

STATE OF ALASKA

THE LEGISLATURE

1978

Source

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Legislative
Resolve No.

45



Relating to the Alaska Power Authority, the Phase I environmental, economic, social and engineering studies of the Susitna Hydroelectric Project, and the incurring of indebtedness for Phase I.

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

WHEREAS the Alaska Power Authority under AS 44.56.180 has submitted to the legislature and to the commissioner of commerce and economic development a statement outlining the status of the Susitna Hydroelectric Project and the Plan of Study outlining the necessary feasibility studies of the project which is planned to be designed, and may be acquired or constructed by the United States under an agreement providing for ownership of the project by the authority; and

WHEREAS the Congress of the United States, on October 22, 1976, enacted P.L. 94-587, the Alaska Hydroelectric Power Development Act, which Act authorized the Secretary of the Army and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to participate in the Susitna Hydroelectric Project; and

WHEREAS there is now pending before Congress a proposal which would amend P.L. 94-587 so as to authorize an agreement between the United States and the Alaska Power Authority which will provide that the United States will reimburse the authority for any of the authority funds expended in the Phase I stage of the Susitna Hydroelectric Project if the Phase I report is not favorable or if the authority within three years of the completion of the report is unable to borrow money to pay the construction costs of the project, including the costs of the Phase I studies, based on the security of the project or its revenues; and

WHEREAS the Phase I activities outlined delineate the environmental, economic, social and engineering studies requisite to informed decision making; and

WHEREAS the cost to be incurred during Phase I is now estimated to be \$25,000,000 but may exceed that amount; and

WHEREAS it is considered to be in the best interests of the State of Alaska to proceed with Phase I of the project through the use of Alaska Power Authority sponsored financing; and

WHEREAS Phase I studies shall provide for substantive public involvement throughout the study process; and

WHEREAS legislative approval of project construction is required if project feasibility and desirability result from the study process conducted under Phase I activities;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges the passage by the Congress of the United States of the proposed amendments to P.L. 94-587 so that the Alaska Power Authority may go forward with a program of financing and may enter into any necessary agreements pursuant to the proposed amendments; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that, based on the plan outlined in the statement of the Alaska Power Authority to the legislature and to the commissioner of commerce and economic development, the legislature agrees to the incurring of indebtedness by the Alaska Power Authority contingent upon passage of amendments to P.L. 94-587 in an amount necessary to finance the cost of the Phase I feasibility studies of the Susitna Hydroelectric Project, including interest; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Affairs Agency, contingent upon passage of amendments to P.L. 94-587, shall conduct or contract for an independent review, in consultation with the Alaska Power Authority, based on existing data, of the economic, financial, biological and geophysical implications of the proposed Susitna Hydroelectric Project, and shall report to the legislature by January 15, 1980.