

**8-07-09  
Statewide Energy  
Policy, Kenai  
Public  
Testimony,  
HB 218, HB 219**

<target><bill>HB 218</bill><subject>8-07-09 Statewide Energy  
Policy, Kenai Public Testimony, HB 218, HB  
219</subject><comm>HENE26</comm></target>

**Alaska Legislature**  
**House and Senate Special Committees on Energy**



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## AGENDA

Friday, August 7<sup>th</sup> 2009

2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Challenger Learning Center, 9711 Kenai Spur Highway, Kenai

Aurora Borealis Room

**Rep. Charisse Millett, Chair**

1. Presentation by Mayor Dave Carey, Kenai Peninsula Borough – renewable energy and energy conservation in the Kenai Peninsula Borough
2. Presentation by Larry Persily, House Finance Committee aide – status of ARRA federal energy stimulus funds
3. Presentation by ~~Phil Steyer~~ **MARK FOSTER**, Joint Utility Task Force Committee – status of Greater Railbelt Energy and Transmission Corporation (GRETC) legislation
4. Public testimony on HB 218, HB 219 and statewide energy plan

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**Remarks to the House and Senate Special Committees on Energy**  
**By Kenai Peninsula Borough Mayor Dave Carey August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

**Representative Millett, Representative Edgmon and Senator McGuire:**

**Thank-you for allowing me to address this Special Committee on Energy and for holding this meeting in Kenai, here at the awesome Challenger Center for Technology. I am Borough Mayor Dave Carey and our topics today could not be more important to the State of Alaska's residents and especially to those of us that live in the Kenai Peninsula Borough and those considering moving their families and commercial interests here.**

**Until last October, when I was elected Borough Mayor, I had served for 21 years on the Homer Electric Association Board of Directors, being President for the last 6 years. I was also a Board Member and officer of the Alaska Energy & Electric Cooperative (AEEC) and the Alaska Power Association Executive Committee and chairperson of their Legislative Committee.**

**Energy in Alaska is truly at a crossroads. One needs only to drive by the idle Agrium facility to understand the issue of loss of jobs and community health. The Oil and Gas industry on the Kenai Peninsula is slowly withdrawing as the need for new exploration and development is not keeping pace with the demands of residential, let along commercial, users. We are facing the possibility of brownouts this winter if the temperature drops too low. This could result in loss of life as well as failure of businesses which are already on the economic edge of sustainability.**

**House Bill 218 deals with the establishment of a state Department of Energy. This idea on its own is neither good nor bad. The important question, as a new bureaucracy is being discussed, is whether or not energy policy and application would be enhanced and streamlined. Would this assist in getting the needed natural gas to the Kenai Peninsula and to South Central**

**Alaska? Developing and administering a comprehensive energy plan for Alaska is long overdue and it must address production, distribution, conservation and consumption. All four factors must be seen as essential. A unified rail belt system is required for generation and transmission but distribution must be left to the local co-ops.**

**Promoting cost-effective energy efficiencies in new construction and renovations, in maintenance of existing public buildings and in the establishment of community standards is good. However, they must be supported by local residents and those in decision-making positions.**

**This new Department would serve as the conduit for all US Department of Energy funds. This is a good idea if it speeds up the process of getting funds to the local communities and those individuals that will apply the funds. All too often, the paperwork required by new government programs is so burdensome that businesses and individuals walk away. Government must do all it can to be user-friendly while providing needed oversight of public funds.**

**House Bill 219 relates to renewable energy grant funds and the process for determining who gets funding. It also speaks to the desire that all funds are correctly spent and includes the requirement that activity reports for each project by submitted at intervals to be decided by the authority. This all sounds reasonable. However, it is my experience, that especially smaller projects, can end up requiring so much work on activity reports and related paperwork, that a significant amount of the funds are spent on people, sitting at desks and computers, rather than the funds being spent to directly provide for the project purpose.**

**Since these Bills (218 219) both deal with Energy funds for renewable projects, let me just add my own opinion that all federal funds, stimulus or otherwise, should be accepted by the State and if any other region objects, the Kenai Peninsula Borough will happily use those funds for renewable development.**

**Today I am providing this Special Committee, hot off the presses, the Kenai Peninsula Borough Agenda "Promoting Alternative Energy and Energy Efficiency". It is my goal that the Kenai Peninsula Borough becomes the premier area of Alaska for the development and implementation of alternative energy research. As you read through this booklet which is on-line through the Borough Mayor's Office webpage, you will see that we are including all possible types of alternative energy as well as what we have done so far in government and in industry. This booklet will include many additions in the future as we obtain more grants and more information. Please remember, you should keep the Kenai Peninsula Borough at the front of the line whenever you have to make a decision concerning who gets funding for alternative energy grants and programs.**

**It is logical for you to do this because you will be building on the historical progress and foundation since the discovery of the Swanson River Field in 1957 and the energy which it has provided all of us. We must never think of energy from fossil fuels as the enemy of alternative energy. We must have both along with conservation and technological efficiencies.**

**At our formation in December of 1963, 38% of the Kenai Peninsula Borough is comprised of the Cook Inlet. 28% of the Borough is the West-Side of the Inlet. Our Borough is truly both urban and rural with the needs of each. Please do not continue to develop energy policy that pits rural vs. urban vs. Southeast. We must have an Alaskan Energy Policy that meets the needs of every Alaskan and does not support the destruction of the rural ways of life and peoples.**

**And finally, I wish to promote the development of Geo-thermal energy. The Kenai Peninsula Borough includes four active volcanoes, Spur, Redoubt, Illiamna, and St. Augustine. We should all be promoting policies and regulations to assist in the development of Geo-Thermal energy. Mt. Spur could provide a significant amount of clean energy for the people of Anchorage, the MatSu and the Kenai Peninsula Borough. TY.**

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AUGUST 7, 2009

FROM PAT HAWKINS  
36115 PIONEER DRIVE  
SOLDOTNA, AVASCA  
99669-7039

TO- HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ENERGY  
ENERGY COMMITTEE

SUBJECT ENERGY SHORTAGES

I AM A 43 YEAR RESIDENT  
OF AVASCA, HAVING LIVED 20  
YEARS IN ANCHORAGE AND 23  
YEARS IN SOLDOTNA.

I HAVE TESTIFIED AT PUBLIC  
HEARINGS REGARDING OUR ENERGY  
CRISIS FOR YEARS, AND YET  
THE STATE HAS FAILED TO  
ACT. OR DO ANYTHING OTHER  
THAN MAKE STUDIES, AND HIRE  
MORE PEOPLE AND FORM COMMITTEES  
TO STUDY THE ISSUE. TO  
DEATH.

(2)

WE HAVE AN ABUNDANCE OF NATURAL GAS AT PRUDHOE. BUT WE DO NOT HAVE THE LEADERSHIP AND WILL TO BUILD AN INSTATE GAS PIPELINE FOR ALASKA.

WIND, HYDRO, THERMAL, TIDAL ALL GREAT IDEAS, BUT WE NEED TO MOVE NOW - AND NOT WAIT -

OUR FAMILY WILL PASS ON OUR PFD CHECK TO GET INSTATE GAS - NOW - THE STATE NEED TO PARTNER WITH PRIVATE INDUSTRY TO MOVE ON THIS NOW.

THE PRIVATE SECTOR WILL NOT MOVE ON THIS PIPELINE AS THE COST TO THEM IS NOT WORTH THE PRICE, IT IS TIME FOR THE STATE TO ACT -

THANK YOU  
PAT HAWKINS



- LEGEND**
- EXISTING 500 KV, BRITISH COLUMBIA
  - - - EXISTING 287 KV, BRITISH COLUMBIA
  - · - · - PROPOSED 287 KV, BRITISH COLUMBIA
  - EXISTING 138 KV, ALASKA
  - - - PROPOSED ALASKA
  - EXISTING 138 KV, BRITISH COLUMBIA
  - EXISTING RAILWAY
  - EXISTING HYDROELECTRIC FACILITY
  - PROPOSED HYDRO/WIND FACILITY
  - ◻ HYDRO/WIND FACILITY UNDER DEVELOPMENT
  - ▲ MINERAL DEPOSIT
  - CITY
  - 37 HIGHWAY

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DRAWN: AEG
CHECKED: IAE
DATE: 8/08/08
REV 4
FILE NAME 33C
111.DWG

**Hydropower Site Plan  
Southeast Intertie Plan  
BCTC Transmission Plan**

**Cascade Creek LLC**  
 PO Box 23000 Juneau, AK 99802  
 907-586-3333  
 Alaskans First - Renewable Energy is For