

HB

143

<TARGET><BILL>HB 143</BILL><SUBJECT>HB
143</SUBJECT><COMM>SFIN29</COMM></TARGET>

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 4/1/16

FURTHER:

DATE TURNED
IN TO OFFICE: _____

Finance Committee considered CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 143(FIN)

HB 143-AIDEA BONDS: SWEETHEART CREEK HYDRO PROJ.

"An Act authorizing the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority to issue bonds to finance the infrastructure and construction costs of the Sweetheart Lake hydroelectric project."

and recommends:

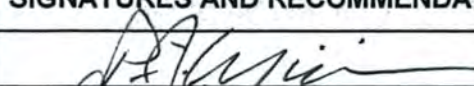
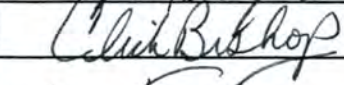
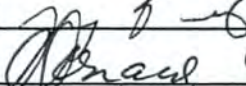
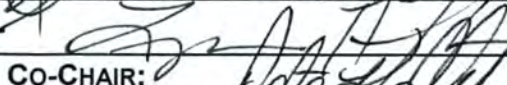
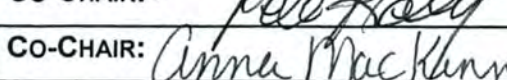
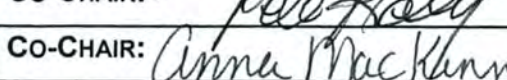
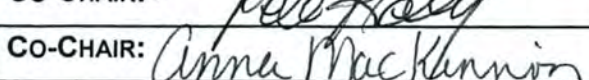
- [] be replaced with SCS _____ (_____) [] Same Title [] Technical Title Change
[] New Title/SCR No. _____
- [] adopt previous SCS _____ (_____) [] Same Title [] Technical Title Change
[] New Title/SCR No. _____
- [] attached amendment(s)
- [] adopt _____ Letter of Intent
- [] further referral to _____ Committee

Dept Abbr.	
ADM	LWF
CED	LAW
COR	LEG
EED	MVA
DEC	DNR
DFG	DPS
GOV	REV
DHS	DOT
AJS	UA

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S)				
Dept.	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN #

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S)				
Dept.	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN #
CED			x	1

[] APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:	PRINTED LAST NAME	Do PASS	Do NOT PASS	No REC	AMEND
	MICHELLE	✓			
	BISHOP	✓			
	DUNSLAWY				✓
	OLSON	✓			
	Hoffman	✓			
CO-CHAIR: 	Kelly			✓	
CO-CHAIR: 	Mackinnon	✓			

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2016 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	CSHB 143(FIN)
Fiscal Note Number:	1
(H) Publish Date:	3/24/2016

Identifier: HB143CS(FIN)-DCCED-AIDEA-03-24-16
 Title: AIDEA BONDS, LOANS, FUND; AEA LOAN
 Sponsor: MUNOZ
 Requester: (H) Rules

Department: Department of Commerce, Community and
Economic Development
 Appropriation: Alaska Industrial Development and Export
Authority
 Allocation: Alaska Industrial Development and Export
Authority
 OMB Component Number: 1234

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2017 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2017 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates					
			FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
Personal Services								
Travel								
Services								
Commodities								
Capital Outlay								
Grants & Benefits								
Miscellaneous								
Total Operating	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

None								
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Positions

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

Change in Revenues								
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Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2016) cost: 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2017) cost: 0.0 *(separate capital appropriation required)*
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? No
 If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version:

Updated analysis to reflect changes from initial bill to CSHB 143(FIN).

Prepared By: John Springsteen, Director
 Division: Alaska Industrial Development Export Authority
 Approved By: Catherine Reardon, Director
 Agency: Division of Administrative Services, DCCED

Phone: (907)771-3000
 Date: 03/24/2016 09:25 AM
 Date: 03/24/16

**REPORTED OUT OF
HFC 03/24/2016**
Control Code: WJGE

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Analysis

HB143 would authorize the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA) to issue conduit bonds to finance the infrastructure and construction costs of the Sweetheart Lake hydroelectric project. It is expected that the costs of issuing these bonds would be included in the bond sale. The bonds authorized by HB 143 are not to be included in calculating AIDEA's 12-month bond limit (under 44.88.095(a)). AIDEA estimates that there will be no fiscal impact as a result of this bond issuance.



REPRESENTATIVE CATHY MUÑOZ

SPONSOR STATEMENT

House Bill 143 authorizes the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority to issue up to \$120 million in conduit issuance bonds to finance a hydroelectric project at Sweetheart Lake, approximately 43 miles south of Juneau. Conduit issuances do not impact AIDEA bonding capacity and would solely be based on the merits of the project.

AIDEA would act as a facilitator by vetting and performing due diligence on the project to determine whether it qualifies for such financing.

Hydroelectric power is a clean, effective, and affordable source of energy in coastal, rainforest Alaska – a region that can use it to offset high costs of industries such as mining, processing fish, and forest products. Mining, tourism, and fish processing are vital to the area's economy.

Affordable energy is a keystone of a healthy and sustainable economy. It ensures Alaska families, businesses, and job-creating industries may grow and thrive. HB 143 would help a region take steps toward unlocking its great energy and resource potential and move toward having a stronger and more diversified economy.

LEGAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF LEGAL AND RESEARCH SERVICES
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY
STATE OF ALASKA

(907) 465-3867 or 465-2450
FAX (907) 465-2029
Mail Stop 3101


State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
Deliveries to: 129 6th St., Rm. 329

MEMORANDUM

April 6, 2016

SUBJECT: Sectional summary
(CSHB 143(FIN); Work Order No. 29-LS0599\S)

TO: Representative Cathy Muñoz
Attn: Terry Harvey

FROM: Megan A. Wallace 
Legislative Counsel

You have requested a sectional summary of the above-described bill.

As a preliminary matter, note that a sectional summary of a bill should not be considered an authoritative interpretation of the bill and the bill itself is the best statement of its contents.

Section 1 (a) Provides legislative approval for the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority to issue bonds for the Sweetheart Lake hydroelectric project in an amount not to exceed \$120,000,000, payable exclusively from the revenue derived from the project.

(b) Provides that the bond authorization in this section does not constitute a general obligation of the state or authority.

(c) Provides that the bonds authorized by this section may not be considered in calculating the authority's 12-month bonding limitation under AS 44.88.095(a).

Section 2 Repeals sec. 1 on June 30, 2020.

MAW:dla
16-423.dla



REPRESENTATIVE CATHY MUÑOZ

Explanation of Changes **CS for HB 143(FIN) Version S**

The CS for HB 143(FIN) makes the following changes:

1. Section 1 was amended to specify Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority will be authorized to consider conduit bonding for the Juneau Hydro Project. The original version of the bill did not specify the type of bonding that would be used. Additional language specifies that interest due on the bonds do not constitute a general obligation of the state or the authority. Also, this section specifies the conduit bonds will not be considered in calculating the authority's bonding limitation for a 12 month period under state statute.
2. Section 2 was removed. This section authorized Alaska Energy Authority to consider loaning up to \$22 million to the Lynn Canal Transmission Corporation from the Power Project Fund (PPF) to build transmission lines north of Juneau along the Veterans Hwy. Concerns were raised that the PPF was not currently capitalized in an amount that could support such a loan and, if existing funds were depleted, there would not be funds available for other projects statewide.
3. A new section 2 was added that changed the previous repeal date from June 30, 2019 to June 30, 2020.



Alaska Jobs Energizing Alaska's Future



JUNEAU HYDROPOWER &
LYNN CANAL TRANSMISSION



SWEETHEART LAKE HYDROELECTRIC FACILITY

Hydropower
is a clean
and
renewable
Juneau Fuel
Source

Juneau
pioneered
Hydropower
Development
in Alaska



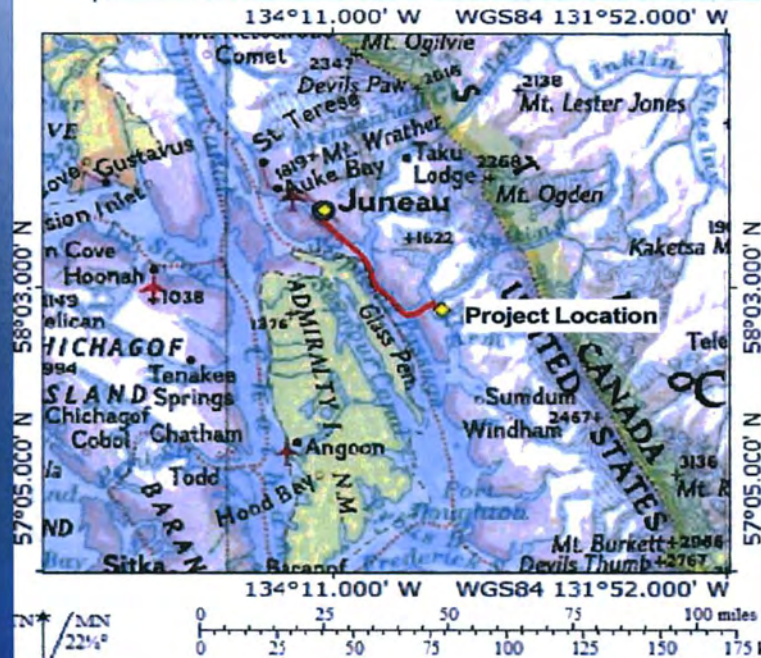
**Construct
2016-2018**

Located 35 miles south of Juneau, but only 8 miles from the State of Alaska owned Snettisham transmission line.

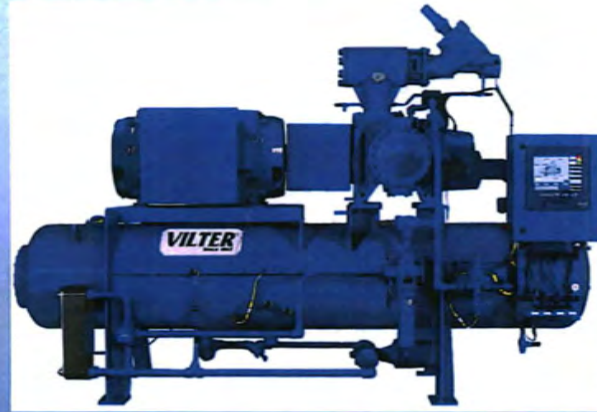
Power for Mines and Juneau Heating District

Capacity- 19.8 MW (Megawatts)

Generation- 116,000 MWh annually



JUNEAU DISTRICT HEATING



ALASKA BASED TECHNOLOGY HEATING THE
CAPITAL WITH LOCAL RESOURCES



JUNEAU DISTRICT HEATING WILL:

- ▶ **Harvest heat from Gastineau Channel-Juneau**
- ▶ **Convert Gastineau Channel heat to produce 3 units of heat energy for every 1 unit of electrical energy input**
- ▶ **Circulate heat energy (180°F to 190°F) to heating district via pipe distribution network**
- ▶ **Create Sustainable Jobs while lowering heating costs**

▶ **Coeur Alaska Kensington Mine**

- ▶ **Reduction of Operating Costs by displacing diesel electricity with lower cost hydropower**
- ▶ **Lengthening Mine Life-Lengthening employment & tax base**
- ▶ **Using local hydropower resources**

▶ **Juneau District Heating**

- ▶ **Provides electricity to run pumps and compressors for Juneau District Heating to circulate heat around Juneau**
- ▶ **Reduce heating cost for State government, schools and downtown Juneau**
- ▶ **Energy Security for the Capital City-avalanches, energy for future growth**

JUNEAU HYDROPOWER ENERGY ENERGIZES THE ECONOMY



LYNN CANAL TRANSMISSION CORPORATION: INTERTIE

"Connecting Southeast Alaskans with affordable and locally produced energy"



- ▶ 3 AAC 50.770 (c) Rates for purchases of electric power must be just and reasonable and in the public interest and must not discriminate against qualifying facilities or adversely affect the consumers of the electric utility. **RATES CANNOT GO UP**
- ▶ **AEL&P receives administration and transmission fees** for use of their transmission lines. These fees are reimbursed to ratepayers whenever the AEL&P revenue exceeds their RCA regulated 12.88% Return on Equity. **RATES GO DOWN**
- ▶ **Improved business competitiveness- Hydropower beats diesel**

WHY JUNEAU'S ELECTRICITY COSTS GO DOWN



- ▶ Centralized production of heating in a District Heating system provides economies of scale and savings unattainable by individual property owners or governmental agencies. **EFFICIENCIES LOWER COSTS**
- ▶ Heat Pumps are 300% Efficient. **These savings are passed on to provide lower cost heating**
- ▶ Local and Sustainable heat from Gastineau Channel. **Elimination of fossil fuel volatility and price shocks**
- ▶ **Competition and free markets drive prices down**

WHY JUNEAU'S HEATING COSTS GO DOWN



SWEETHEART LAKE HYDROELECTRIC BENEFITS

- ▶ **\$125 Million Private Capital investment in Juneau's Future.**
- ▶ **Long Term and Sustainable Energy Security for Juneau.**
- ▶ **Local Construction and Service-Support Employment. 85 Construction Jobs and 35 indirect jobs**
- ▶ **Economic Development and Economic Stability during State Revenue declines.**
- ▶ **Juneau District Heating additional Juneau Job Creation - \$25M project creating over 30 construction jobs and 25 indirect jobs. Operations will require 5 to 10 employees**
- ▶ **Reduce Juneau's cost of living and cost of doing business**



LYNN CANAL TRANSMISSION CORPORATION BENEFITS

- ▶ **\$22 Million Private Capital investment in Juneau's Future.**
- ▶ **Low cost Intertie solution for North Juneau and future Lynn Canal transmission connection to Haines and Skagway.**
- ▶ **Local Construction and Service-Support Employment. 30 Construction Jobs and 15 indirect jobs**
- ▶ **Economic Development and Economic Stability during State Revenue declines.**
- ▶ **Reduce Juneau's cost of living and cost of doing business**



JUNEAU DISTRICT HEATING BENEFITS

- ▶ Juneau Job Creation - \$25M project creating over 30 construction jobs and 25 indirect jobs. Operations will require 5 to 10 employees
- ▶ Reduce Juneau's cost of living and cost of doing business for government
- ▶ Enhance Juneau's energy security, local economy, and improve safety
- ▶ Reduce developer risk through lower heating costs and price certainty
- ▶ Keeps Local Alaska Energy Dollars...local
- ▶ Help Juneau meet and beat its GHG reduction goal- CBJ Res 2593

*Alaska is a center of innovation, heat pump technology can create
Alaska energy solutions*

- ▶ **Alaska Based Technology- Started in Juneau**
- ▶ **Technology Template for other Alaska coastal communities**
- ▶ **Alaska “Know- How” combined with bountiful Alaska Energy resources + World Class Team Members**
- ▶ **Alaska Leadership and Alaskan “Can Do” Attitude**

OUR TEAM WILL MAKE IT HAPPEN





February 17, 2016

Rep. Cathy Munoz
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, 120 4th Street
Room 501
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Munoz:

House Bill 143 would provide the necessary authorization from the Legislature for AIDEA to issue bonds in order to assist in the financing of the construction of the Sweetheart Lake Hydro project under AS 44.88.172. It is AIDEA's understanding that Juneau Hydropower, Inc. is developing the Sweetheart Lake project. Juneau Hydropower has filed for their FERC license and is working through the EIS process. Sweetheart Lake has a planned capacity of 19.8 MW (for comparison, Snettisham is 78.2 MW). The project would be designed to fully supply the Kensington mine with firm power year round. Supplying the Kensington mine with Sweetheart Lake power, however, is dependent upon completion of Phase 1 of the Lynn Canal Transmission project. Additional power generated may be sold to AEL&P. AEL&P currently serves the Greens Creek mine but has to interrupt service when they lack generation capacity.

The economic benefits of the project include potential lower energy cost for local power customers, including Kensington mine. Kensington mine is an important economic driver of the regional economy. Sweetheart Lake hydropower could potentially lower the operating costs of Kensington mine and extend the economic life of the mine. Environmental benefits may also be realized by switching from diesel power to cleaner hydro power.

AIDEA would need to complete suitability, feasibility and due diligence analyses on the potential project prior to endorsing the Sweetheart Lake Hydro project, or stating that it could finance the project under AS 44.88.172. Based on the preliminary description of the project and the potential economic and environmental benefits of the project, this project may meet the project suitability requirements for AIDEA to evaluate financing the project under AS 44.88.172. Based on the size of project and the type of project, any financing that AIDEA would provide for this project would require the issuance of a bond. For AIDEA to move forward in financing this project, AIDEA would require the authorization provided under House Bill 143.

If have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

John Springsteen
Executive Director - AIDEA



Office of the Mayor
155 S. Seward Street Juneau, Alaska 99801
Phone: (907) 586-5240; Fax: (907) 586-5385
mary.becker@juneau.org

March 22, 2016

Representative Cathy Munoz
State Capitol
Room 501
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Representative Munoz:

The City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ) Assembly strongly supports Juneau Hydropower Inc.'s (JHI) proposal to create a Juneau Heating District. This project would replace current diesel fuel-based heating with clean, renewable energy produced from the waters of Gastineau Channel. The project promises to provide economic and environmental benefits to Juneau.

The CBJ also supports JHI's plan to construct the Sweetheart Lake hydropower facility, which we have been told, is expected to receive its Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license this summer and begin construction. Under JHI's proposal, energy from the Sweetheart Lake hydropower facility would power the seawater heat pumps and the mechanical system for the Juneau heating district. Sweetheart Lake hydropower facility also plans to provide electrical generation to the Kensington Mine and other customers.

JHI's projects would create Juneau jobs during the construction and operation of the facilities. The use of renewable energy would reduce our community's greenhouse gas emissions and lower our city's overall carbon footprint.

The City and Borough of Juneau strongly supports JHI's efforts in that direction.

Sincerely,

Mary E. Becker
Mayor

cc: Senator Dennis Egan
Representative Sam Kito III
Juneau Hydropower, Inc.

January 25, 2016

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
US Army Corps, Alaska Region

RE: Sweetheart Lake Hydroelectric Project. P-13563-003. Need for immediate power

To whom it may concern,

The Kensington mine, located in the Borough of Juneau, Alaska, is owned and operated by Coeur Alaska. The site directly employs 330 people along with approximately 50 contractors. The annual operating budget for Kensington Mine is approximately \$120 million with diesel power generation being second only to payroll as the single largest operating expense. Low cost, reliable hydropower electricity has the potential to have a significant positive impact on Kensington's operating margin as well as the stability and longevity of the project. The immediate demand for low cost hydropower electricity at the Kensington Mine already exists, the more expeditiously it is made available, the sooner it can begin to yield positive benefits to the operations and sustainability of the mine project.

Sincerely,



Wayne Zigarlick
VP & General Manager Coeur Alaska



International Union of Operating Engineers LOCAL 302 • Washington and Alaska • AFL-CIO

Daren Konopaski, *Business Manager and General Vice President*

Corey Baxter, *District 8 Representative*

January 29, 2016

Representative Cathy Munoz
State Capitol Room 501
Juneau AK, 99801

RE: HB 143 AIDEA Loan Authorizations

Dear Representative Munoz,

The International Union of Operating Engineers Local 302 would like to make the following comments supporting the Sweetheart Lake Hydroelectric project which will bring economic development activities that will impact and benefit Juneau and Southeast Alaska once it gets the authorization provided under HB 143.

1. This project will create direct and indirect family wage jobs for the Juneau economy and the Juneau work force which is crucial to help sustain our local economy and provide an economic stimulus for the Juneau Construction trades.
2. The project will create opportunity for business growth and clean industry attraction to the Capital city for industries that desire and use large amounts of renewable generated electricity.
3. This project would provide hydropower electricity to local mines displacing expensive electricity generated from fossil fuel sources. The cost savings could extend the mine's life of operations and help preserve Juneau's private employment in this industry sector.
4. The Sweetheart Lake Hydropower EIS identifies the new recreational infrastructure improvements and identifies the Juneau Hydropower collaboration with the Douglas Island Pink and Chum hatchery (DIPAC) to improve personal use and recreational fishing opportunities for our community.

The Operating Engineers Local 302 believes that it is in the best interest of the State of Alaska to approve HB 143 and look forward to the economic benefits that this project will bring.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Corey Baxter
District 8 Representative
International Union of Operating Engineers Local 302

MAIN OFFICE: 18701 120th Avenue N.E. • Bothell, Washington 98011-9514
Telephone: (425) 806-0302 • Toll-free: 1-800-521-8882 • Fax: (425) 806-0030
JUNEAU OFFICE: 9309 Glacier Hwy., Suite A-105 • Juneau, Alaska 99801
Telephone: (907) 586-3850 • Toll-free: 1-800-478-9551 • Fax: (907) 463-5464

Washington Branches: Bellingham • Silverdale • Ellensburg Alaska Branches: Anchorage • Fairbanks • Juneau





Alaska Power & Telephone Company

193 Otto Street

Port Townsend, WA 98368

3/23/2015

Members of the Alaska State Legislature,

The purpose of this letter is to express Alaska Power & Telephone Company's strong support for House Bill 143, which proposes "legislative approval for a loan from the power project fund to the Lynn Canal Transmission Corporation."

Alaska Power & Telephone (AP&T) was founded in Alaska in 1957, just prior to statehood, and currently provides services in 39 communities, including electrical utility services in the interconnected Lynn Canal communities of Haines, Skagway, and surrounding areas. Over the last 58 years, our company has invested substantially in creation of transmission infrastructure, which has allowed us to utilize energy generation assets in a more economic manner, and serve our customers more affordably.

AP&T believes that the Lynn Canal Transmission Corporation's (LCTC's) proposed transmission interconnection between Juneau and the Kensington Mine, and the Kensington Mine and the Lynn Canal communities of Haines and Skagway, will create many tremendous economic benefits for the State of Alaska, and Southeast Alaska.

- **Economic Development for Juneau.** The LCTC project will electrify the existing Veteran's Memorial Highway, allowing for new economic development at private property near the highway.
- **Support for Kensington Mine.** The LCTC project will create an opportunity to provide the diesel-dependent Kensington Mine with cleaner, more affordable energy from renewable hydropower sources, such as the proposed Sweetheart Lake project.
 - More affordable energy will result in improved economics which prolong the life of the Kensington mine, extending state and local tax revenues and high-paying mining sector jobs much further into the future.

- **More Affordable, Reliable Incumbent Utility Operations.** Following the interconnection of Juneau with the Kensington mine, transmission can be extended from the Kensington mine to the Lynn Canal communities of Haines and Skagway. Once interconnected, utilities serving the communities of Juneau, Skagway, and Haines will be able to operate existing energy assets in a more affordable manner.
- **More Affordable Development of New Renewables.** Future renewable energy assets can be developed more affordably, due to: 1) increased economies of scale produced by newly interconnected communities, and 2) the proximity of the LCTC transmission system to prospective renewable energy assets.
- **Long Term: Whitehorse to Juneau Intertie.** The Yukon Government, in partnership with the State of Alaska, is currently studying the possibility of creating a transmission interconnection between Whitehorse, YT and Skagway, AK. In the event this project is completed successfully, Juneau would be part of a new transmission system which extends to Yukon Territory, and Whitehorse. This creates many opportunities in terms of more affordable operation of existing assets, improved economics of scale, and development of new renewables. Plans are already moving forwards for a new fiber optic connection between Juneau and Skagway, with plans for extending fiber to Whitehorse.

AP&T believes that it is in the best interest of the State of Alaska, as well as the communities of Juneau, Skagway, and Haines, to approve HB143, and provide Power Project Fund borrowing authorization to the Lynn Canal Transmission Corporation. While much of the transmission in Alaska has been built with grants, the LCTC project can be constructed using low interest loans. This approach assures that the State of Alaska will be repaid its initial investment, while also receiving the substantial benefit stream associated with new economic development, extended operations at the Kensington Mine, more affordable operation of existing utility assets, and access to new renewables for future growth.

Thank you for your consideration. Please vote "yes" on HB 143!



Robert S. Grimm
President & CEO, Alaska Power & Telephone Company
P.O. Box 3222
193 Otto Street
Port Townsend, WA 98368
800-982-0136 x120
Bob.g@aptalaska.com

C O E U R
A L A S K A
KENSINGTON GOLD MINE

Wayne Zigarlick
General Manager

March 21, 2012

Senator Dennis Egan
Representative Cathy Munoz
Representative Beth Kerttula

Dear Juneau Delegation,

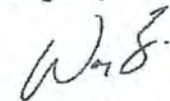
Coeur Alaska, Kensington Gold Mine supports public or public/private efforts to expand reliable, low cost and environmentally responsible energy supply to the Juneau area. Specifically we would, as a potential customer, be in support of extending a transmission line and electrical service to Cascade Point, more commonly known as the end of the Juneau Road System North. A line extension to Cascade Point would increase the feasibility for Southeast power providers to increase hydro capacity to provide for multiple uses along the existing roadway. Such a line, if appropriately sized, could also assist public or public/private efforts to create the infrastructure necessary to potentially provide economical services in the future to our operation.

The Kensington Mine energy needs currently requires over 2.8 million gallons of diesel annually transported to Berners Bay, transferred and then delivered to our mine site generators. The potential for line power in the future would be environmentally beneficial and potentially reduce site energy costs, making the mine a more sustainable operation. The result is that lower energy costs could allow us to provide high paying jobs to the Juneau community for an extended period. Currently we have 250 employees and approximately 100 contractors, and contribute significantly to the Juneau community.

Further, electrification resulting from a connection to the Juneau grid system could assist the CBJ climate action plan goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions within the Borough. A transmission line to Cascade Point provides environmental benefits to the Juneau community that can be just as important as the economic benefits.

We believe that the transmission line extension to Cascade Point to coincide with the road extension to Cascade Point makes a lot of sense and merits your consideration.

Regards,



Wayne Zigarlick
General Manager

Coeur Alaska, Inc.
3031 Clinton Dr., Suite 202
Juneau, Alaska 99801
Telephone 907-523-3044
Facsimile 907-523-3330
wzigarlick@coeur.com
www.KensingtonGold.com



3075 Vintage Blvd, Suite 200, Juneau, Alaska 99801 (907) 790-4990; Fax (907) 790-4999

September 16, 2013

Representative Cathy Munoz
State Capitol
120 4th Street, Room 421
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Munoz,

I am writing to reiterate Goldbelt Inc.'s ongoing support of efforts to extend a transmission line and electrical service to Cascade Point, at the current northerly end to the Juneau road system.

In addition to transportation infrastructure support, a transmission line with electrical distribution would provide Juneau with an area for economic growth. In addition to the Goldbelt holdings, there are several land owners along Glacier Highway who would directly benefit from extending the electrification of North Juneau. Goldbelt has over 1,400 acres that could be reasonably developed with the advent of electrical power and electrification would allow Goldbelt to examine opportunities that could lead to future jobs and economic benefits for Juneau.

Next year Goldbelt, Inc. will celebrate its 40th anniversary as Juneau's own Native corporation. For many years we have planned for potential development at Echo Cove, but have been stymied by lack of electrical power. With the completion of the improvements to the Glacier Highway, development at Echo Cove becomes much more feasible. The major missing part is economical electrical power.

As a current transportation service provider to Coeur Alaska, we are also concerned about the continued success of their operation at the Kensington mine. There would be obvious environmental and economic advantages to providing clean hydro power to that operation as well.

For these reasons we respectfully request your support of this project.

Sincerely,

Robert G. Loiseau
President/CEO
Goldbelt, Incorporated
3075 Vintage Blvd., Suite 200
Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907) 790-1440 *Direct Line*
(907) 723-4712 *Cell*
bob.loiseau@goldbelt.com
www.goldbelt.com

Juneau and Vicinity Building & Construction Trades Council

722 West 9th Street, Juneau, AK 99801

April 7, 2012

Senator Dennis Egan
Representative Cathy Munoz
Representative Beth Kertula

Dear Delegation;

The Juneau Building and Construction Trades Council would like to express its support for appropriations to extend the electrical transmission lines to the end of the Glacier Highway. This is beneficial environmentally and would reduce energy costs for residents and developers alike toward the end of the road. Expanding access to Juneau's cheap hydropower is one way to help our community grow and secure economic opportunity for our residents.

Respectfully,

Tom Brice, President
Juneau Building and Trades Council



Yankee Cove Development, LLC
Adlersheim Wilderness Lodge
2280 Brandy Lane #4
Juneau, AK 99801

November 28, 2012

Senator Dennis Egan
Representative Cathy Munoz
Representative Beth Kerttula

Dear Juneau Legislative Delegation,

Yankee Cove Development, LLC does business as the Adlersheim Wilderness Lodge at 33 mile on the Veterans Memorial Highway north of Juneau. Yankee Cove Development, LLC is a Juneau based company that supports a transmission line and electrical service extension along the Veteran's Memorial Highway (Glacier Highway) to Cascade Point (Echo Cove) that would provide much needed electrical service, communications and increase the safety for the northern areas of the City and Borough of Juneau.

Additionally, one of the most pressing needs for our community is affordable housing. There is developable land along the Veteran's Memorial Highway that cannot be economically developed without electrical services (along with internet and communication services that use transmission poles). As the owner of the Adlersheim Lodge we support the mines and new mining development in the area and know first-hand of many young mine employees who would like to purchase entry level family housing and raise families in Juneau. Providing the expansion of power along the Veteran's Memorial Highway would provide the opportunity for land owners to develop properties for new housing.

For these reasons and others, we support the electrification extension to electrify the northern portions of the City and Borough and request your assistance in the funding and completion of this endeavor. We look forward to your assistance in electrifying the northern portions of the City and Borough of Juneau.

Sincerely,

Two handwritten signatures in cursive script. The first signature is "Marion Hobbs" and the second is "Naomi Hobbs".

Marion & Naomi Hobbs, P.E.
Owners

**International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
Local 1547**

813 W. 12TH STREET
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801

TELEPHONE
(907) 586-3050

FAX
(907) 586-9614

MIKE HODSDON
BUSINESS MANAGER • FINANCIAL SECRETARY

KNUTE ANDERSON
PRESIDENT



April 6, 2012

**Senator Dennis Egan
Representative Cathy Munoz
Representative Beth Kerttula**

Dear Juneau Delegation:

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 1547 supports energy projects within the state of Alaska, specifically electrical transmission and distribution line extensions. Electrical line extensions from hydro plants will reduce or eliminate fossil fuel generating units. This is beneficial environmentally and would reduce energy costs for communities and developers alike.

A hydroelectric supplied transmission line to the Greens Creek Mine has been in service for several years and has significantly reduced diesel fuel consumption. The same could be said of the Kensington Mine if it was able to connect its energy needs to hydro power.

IBEW Local 1547 members are skilled, safe and efficient craftsmen and women that have many years in the construction industry, building and maintaining both overhead and underground power lines and would like to be a part of these new construction projects.

We would greatly appreciate your support for these types of energy projects.

Sincerely,

**Mike Bavard
Assistant Business Manager
IBEW Local 1547, Unit 103**

cc: Mike Hodsdon – Business Manager, IBEW Local 1547



GRANDE PORTAGE RESOURCES LTD.
#202-750 WEST PENDER ST.
VANCOUVER, BC, V6C 2T7
604-899-0106
604-604-5793
WWW.GRANDEPORTAGE.COM

December 12, 2012

The Honorable Governor Parnell
State of Alaska
PO Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811

RE: Herbert Gold Project Development Support for the electrification of the Veterans Memorial Highway.

Dear Governor Parnell,

Grande Portage Resources Ltd. (TSX-V "GPG") is a Tier 1 publicly traded mineral exploration company, principally focused on gold discovery in Alaska and British Columbia.

The Herbert Gold project is an early stage, partially drill-tested, high-grade, gold mineralized mesothermal quartz vein system located in the historic Juneau Gold Belt of southeast Alaska. Consisting of 91 unpatented lode claims located 30 km north of Juneau and to the south of Coeur Alaska's new Kensington gold mine. The property covers six parallel vein structures exposed at surface.

Our 2011 and 2012 drill programs were productive and we are now developing our 2013 drill program. Our drill results thus far have been positive. Additional information and press releases on our Herbert Gold Project can be found at www.grandeportage.com. In January 2013 we expect to announce a updated technical report (NI 43-101) and resource calculation.

Grande Portage Resources, Ltd. supports the City and Borough of Juneau in advancing a transmission line and electrical service extension to Cascade Point (Echo Cove) that would increase the carrying capacity of the Veterans Memorial Highway transmission line to bring adequate electrical energy resources to our development area. Grande Portage Resources, Ltd. is investing in and exploring the mineral viability of the Herbert Gold project. Electrical energy and transmission line capacity in sufficient quantity would lessen and perhaps eliminate our need for future diesel generation should our project be permitted and we commence operations. Lower operating costs provided from current and future hydropower development in Juneau provide for not only improved attraction of construction capital through stronger feasibilities, but it would also help provide for a longer mine life and job creation and mining industry job sustainability in the City and Borough of Juneau.

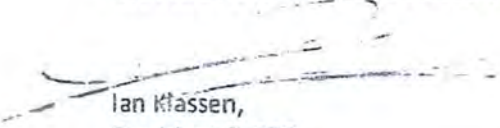
Discovered. Measured. Grown.

The elimination of the business requirement for diesel fuel for expensive diesel electrical generation at the Herbert Gold prospect provides a win-win in that it would likely lessen our permitting process as well as provide increased environmental safeguards and benefits to the Juneau community. Clean, electrical energy transmitted along the Veterans Memorial Highway would eliminate the bulk of our need for diesel storage at our site. A transmission line extension would also allow our operation to operate with reduced green house gas emissions and help the City and Borough of Juneau meet its Green House Gas Emission goals cited in the 2011 CBJ Climate Action Plan.

Although we will make the determination to go forward with our project after the results of our continued and thus successful drilling program, it is not too early to begin the planning process to ensure that adequate energy resources and transmission line capacity is available. Sufficient electrical capacity and transmission enables us to better proceed with private capital investments, the development of new economic activity, Juneau tax base growth and the creation of new family wage jobs for the Juneau community. I would appreciate your support in considering funding in your upcoming capital budget to advance the upgrade in power capacity and the transmission line extension to Cascade Point to support private capital resource development investments and job creation.

Sincerely,

GRANDE PORTAGE RESOURCES LTD



Ian Klassen,
President & CEO



March 14, 2013

Representative Cathy Muñoz
Room 421
Capitol Building
Juneau, AK 99811
CC Representative Bill Stoltze

Regarding: SEAS support for the electrification of the Veterans Memorial Highway

Dear Representative Muñoz,

The Southeast Alaska Seiners Association (SEAS) was formed in 1968 by a group of concerned Ketchikan commercial salmon purse seiners. Today, we represent the southeast fleet of commercial purse seiners. SEAS endeavors to balance the interests of all the users of our healthy Tongass so that seiners can harvest their historical and rightful share of the salmon resources in the waters of Southeast Alaska.

We would like to voice our support for your appropriation request to fund the electrification of the Veterans Memorial Highway from Lena Cove to Cascade Point. The electrification of this highway will reduce and in some cases eliminate the need to run diesel generation for homes and businesses along the highway. As you know diesel and fish do not mix and any effort that we can assist to help protect salmon streams and bays should be supported.

Furthermore, the Lynn Canal portion of the southeast marine waterway has spotty or no cellular phone service. The advent of electricity will allow cellular companies to place and service cell towers in Lynn Canal north of Lena Cove, and in the future Berners Bay. Electrification of the highway will enable and allow these companies to expand their cellular service coverage which will not only allow for better day to day communications with commercial fishing vessels, but will also improve the safety for vessels and provide better emergency response and coordination when in distress.

For these reasons we support your request to electrify the Veterans Memorial Highway.

Sincerely,

SEAS Executive Director
Robert Thorstenson JR



BIBLE CAMP • JUNEAU

April 5th, 2013

To:

Senator Dennis Egan
Representative Cathy Munoz
Representative Beth Kerttula

Dear Juneau Legislative Delegation;

Echo Ranch Bible Camp is a non-profit ministry that has been actively working with the children and communities of South East Alaska for almost 50 years. We are located two miles beyond Echo Cove, which is located at the 42 mile marker on the Veterans Memorial Highway.(Glacier Highway)

Echo Ranch, as a community focused organization, strongly supports the development of electrical infrastructure to Cascade Point, allowing us the ability to have access generated electricity. This would greatly reduce our dependence on diesel fuel, allowing us to tap into a renewable energy source while reducing the environmental impact that having to generate our own electricity can make.

The positive long-term implications are many, the biggest of which is the ability to grow organizationally, growth that will not be possible without community infra-structures such as this.

As we strive to continue to bring hope and health to the individuals, families and the communities of Southeast Alaska, your support of this would allow us to work together to bring positive changes to the people of Southeast Alaska.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

Randall Alderfer, Director,
Echo Ranch Bible Camp
12000 Glacier HWY
Juneau, AK 99801
(570) 274-1699
randy.alderfer@avmi.org



Port of Juneau

155 S. Seward Street • Juneau, AK 99801
(907) 588-0292 Phone • (907) 588-0295 Fax

February 14, 2014

Kim Kiefer, City Manager
City and Borough of Juneau
155 South Seward Street
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: Juneau Hydropower, Inc.'s FY15 Marine Passenger Fee Proposal: Electrification Availability Option for Passenger Cruise Ships

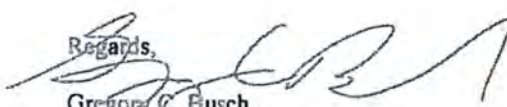
Dear Ms. Kiefer,

The CBJ Docks and Harbors board would like to provide conditional support for Juneau Hydropower, Inc.'s FY15 Marine Passenger Fee proposal to provide additional infrastructure to service and support the cruise ships docking at CBJ Docks and Harbors berth facilities. Electrification of the new cruise ship docks is a viable project that has many positive merits that are outlined in the submission. Docks and Harbors is preparing reasonable infrastructure that would align with this proposal within both the 16B and the Cruise Ship Terminal Parking Lot projects. Unfortunately, the uncertainty of available surplus power raises some concern.

AEL&P forecasts would limit use of the electrical system to those years with heavy rainfall, currently about one year on four. In addition, AEL&P's previous commitments to Princess and Greens Creek would have priority over this project, and any increases in basic load requirements could further reduce availability, making electrification an empty promise. This project will garner our full support as soon as there is a reasonable expectation that reliable power would be available. Unfortunately, given today's projection for surplus power, it doesn't rise above the funded or unfunded project proposals Docks and Harbors submitted for FY-15 local Marine Passenger Fees.

From a long-term perspective, our Passenger Cruise Ship industry, with hydropower derived cost reductions, makes Juneau a more cost competitive port. The Assembly should consider promoting additional energy generation projects that will provide sufficient surplus power so this can be a worthwhile investment for the community. The eventual electrification of our cruise ship berths will provide a marketing niche for the Juneau Docks and Harbors the ability to market and promote Juneau as a fully electrified port for visiting cruise ships.

Regards,



Gregory C. Busch
Chairman,
Docks and Harbors Board



3075 Vintage Blvd., Suite 200, Juneau, Alaska 99801-7109 (907) 790-4990 Fax (907) 790-4999

March 9, 2012

Juneau Delegation
Senator Dennis Egan
Representative Cathy Munoz
Representative Beth Kerttula

Dear Juneau Delegation,

Goldbelt Inc. supports any public, private or public/private effort to extend a transmission line and electrical service to Cascade Point, more commonly known as the end of the Juneau Road System North.

In addition to transportation infrastructure support, a transmission line with electrical distribution would provide Juneau an area for economic growth. In addition to the Goldbelt holdings, there are several land owners along Glacier Highway who would directly benefit from extending the electrification of North Juneau. Goldbelt has over 1400 acres that could be reasonably developed with the advent of electrical power and electrification would allow Goldbelt to examine opportunities that could lead to future jobs and economic benefits for Juneau.

Also, there would be obvious environmental and economic advantages to providing clean hydro power to the Kensington Mine. For these reasons we respectfully request your support of this project.

Sincerely,

Robert G. Loiselle
President/CEO
Goldbelt, Incorporated
3075 Vintage Blvd., Suite 200
Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907) 790-1440 Direct Line
(907) 723-4712 Cell
(907) 790-4999 Fax
bob.loiselle@goldbelt.com
www.goldbelt.com

Presented by: The Manager
Introduced: 12/05/2012
Drafted by: J.W. Hartle

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Serial No. 2632

**A Resolution Expressing Assembly Support for the Extension
of Electrical Power Along the Veterans Memorial Highway.**

WHEREAS, the extension of electrical power along the Veterans Memorial Highway to Cascade Point would encourage economic development while providing increased public safety with street lights and emergency communications; and

WHEREAS, providing electrical power to Cascade Point would provide service to residents and property owners of the northern portion of the City and Borough, reducing their energy costs, improving property values, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, the Assembly adopted the Juneau Climate Action and Implementation Plan, dated October 31, 2011, by the adoption of Resolution Serial No. 2593, which sets goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the City and Borough; and

WHEREAS, all residents and businesses north of Eagle Beach are now provided electrical power by diesel generation with its associated carbon emissions, which could be reduced by replacing diesel fuel use with locally-produced hydropower; and

WHEREAS, high fuel prices in recent years place a greater importance on the CBJ and the State of Alaska planning ahead to ensure that electricity is available along our highways to facilitate development and community growth; and

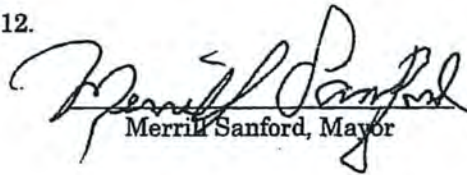
WHEREAS, providing electrical power in the northern portions of the CBJ would facilitate the development of residential housing that will assist in meeting affordable housing goals set forth in the CBJ Comprehensive Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA:

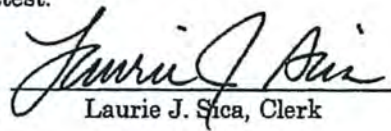
Section 1. That the Assembly expresses its support for the State of Alaska in funding the extension of electrical power along the Veterans Memorial Highway to Cascade Point to improve highway safety, provide expanded emergency services, reduce electrical costs and carbon emissions, and facilitate economic development.

Section 2. Effective Date. This resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

Adopted this 5th day of December, 2012.


Merrill Sanford, Mayor

Attest:


Laurie J. Sica, Clerk

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

RESOLUTION 13-10

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING STATE OF ALASKA'S EFFORTS TO BUILD AND ELECTRIFY
ROADS FOR SOUTHEAST ALASKA MINING DEVELOPMENTS AND OPERATIONS**

WHEREAS, Southeast Alaska has tremendous mining development and support services potential with many projects already developed and others in development that have and will produce family wage jobs for our Southeast Alaska communities; and

WHEREAS, Southeast Alaska is lacking road and transmission infrastructure to service and support Southeast Alaska's growing mining industry; and

WHEREAS, roads to resources provide opportunities for Southeast Alaska workers and Mining service and support industries and personnel to travel to mining developments and operations; and

WHEREAS, power and transmission lines reduce the handling, use and storage of large amounts of diesel fuel at resource development sites thereby lowering permitting costs, regulation, but also reducing the costs of operation; and

WHEREAS, there are local, state and federal initiatives in place to build roads and transmission lines on Prince of Wales Island to service the Bokan and Niblack resource developments; and

WHEREAS, the City and Borough of Juneau, in Resolution No. 2632 passed on December 5, 2012, expressed its support for the State of Alaska in funding the extension of electrical power along the Veterans Memorial Highway to Cascade Point to improve highway safety, provide expanded emergency services, reduce electrical costs and carbon emissions and facilitate economic development; and

WHEREAS, Representative Cathy Munoz initiated a State funding request for the electrification of the Veterans Memorial Highway to improve highway safety, improve Juneau Access ferry and road options, spur economic development, electrify property for real estate development, and assist in current and future resource development; and

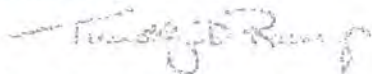
WHEREAS, Electrification of Glacier Highway could enable the Kensington mine and/or private parties to build an additional marine transmission line from Echo Cove to the mine location; and

WHEREAS, Southeast Conference is the voice of Alaska communities and businesses promoting the sound and responsible development of resources, job creation and economic development for our Southeast Alaska; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Southeast Conference supports the development and funding for road and electrical extension throughout Southeast Alaska and specifically to the Niblack and Bokan resource development on Prince of Wales Island and the electrical extension for the Juneau Veteran's Memorial Highway and will send letters of support to the Governor of Alaska and legislative sponsors supporting these infrastructure developments for the benefit of Southeast Alaska, the jobs and economic development these key pieces of infrastructure will provide.

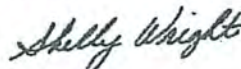
ADOPTED BY THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON March 25, 2013 and will sunset on March 25, 2014.

Witness by:



Tim Rooney, President

Attest:



Shelly Wright, Executive Director



Alaska Native Brotherhood Camp #70 Glacier Valley

RESOLUTION 02 -12

**SUPPORTING THE LICENSING, DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION OF THE
SWEETHEART LAKE HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT NEAR JUNEAU**

WHEREAS, the Alaska Native Brotherhood is the oldest Native American civil rights organization whose mission has been the advancement of civil rights, education, cultural preservation and economic development; and

WHEREAS, Southeast Alaska is abundant in hydropower but hydropower development is expensive as it is essential to providing low cost energy now and in the future for Southeast Alaska Native communities and community members; and

WHEREAS, Juneau Hydropower, Inc. a hydropower development company based in Juneau is developing the Sweetheart Lake Hydroelectric Project with respect for Native values and is committed to working with local tribes and Native entities for mutual benefits; and

WHEREAS, Juneau Hydropower, Inc. acknowledges and respects that Sweetheart Creek is identified as a historical trapping and fishing ground of the Taku people (Goldschmidt and Haas report) as well as through recent cultural studies and Juneau Hydropower Inc. further encourages federal and state agencies to recognize these findings.

WHEREAS, Juneau Hydropower, Inc. is committed to increasing the subsistence and personal fishing opportunities for Juneau's Native community through improved spawning habitat improvements and working to substantially increase the size of returning sockeye salmon and further is committed to working with the Douglas Indian Association now and in the future to ensure that these fishery resources benefit Juneau's Native community.

WHEREAS, there is a need to electrify the Veteran's Highway, and.

WHEREAS, Juneau Hydropower Inc. has submitted a draft license application and preliminary draft environmental assessment to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; and

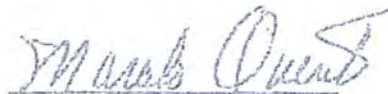
WHEREAS, Juneau Hydropower Inc. through its ownership, management, development and operations plan is committed to the traditional and environmental values of the Alaska Native Brotherhood to protect and increase the fisheries as well as to build a hydropower project in an environmentally sensitive manner that

represents how current and future hydropower developments should be built with respect for the environment and with Native values.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Alaska Native Brotherhood Camp # 70 requests that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and all federal and State of Alaska regulatory agencies approve their Environmental Assessment and issue Juneau Hydropower Inc. a FERC license to develop and operate the Sweetheart Lake Hydroelectric Project; and

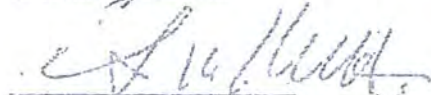
NOW, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that ANB Camp # 70 supports the Governor's electrification of the Veteran's Highway and that the capacity be great enough to handle future Southeast Intertie loads and in a manner that connects Juneau to mining interests, economic development opportunities and communities north and south as well as supporting additional hydro development.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Alaska Native Brotherhood Camp #70 this 1st day of December, 2012.



ANB Camp #70 President

ATTEST: I certify that this resolution was adopted by the ANB Camp #70 on December 1st 2012.



ANB Camp #70 Secretary