Prime Minister. "The British Columbia Northwest Transmission Line will build a more efficient electricity grid, increasing our use of clean and renewable sources of energy generation in the years to come."

To learn more about Canada's Economic Action Plan, visit www.actionplan.gc.ca; For more information on Government of Canada investments in infrastructure, visit www.creatingjobs.gc.ca

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Southeast Alaska Power Agency

An Interconnected Region

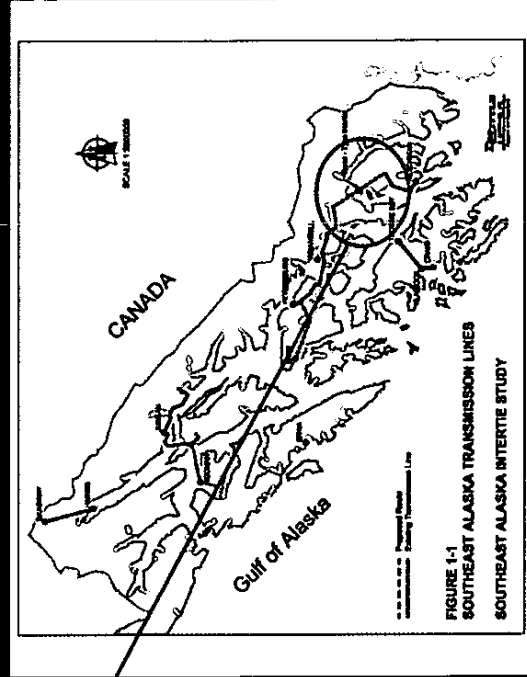
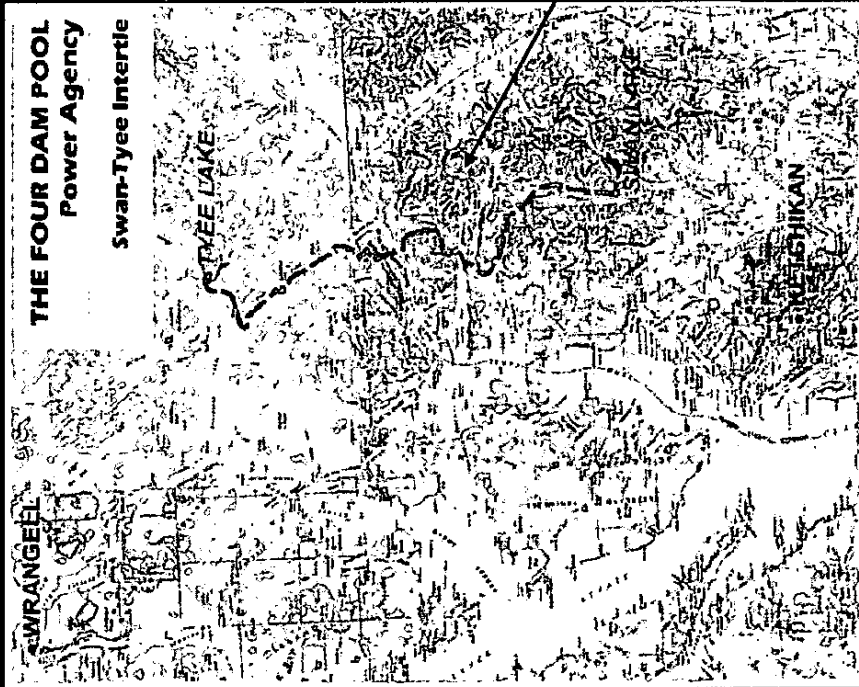


Southeast Alaska Power Agency

- > Four Dam Pool Power Agency was 'restructured' on February 24, 2009
 - Sold the Terror Lake project to KEA and Solomon Gulch project to CVEA
- > Agency renamed Southeast Alaska Power Agency (SEAPA)
 - Owns the Tyee Lake and Swan Lake Hydro Projects
 - Owns ~150 transmission lines connecting Ketchikan, Wrangell & Petersburg
 - Sells wholesale power to the local utilities

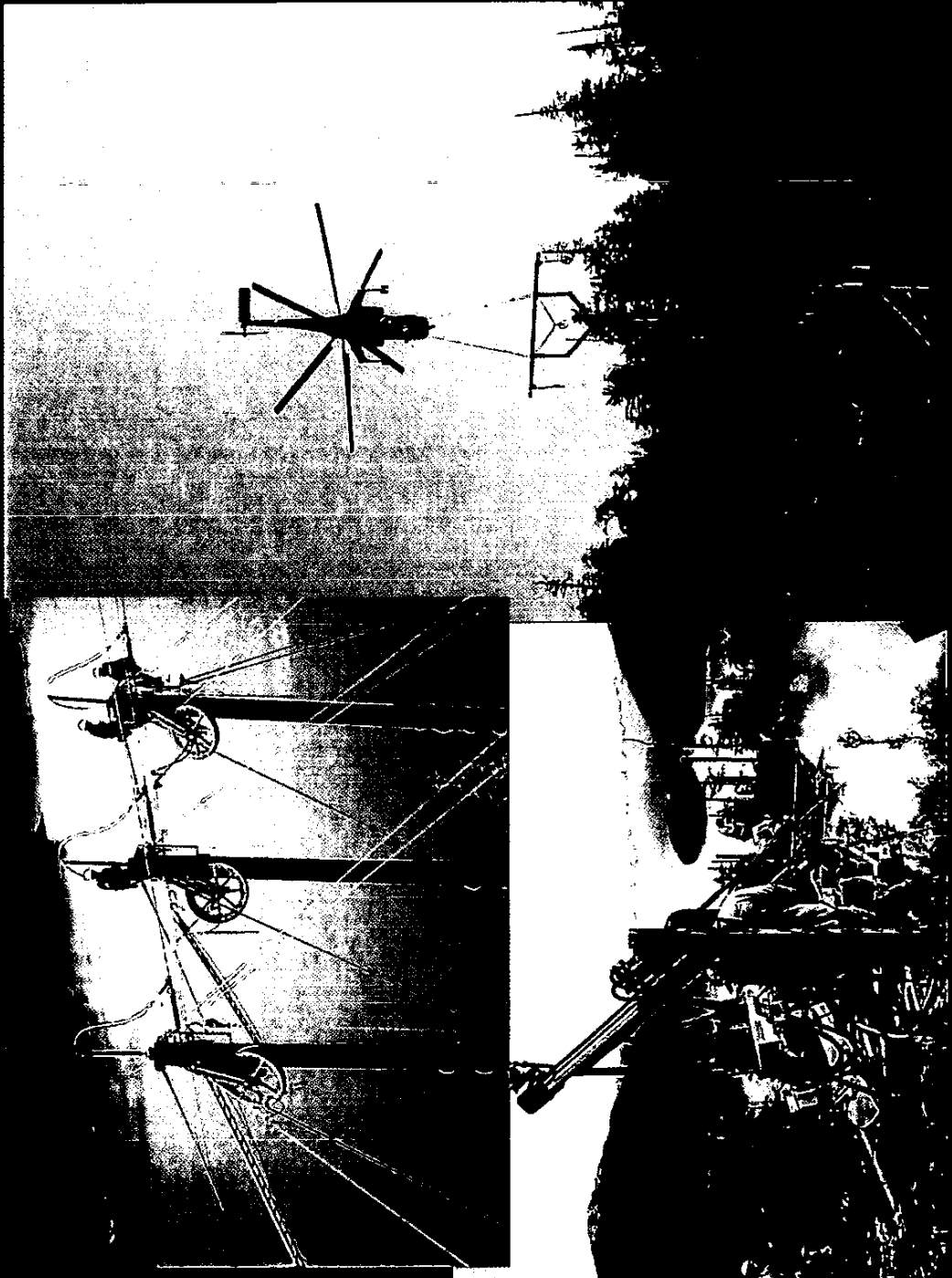
Swan-Tyee Intertie

- 57 miles in length
- Construction is complete.
- Line will be energized in Oct/Nov.
- The Swan-Tyee Intertie will deliver renewable hydroelectric power to Ketchikan and displace fossil fuel generation.



- Alaska State Legislature approved \$46.2 million dollar appropriation for the project in May, 2007

Swan-Tyee Intertie



Rob Goldberg
PO Box 1154
Haines, AK 99827
(907)766-2707

September 16, 2009

A Comparison of Two Hydropower Sites in the Upper Lynn Canal Area: Connolly Lake and Schubee Lake

Introduction

In the early 1980's, Alaska Power & Telephone (AP&T) commissioned a study of potential hydropower sites in the Upper Lynn Canal area. Thirteen sites are detailed in a document titled "Table 17". Two of those sites, Goat Lake and Kasidaya Creek have been developed. Connolly Lake, then called Upper Chilkoot Lake, was the next obvious choice for development. This alpine lake is located in the upper Chilkoot Valley, about twenty miles northwest of Haines.

Schubee Lake is not listed in Table 17. Schubee Lake is located 3315 feet above the east side of Taiya Inlet about three miles south of AP&T's Kasidaya Creek project. On the USGS maps from the 1970's that were probably used when Table 17 was put together, a small lake appears at the foot of the Schubee Glacier. It isn't even named. While searching for potential hydro sites on a USGS map from the 1990's, I noticed a mile-long lake where there hadn't been one previously. A more recent Google Earth image shows a 260-acre lake at the foot of the glacier – Schubee Lake. Apparently a lot of ice has gone over the falls in the last thirty years.

The Need For Power

AP&T's Kasidaya Creek project is a run of the river site that is capable of providing power to Skagway and Haines from May until early winter when freezing temperatures slow water flow. Goat Lake is a storage site that can run all winter. The problem is that when the weather gets very cold, the power demand of the two communities exceeds the output capacity of Goat Lake and AP&T must resort to burning diesel. Another storage type hydro site would easily meet this demand.

A Connolly Lake – Schubee Lake Comparison

Methodology: Hydropower is calculated by multiplying the volume of flowing water (measured in cubic feet per second – CFS) by the drop, or head. The result is a measure of electrical power, measured in kilowatts or megawatts. The website was used to calculate hydropower potential. The site operates in Metric, but the conversions are easy.

Calculating Flow – Using a USGS topographic map and following contour lines carefully it is possible to determine the collection area of a drainage in square miles. One square mile has 27, 878,400 square feet. Weather Service data from the Haines airport shows that we get about 48 inches, or 4 feet of precipitation annually. Of course, this amount varies for different areas of the Upper Lynn Canal, but there is a lack of data for areas beyond the airport. Multiplying 27, 878,400 square feet by 4 feet gives us 111,500,000 cubic feet of water per square mile per year. There are 31,536,000 seconds in a year. Divide and you get 3.5 cubic feet per second (CFS) per square mile. This means that, theoretically, every square mile in our area should be able to deliver a constant flow of 3.5 CFS. In reality, some water will be lost to evaporation, vegetation and flow into the bedrock. The flow also varies seasonally, with peak flows in the June and July runoff and almost no flow in the winter.

Stored water is measured in acre-feet. With four feet of annual precipitation, each square mile in our area has the potential to capture 2560 acre feet of water (4 x 640 acres/square mile).

Glacial Effect on Water Flow – Connolly Lake and Schubee Lake both have glaciers in the upper reaches of their drainages. Glaciers can either add to, or diminish, the annual flow in a drainage. In warm years, when the glaciers are shrinking, melting ice can augment the annual precipitation, perhaps considerably. Conversely, in cold years more of that year's precipitation will be stored as snow in the upper reaches of the glacier than will be released as melting ice farther below. In 2008, after a snowy winter and a cool summer, local glaciers actually gained mass, bucking the trend of the past decades. Because of its variability, I have not included the annual net gain or loss by the glaciers to either system's estimate of annual flow. If climate trends continue, and the glaciers continue to shrink, this additional flow will increase the power potential of each system, at least until the ice is gone.

Collection Area

Connolly Lake - ~ 4.4 square miles.

Schubee Lake - ~ 2.7 square miles.

Total Annual Precipitation Falling on the Drainage

Connolly Lake - ~ 11,264 acre-feet.

Schubee Lake - ~ 6,912 acre-feet.

Theoretical Constant Flow

Connolly Lake - ~ 15.4 CFS

Schubee Lake - ~ 9.45 CFS

Head

Connolly Lake - 2070 feet

Schubee Lake - 3315 feet

Power Potential

Connolly Lake and Schubee Lake have nearly identical power potential. Entering the head and the flow into the hydropower calculator at baipatra.com shows that either system should be able to produce about 2.7 megawatts (MW) continuously (12 month flow). AP&T's plan calls for their Kasidaya Creek generator, a run of the river project, to provide power for Haines and Skagway most of the year. This allows their storage project at Goat Lake to recharge. Goat Lake operates during the winter months when the Kasidaya project cannot. If Connolly Lake or Schubee Lake were run on a 6-month flow regime they could generate 5.4 MW. On a 4-month flow regime they could produce 8.1 MW. On a 3-month flow regime they could produce 10.8 MW.

AP&T is calling for a 12 MW capacity on the Connolly Lake project. To generate this much power with a head of 2070 feet requires about 70 CFS. This means that the generators could only operate at that rate for less than three months before using an entire year's water. Perhaps they are counting on the shrinking glacier adding water to the system.

Lake Surface Area

Connolly Lake - ~ 85 acres

Schubee Lake - ~ 260 acres

Lake Capacity

Connolly Lake - 9000 acre-feet (with dam). This is the "largest practical reservoir" as noted in AP&T's application to the AEA. Earlier estimates indicated 3500 acre-feet (Table 17) and 4700 acre-feet. None of these estimates exceed the 11,264 acre-feet that the drainage collects annually, meaning the lake cannot store an entire year's water.

Schubee Lake - Research done by AP&T in August, 2009 has shown an average depth of 300 feet. This means that Schubee Lake holds approximately 78,000 acre-feet of water. Utilizing the top 50 feet for hydro power would yield about 13,000 acre feet. This far exceeds the 6900 acre-feet that the drainage probably collects annually.

Penstock

Connolly Lake - ~ 6200 feet

Schubee Lake - ~ 7400 feet if run directly to tidewater below the lake's outfall. Another option is to divert the water over to the Kasidaya Creek drainage through a two foot diameter bore hole 1 mile long. The water could be run through a powerhouse at 1100' elevation and then collected by the existing Kasidaya penstock and powerhouse and used to make power again.

Transmission Line

Connolly Lake - 14 miles of buried cable.

Schubee Lake - Approximately 1 mile to tie in with the existing submarine cable, or no new cable if the water is diverted to the Kasidaya Creek powerhouse.

Road

Connolly Lake – 14 miles, plus bridges. AP&T's application states that the former logging road, RS 2477, "can still be used after some repairs and tree trimming". This is not true. The road beyond Chilkoot Lake is largely gone, consumed by the river. AP&T's estimated cost for rebuilding this road, \$1 million is far too low. The cost is likely to be \$10 million or more.

Schubee Lake - No road.

Dam

Connolly Lake - 48' high x 575' long concrete and rock dam built two thousand feet up a steep mountainside. Constructing this dam would be a monumental undertaking, and very expensive.

Schubee Lake – No dam. The penstock would siphon water from deep in the lake, as is the case with Goat Lake.

Impacts

Connolly Lake - The value of the Chilkoot watershed to the community of Haines is enormous. Subsistence, commercial and sport fishers rely on the watershed's productivity. The Chilkoot is also important for tourism and recreation, and for its cultural and historic value.

Approximately half of the sockeye salmon used by subsistence and commercial fishers originate and return to the Chilkoot. Many of our tourism businesses depend on the Chilkoot as a destination, both for the bears and the salmon they feed on. It is in the community's best interest to make sure that the Chilkoot's salmon runs are not diminished by any development. In our conversations with biologists who have worked in the upper Chilkoot, three areas of concern have emerged: the road and bridge to the powerhouse, the dam, and the resulting turbidity of Chilkoot Lake.

The Chilkoot River above the lake is very dynamic, that is, it frequently changes course across the width of the valley. Parts of the old logging road that AP&T plans to use to access the powerhouse site have become river channels. Restoring this logging road will involve a lot more than just clearing away alders from the former road bed. It would be a major undertaking requiring huge amounts of fill, with culverts and bridges designed to allow fish to pass unimpeded. Sediments created by the construction of the road and the burying of the power line would have to be contained. The new portion of the road that crosses the valley and then bridges the river to the powerhouse site would be the most problematic. This portion of the road would be perpendicular to the flow of the river. With the river as changeable as it is, the road would have to be designed to allow for water to pass in different places. Restricting the flow to one channel would put the roadbed at risk of erosion. It is possible that there is a suitable bridge site in place where the river is naturally constricted by the topography of the valley. It is difficult to imagine that this road could be built without some loss of habitat. There are two other factors that could impact the salmon: the risk of spills from vehicles and the impacts of increased human activity. There are also access issues, as the old road crosses private property.

AP&T's plan calls for a dam approximately 48 feet high and 575 feet long at the outlet of Connolly Lake. Presumably, the on-site equipment needed to construct this dam will have to be flown in by helicopter. Material to construct the dam (concrete and rock) would have to be trucked in and lifted to the site. What will the impact to the valley be from the thousands of truckloads of material being brought in, and the staging of those materials?

The engineering and construction of the dam would have to be flawless. If it were to fail for any reason, such as an earthquake, the resulting flood caused by the sudden release of 9000 acre-feet of water (~3 billion gallons) and the thousands of cubic yards of dam material would likely scour the Chilkoot Valley down to bedrock and fill Chilkoot Lake and River with sediment. This would be the end of the fishery for hundreds, if not thousands, of years. There is also a campground downstream, as well as residences. Although the incidence of dam failure is rare, the engineers who created Table 17 acknowledged the possibility. They stated that, for several hydropower sites located above Skagway, "seismically induced structure failure could cause risk to life and property."

Turbidity created by all the construction would end up in Chilkoot Lake. Studies have shown a direct correlation between turbidity and zooplankton survival in the lake. As turbidity increases, the zooplankton diminish. Low zooplankton levels have been suspected in the decline of the Chilkoot sockeye runs in recent years.

Schubee Lake – There would be no impact to fish, as water exiting the powerhouse would run directly to the sea. The only impact that some people may be concerned about would be visual. The long, thin waterfall coming from Schubee Lake would likely disappear or be greatly diminished. In my opinion, the need for hydropower outweighs the visual value of one waterfall. There are others nearby. The penstock, if run directly to tidewater, would also be visible to boaters.

Community

Connolly Lake – There is already a community battle brewing over the Connolly Lake project. The Chilkoot Valley is important to a wide spectrum of people.

Conservationists aren't the only ones who are concerned. Opposition is likely to delay the project.

Schubee Lake – Full community support.

Project Cost

Connolly Lake – Estimated \$34 million. I suspect this figure is low because AP&T's estimate to restore forest road RS 2477 and to build bridges is unrealistic.

Schubee Lake – Cost is unknown, but this project is very similar to AP&T's Goat Lake project, which cost \$7.8 million. Even if the option to bring the water to the Kasidaya Creek drainage through a borehole were implemented, the cost would be substantially less than Connolly Lake because there would be no dam, no road, no transmission line, no environmental problems and no community opposition.

Rob Goldberg
Box 1154
Haines, AK 99827
(907) 766-2707

September 16, 2009

To: Alaska Senate and House Energy Committee members,

As you consider criteria for state funding of renewable energy projects, attention must be paid to the impacts to the environment and to neighboring communities. Judging a project solely on its ability to produce power is not enough.

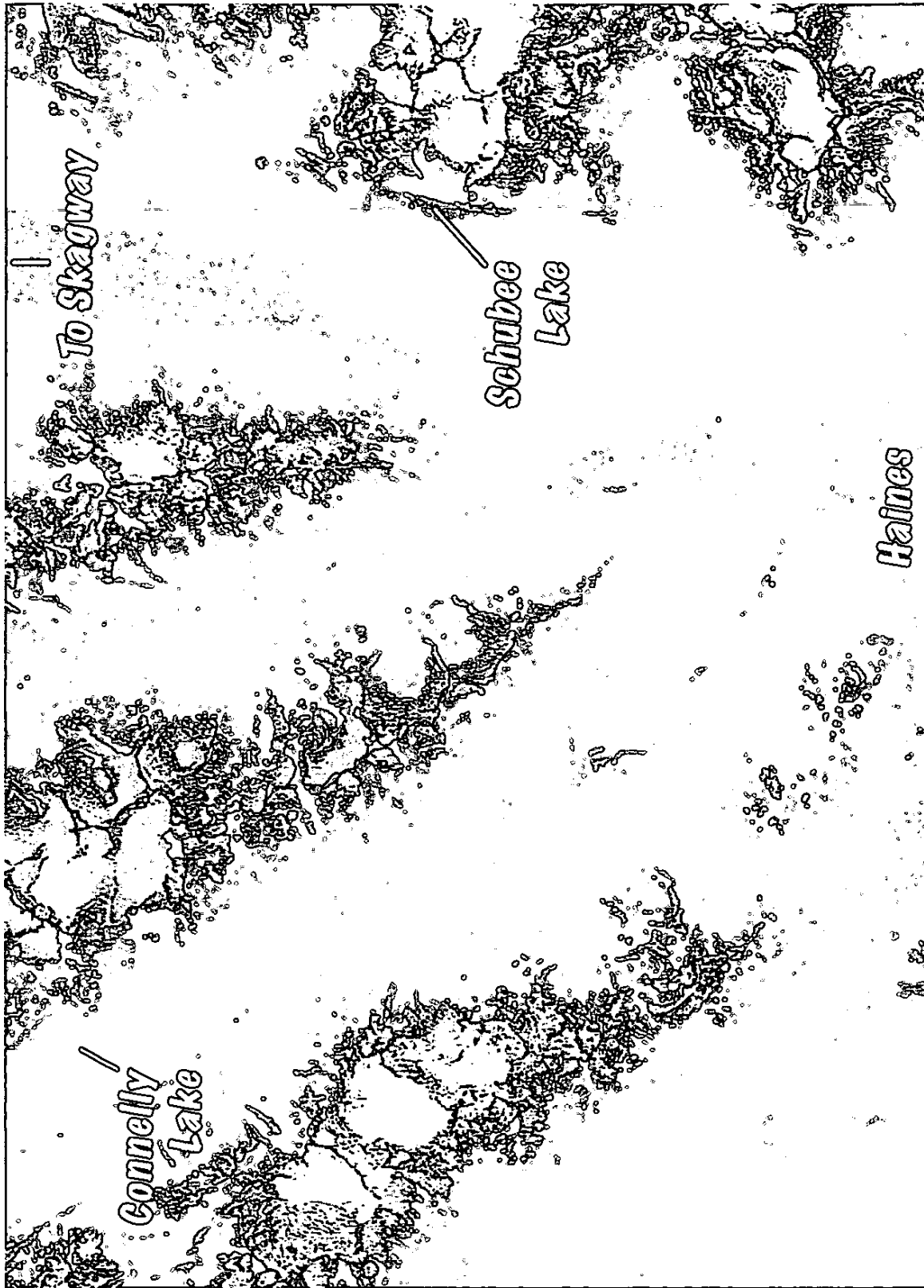
I've been a planning commissioner here in Haines for the past seven years. My job is to find creative solutions to problems facing the community. Ideally, these solutions should promote community harmony and provide a long-term benefit. Recently I was faced with such a problem: How can we provide additional renewable energy to Haines and Skagway in the winter months without damaging salmon habitat and incurring community conflict?

The proposed Connolly Lake project is loaded with potential habitat and social issues. The Chilkoot Valley is some of the most productive salmon habitat in Southeast Alaska. I do not think that ten miles of road and a dam containing approximately 60,000 cubic yards of fill material can be built on top of salmon spawning and rearing habitat without ultimately reducing the number of salmon. Studies have shown that increased turbidity in sockeye spawning lakes reduces the survivability of juvenile salmon. There is also considerable community opposition to the Connolly Lake project, and not just from conservationists. People are sensitive to threats to their food supply.

I set out to see if I could find another source of power for the community. I analyzed six run of the river and one storage hydro sites on the west side of Lynn Canal. None of them have the potential for power generation that Connolly Lake has. I also looked at wind power generation, but wind doesn't have the consistency of hydro. I then obtained the latest USGS map of the east side of Lynn Canal and discovered a mile long lake perched 3300 feet above tidewater about three miles south of AP&T's Kasidaya Creek



Upper Lynn Canal: Connelly Lake and Schubeck Lake hydro sites



September 16, 2009

Alaska Legislature Energy Committee Members

Senators McGuire, Hoffman, Kookesh, Stedman, Wielechowski
Representatives Edgmon, Millet, Dahlstrom, Johansen, Ramras, Peterson, Tuck

Dear Alaska Legislature Energy Committee Members:

My name is Ray Staska. I served as ADFG Haines Area Management Biologist from 1980-97. During 1981-83 I conducted salmon inventory and resource studies in the Haines watersheds in response to the controversy over the proposed Bald Eagle Preserve.

One important area of study was the upper Chilkoot River and lake. Previously, little data was available from this area.

Irv Boeker, National Audubon Society, conducted concurrent studies of Bald Eagle numbers and activities in the upper Chilkoot valley as well as the Chilkat watershed. As a result of Mr. Boeker's research combined with the data gathered by my salmon investigations, the upper Chilkoot River and lake shoreline was included in the final passage of the Alaska Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve.

I would like to stress to you that the Chilkoot portion of the ACBEP remains a unique and critical habitat area.. Within this area as well as the section of the watershed above the preserve, Bald Eagles, Sockeye and Coho salmon, Brown Bears and pristine water remain highly valued resources which continue to support annual multi-million dollar commercial salmon and tourism industries.

I support Schube Lake proposed hydro-energy project on the east side of Lynn Canal. It appears to be a feasible, viable alternative to the Connelly Lake proposal with greatly reduced concerns for the environment and salmon resources.

Sincerely Yours,



Ray Staska
POBox 486, Haines Ak 99827

cc. ADFG-Haines; USFWS-Juneau; NAS-Fairbanks; T.Bolen-HnsBoroMngr

**Southeast Conference Presentation
to the Joint Committees of:
House Energy,
Senate Energy and Senate Resources**

September 16, 2009

Haines, AK

Good afternoon and thank you Madam Chair(s) and committee members for this opportunity to discuss the ongoing activities that Southeast Conference, its member communities and utilities are engaged in that is making a difference throughout the region. My name is Robert Venables and I am the Energy Coordinator for Southeast Conference.

Southeast Conference is the State of Alaska's Regional Development Organization (ARDOR), the Federal Economic Development District (EDD) and the USDA Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council for Southeast Alaska. Our mission is to help develop strong economies, healthy communities and a quality environment in Southeast Alaska.

Southeast Conference was formed over 50 years ago in response to the region's need for improved transportation and an advocate for the ferry system. Since then, our member communities have worked through Southeast Conference on issues ranging from transportation, economic development, timber, fisheries, mining, environment, health care, tourism and energy. Our energy committee first gathered in 1997 as the Intertie Committee and produced the study in 1998 called the Southeast Alaska Electrical Intertie System Plan. That study has been the guiding document for the concept of a region-wide interconnected intertie system that would (in a perfect world) provide energy security and electrical redundancy for the communities of Southeast.

However, as construction costs continue to escalate and time passes, our focus is turned toward the resources at hand and the extreme need that still exists in many communities such as: Kake, Angoon and Hoonah. Many of our more urban communities are facing shortages in the near and foreseeable future as the demand for energy exceeds the capacity of current renewable resources.

But, Southeast Alaska has a plan. Each of our communities has short-term and long-term objectives that, if constructed, will meet the needs of our region. We have had significant achievements this past year due, in large part, to the work of the Legislature and the guidance of the Alaska Energy Authority. The Southeast Conference Energy Committee will be meeting directly after this hearing, and will have more in-depth reports to share on the current status and projected plans for each utility.

The most significant achievement in the region this year is the completion of SEAPA's Swan-Tyee Intertie. You will hear more on this from Mr. Dave Carlson, but this project has been long advocated by Southeast Conference. What we are seeing emerge is a stable supply of renewable resources and a network that can extend from Metlakatla, where there is already surplus power generated and additional resources along the intertie route, to the community of Kake where there are no significant renewable resources to develop in a community that is economically devastated. Southeast Conference is working with SEAPA, IPEC and the local governments and making significant progress on the Kake-Petersburg Intertie that will allow Kake to displace its diesel-generated power and enable Kake to be revitalized, both socially and economically.

Other significant milestones for the region are the completion of 3 new hydroelectric facilities. AEL&P's Lake Dorothy Hydro in Juneau, AP&T's Kasidaya Creek Hydro in Upper Lynn Canal and the Falls Creek Hydro Electric facility in Gustavus.

We are particularly grateful for the state's investment of nearly \$17 million into renewable energy projects in Southeast Alaska. This will allow many of the most critically needed projects to advance, such as the interties from Petersburg to Kake and Metlakatla to Ketchikan (construction funds are still needed) and the intertie to Coffman Cove and Naukati (which should be completed next season), as well as generation projects such as the Reynolds Creek Hydro, Whitman Lake Hydro and a feasibility study for the Takatz Lake Hydro.

We are also appreciative of the important legislation that has passed (HJR25, especially HB 152) and those still under consideration such as SB 132 (S.E. Energy Fund), SB 31 (renewable energy production tax credits), and HB 218 and HB 219 which are being discussed today.

Southeast Conference is extremely grateful for the support and guidance given by the Alaska Energy Authority. Their expertise has helped the region to make more informed decisions and build better projects. We are currently working with AEA and our local municipalities and utilities to update energy plans that have been in existence for many years and have, in some cases, become obsolete. Having a current up-to-date Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) is key to understanding which projects truly need to be constructed and brought on line first. This will be a top priority as we develop an energy plan for the region and state.

Another important project needing immediate funding is the development of a comprehensive energy plan for Hoonah and Chichagof Island. Each of the 4 communities on the island have energy projects underway to address short-term needs. Southeast Conference facilitated an island-wide joint meeting in Hoonah this summer that discussed the untapped potential that may exist around the communities of Hoonah, Pelican, Tenakee Springs and Elfin Cove.

One of the obsolete energy plans that has been abandoned is the intertie from Juneau to Hoonah. While technically feasible, a recent analysis of the proposed intertie showed the construction costs ranging between \$40-50 million. This coupled with the future costs for operations, maintenance and eventual line replacement made constructing this intertie (in one of the world's deepest channels) uneconomical.

As you can see by the attached FY 2010 Work Plan established by the Southeast Conference Energy Committee, there is much work yet to be done. But progress is being made and we hope that with your support we can continue to work toward continued success in implementing our shared vision to utilize Southeast's plentiful hydroelectric potential and reduce, to the maximum extent possible, the use of diesel as a primary fuel source for the generation of electricity.

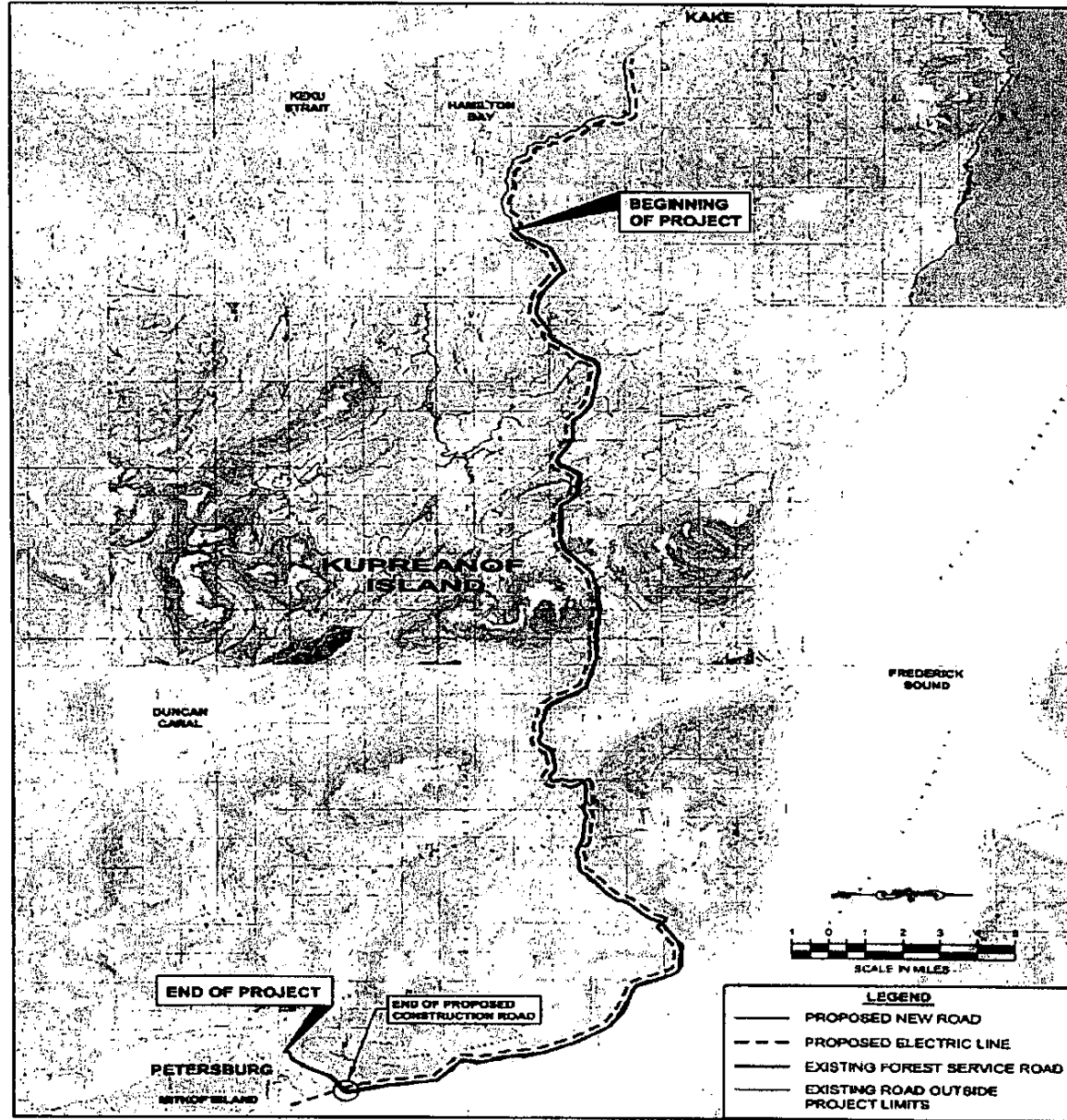
Thank you.

Energy Committee's Work Plan

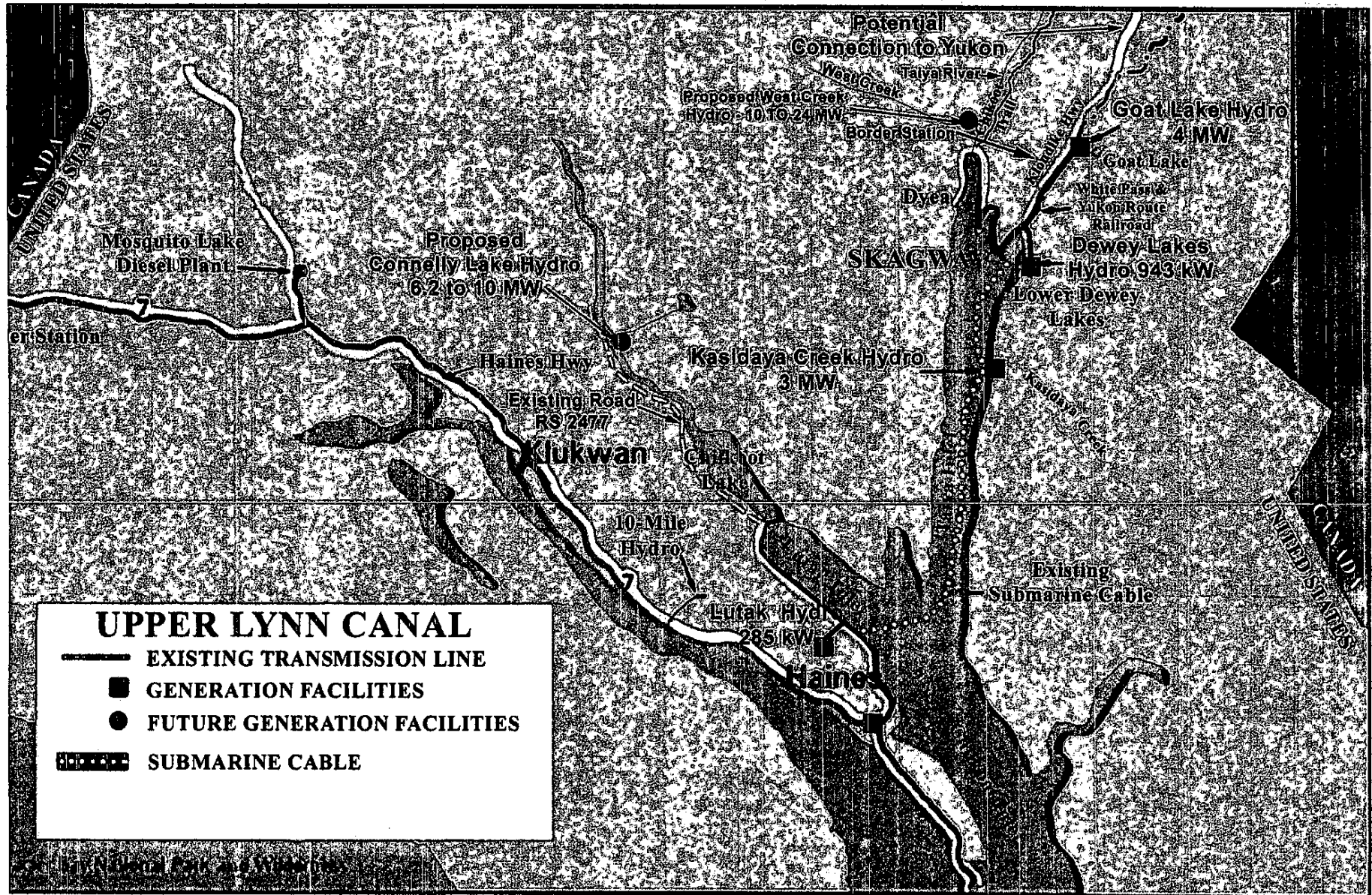
- **PROGRAM GOALS**
- Reduce dependence of fossil fuels. This is critical in light of the recent price increases in oil.
- Bring affordable hydro power to communities where this is technically and economically feasible.
- Develop a regional electrical grid interconnecting Southeast communities and utilities with hydroelectric generation.
- Work with member communities/utilities to develop adequate energy infrastructure including alternative energy sources (geo-thermal, biomass, wind, tidal, hydrogen) to meet future needs.
- Reduce and stabilize costs to rate payers and communities and increase economic development opportunities.
- **FY10 Energy Tasks and Work Plan**
- Coordinate inter-agency and community efforts to design and permit Kake-Petersburg Intertie.
- Work with Haida Corp. and AP&T to advance the Reynolds Creek Hydro to completion.
- Work with federal, state funding agencies to construct Kake-Petersburg Intertie.
- Support and assist IPEC's efforts to develop alternative energy resources for Hoonah and Angoon.
- Work with member communities and utilities to secure permits and funding for hydro and other alternative energy project development.
- Assist geo-thermal development efforts on Chichagof Island (Tenakee Springs and near Hoonah).
- Build a database inventory of regional energy projects.
- Develop Southeast energy plan that includes both short-term "band-aids" (PCE to businesses, schools) and long-term solutions (hydro, interties),
- Facilitate AEA activities, as needed, in implementing the Southeast Energy Plan and develop a regional governance model.
- Serve as a resource of information for the membership, public, Legislature and Administration.

Southeast's Hydros = "Bullet Line"

Hydroelectric Site	Location	Planted Capacity	Community/Utility
Anita-Kuhki Lakes	Wrangell	8.0 MW	Wrangell
Cascade Creek	Thomas Bay	8.0 MW	Cascade Creek, LLC
Connelly Lake	Haines Borough	10.0 MW	Alaska Power and Telephone
Donna Lake	Ketchikan	9.0 MW	Ketchikan Public Utilities
Elgin Mills	Hoonah	8 MW	IPEC
Gartina Creek	Hoonah	8 MW	IPEC
Kablaya Creek	Seward	2.0 MW	Alaska Power and Telephone
Katlani River	Sika	7.0 MW	
Lake 3150	Lake River	4.0 MW	Alaska Power and Telephone
Lake Dorothy	Juneau	15.0 MW	Alaska Electric Light and Power
Lake Dorothy	Juneau	32.0 MW	Alaska Electric Light and Power
Mendenhall Lake	Ketchikan	9.0 MW	Ketchikan Seaman
Neck Lake	Whale Pass	3 MW	Alaska Power and Telephone
Reynolds Creek	Prince of Wales Island	8.0 MW	Harborterra
Ruth Lake	Thomas Bay	20.0 MW	Multiple pending FERC applications
Scenery Creek	Thomas Bay	40.0 MW	Pending FERC application
Song River	Hyde	2.0 MW	Alaska Power and Telephone
Sunrise Lake	Wrangell	4.0 MW	
Takay Lake	Sika	28.0 MW	Oly and Borough of Sika
Thayer Creek	Ambrose	1.0 MW	Alaska Power and Telephone
Thomas Lake	Wrangell	7.5 MW	
Tring Lake	Metliup	2.0 MW	Alaska Power and Telephone
Tyee Lake expansion	Wrangell	11.5 MW	Southeast Alaska Power Agency
Water Supply Creek	Hoonah	8.0 MW	IPEC
Whitman Lake	Ketchikan	4.6 MW	Ketchikan Public Utilities
TOTAL		369.1 MW	



UPPER LYNN CANAL REGIONAL ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE



VAA - Training System

BC Intertie

Alaska - Canada
Coalition

Habitat Consideration

Electric Cord

Noatak
Nome

Kotzeb^{son}

Dillingham - Ategena

Bethel - Kasigluk

Kenai

Dutch Harbor

Haines

Anchorage

Juneau

12th
Community

Thank You!

Southeast Conference

Robert Venables
Energy Coordinator

Shelly Wright
Executive Director

JC Conley, Chair
Energy Committee

Mike Korsmo
President

Southeast Conference Annual Meeting, September 16, 2009 in Haines, AK

46.2 Mill
Smartyeec
Completion

BC Interim Report
ASA

- PCE to Fund Projects

~~Handwritten~~
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400 people Kake
(Newhydro tie in)

Connely lake - Above Chilkoot lake vs Schube
APT - FRRC lake

Chilkat Lake - Habitat - Salmon beds
Spawning area

Statewide energy plan Short mid long term
(Billions to accomplish it!)

Wind Resource - Solar Power
Fund Energy Solutions

Norway example! - 89% gross

Tax Credit - home credits
Power rebate

Parameters for Public School



Alaska Native Sisterhood Camp #5

**Resources Committee
PO Box 781, Haines AK 99827**

**Representative Charisse Millett
Chair, Energy Committee
716 W. 4th Ave., Suite 630
Anchorage AK 99501**

Dear Representative Millett:

Thank you for coming to Haines, Alaska, and listening to public concerns regarding energy issues in our area.

And thank you for your letter in the Chilkat Valley News this week inviting further comment from others.

Attached is a resolution passed this week by the Alaska Native Sister Camp #5 of Haines by a vote of 12-0 of the general membership.

We urge the Alaska Legislature to acknowledge the value of Alaska's wild fish stocks when making funding decisions regarding hydro-electric projects.

As you can see from the enclosed resolution, ANS Camp #5 opposes any state or federal funding for further studies or development of a hydro-electric project in the Chilkoot Watershed (Connelly Lake Project).

At the same time we fully support state and federal funding to pursue studies and development of a hydro-electric project in the Upper Lynn Canal at Schube Lake.

Please share this letter and the attached resolution with the other members of the Joint House and Senate Energy Committees.

Regards,

**Kathleen Menke, Chair and Marilyn Wilson, Co-Chair, ANS Camp #5
Resources Committee**



Alaska Native Sisterhood Camp #5
Resolution #09-02

**TITLE: SUPPORT FOR PROTECTION OF THE CHILKOOT WATERSHED
AND OPPOSITION TO THE CONNELLY LAKE HYDRO-POWER PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Haines ANS Camp #5 is a fully authorized adjunct to the ANB & ANS Grand Camp, and its members reside within the boundaries of the Chilkat Valley, as a result are charged with protecting and preserving the environment for generations to come;

WHEREAS, historically the Tlingit clans and Tribes have been stewards of the water and lands of Chilkoot Lake area that they have used and occupied since time immemorial;

WHEREAS, the late Tlingit elder and clan leader of Chilkoot, Austin Hammond, and other clan elders spoke against the development of the hydro-electric project at Chilkoot Lake area, as they knew the sensitivity of this most important spawning area;

WHEREAS, the tributary streams feeding into Chilkoot Lake and River are spawning streams for sockeye and coho salmon and are part of the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve because they are sensitive salmon spawning grounds;

WHEREAS, the Chilkoot River is a small (less than twenty-mile long) river lying within a steep glacial valley, yet is so productive that it supports four runs of salmon (sockeye, pink, chum, and coho), Dolly Varden trout, and a significant run of hooligan (eulachon) as well as a diversity of wildlife including bald eagles, bears, and otters;

WHEREAS, the Chilkoot Lake and River is a vital renewable resource for the traditional and cultural uses in the Lynn Canal area, as well as an important resource for sport and commercial fishermen in Lynn Canal and most of Southeast Alaska;

WHEREAS, the Haines Borough, the State of Alaska and the United States should honor the value of native wild fish stocks;

WHEREAS, the proposed Connelly Lake project is likely to cause irreparable negative impacts to important fish stocks within Chilkoot Lake and River area due to road and dam construction, soil erosion, increased turbidity due to construction and extra winter outflows, change in temperature and flow patterns from their natural temperature and flow patterns, and further development at the sensitive spawning grounds above Chilkoot Lake that would likely follow road and power lines;

WHEREAS, the mitigation of the Chilkoot Lake and River area, which is so highly sensitive, can never make up for the possible long-term loss of an important resource; and

WHEREAS, recent Alaska Power and Telephone studies have shown that Schube Lake across the Lynn Canal is a viable alternative to the Connelly Lake project, likely more cost effective, and would not negatively impact any sensitive salmon spawning areas:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Alaska Native Sisterhood Camp #5 be on record as opposed to the Alaska Power and Telephone hydro-electric project in the upper Chilkoot watershed known as the Connelly Lake Project, as well as being opposed to any state or federal funding to pursue further studies or development of the Connelly Lake Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Alaska Native Sisterhood Camp #5 be on record as supporting an alternative hydro-electric project, such as Schube Lake across the Lynn Canal, as well as being in full support of state or federal funding to pursue studies and the development of the hydro-electric project at Schube Lake.

Georgiana Hotch
(ANS Camp #5 President)

ATTEST: I certify that this resolution was adopted by the Alaska Native Sisterhood Camp #5 meeting in Haines, Alaska, at their general meeting on September 26, 2009 by a vote of 12-0.

Carol L. Davis
(ANS Camp #5 Secretary)