

STATE OF ALASKA

THE LEGISLATURE

1981

Source

Legislative
Resolve No.

CSHJR 27 (Res)

8



Relating to the proposed Stikine dam projects in Canada.

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

WHEREAS the British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority is doing preliminary studies for proposed major hydroelectric dam projects on the Stikine River and its tributary, the Iskut River; and

WHEREAS the Stikine River passes through Alaska below the point where the proposed dams would be built; and

WHEREAS many Alaskans depend on the Stikine River, directly or indirectly, for salmon and other resources, recreation, transportation, and water supplies; and

WHEREAS dam projects of the size proposed for the Stikine River have the potential for significant impact on the fish and wildlife, hydrology, biological ecosystems, and Native cultures of the area surrounding the river; and

WHEREAS decisions made by the governments of Canada and British Columbia concerning the construction of the Stikine dams may affect citizens of the United States; and

WHEREAS the people and legislature of the State of Alaska are concerned over the possible impact of the Stikine dams and feel that it is imperative that Alaskans be involved during the study, analysis, and planning phases of this project; and

WHEREAS the Stikine River is covered under international treaties (the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909 and the Navigable Waterways Treaty of 1871) which apply to actions taken on the waterway by one country that could affect the interest of the other;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the President of the United States is respectfully requested to direct the Secretary of State to take steps to facilitate the exchange of information between Canadians and Americans concerning the Stikine dams and to ensure that a method is established to provide for meaningful input by Americans on local, state, and federal levels before and during the planning, decision making, and development phases of the Stikine River hydroelectric dam project by Canada.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald Reagan, President of the United States; the Honorable Alexander M. Haig, Jr., Secretary of State; and the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.