

Alaska Power Association

Presented by **Michael Rovito**,
Director of Member and Public Relations





Alaska Power Association

Assists our members in accomplishing their goals of delivering electric energy and other services at the best value to their consumers.

Communications

- Government relations program: primary focus of APA
- APA E-flashes sent primarily during Session
- Bill tracking sheet with hearings sent weekly
- Legislative update teleconferences on Fridays
- Frequent communication with legislators and staff members



Active Legislation

■ **HB 199: Fish habitat and permitting**

- A rewrite of Title 16 permitting law for anadromous fish habitat
- Creates new permitting system for work in anadromous waters
 - Minor permit
 - Major permit
- CS offers revisions from original bill
- Contains “grandfather” clause for existing projects
 - That clause goes away if project “significantly” expanded
- APA Board voted in Dec. to oppose original bill

Active Legislation

■ **SB 137: Wood-treated poles**

- Sets in law that no person or the state may recover costs of response or damages resulting from the legal application of pesticides registered under federal law
 - On a wood utility pole
 - Installed, removed, or used by a public utility providing a utility service in Alaska.
- Federal law: Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)

State Capital Budget

- Renewable Energy Fund (REF) projects in FY 2019 Capital Budget
 - Assists communities in AK to reduce and stabilize the cost of energy through cost-effective renewable integration.
 - Under SB 196 (2016) 20% of excess earnings from PCE Endowment Fund go toward REF after PCE fully funded.
 - \$11 million appropriated for REF projects in budget.

Federal Legislation

- S. 1460 Energy and Natural Resources Act
 - Hydropower: Requires agencies to use existing studies and data to avoid duplication.
 - Microgrids: facilitates development of hybrid microgrids, including the integration of renewable resources in diesel reliant communities.
 - Vegetation management: allows for streamlined access to transmission right of ways on federal land;
 - **IMPORTANT:** Not a funding bill.



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