



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

### **APA's Southeast Members**

- Alaska Electric Light & Power
  - Connie Hulbert, President and CEO
- Alaska Power & Telephone Company
  - Michael Garrett, President and CEO
- Alaska Village Electric Cooperative (Yakutat)
  - Meera Kohler, President and CEO
- Inside Passage Electric Cooperative
  - ♦ Jodi Mitchell, CEO/General Manager
- Metlakatla Power & Light
  - John Cameron, Interim General Manager
- Southeast Alaska Power Agency
  - ♦ Trey Acteson, CEO
- Southeast Conference
  - Robert Venables, Executive Director

















### Industry outlook

- Renewables: APA members are continually integrating economically feasible renewables from both utility-owned and IPP assets.
  - Hydropower is very important for stable energy rates an supply.
- Investments in cybersecurity: cyber threats have increased, and APA members are making significant investments in protection and prevention, including taking part in exercises with federal agencies.
- Technology: Many APA members switching to AMI ("smart meter") to improve operational efficiencies, increase consumer control, and lower costs. Battery development and renewable technology advancing rapidly.
- ♦ *Funding:* Government grants are largely not available anymore for projects. Electric utilities must shoulder increased financial burden and risk.

## APA SUPPORTS

- Funding for the Renewable Energy Fund and for continued deployment of economically feasible renewable energy.
- Preserving the Power Cost Equalization Endowment, using the Endowment only for its statutory purpose, and for funding the PCE program in FY 2021.

### ROADLESS RULE

- APA supports full exemption.
- APA filed comments with USDA in December.
- Urged our membership to provide comments as well.
- Authored opinion piece in Anchorage Daily News.
- APA thanks Trey Acteson of SEAPA and Robert Venables of the Southeast Conference for serving on the Citizen Advisory Committee.

## SB 143 – Smart Meter Legislation

- Sponsored by Sen. Tom Begich, D-Anchorage
- Bill establishes a range of requirements on utilities, including:
  - Allowing a customer to not have a smart meter installed or electing to have a smart meter removed;
  - Electric utilities cannot be exempted from the requirements of SB 143, per the bill's language.
  - Giving RCA power to set the maximum surcharge a utility may charge a customer who has a smart meter removed or not installed;
  - Non-disclosure of customer energy use data

# Power Cost Equalization

- Gov's FY21 draft budget funds PCE from Endowment (as opposed to the General Fund) and makes no change to Endowment.
- Talk of legislation to protect PCE Endowment from being swept into Constitutional Budget Reserve.
- APA will continue educating legislators on the PCE Endowment and program regardless of what's in the budget.

## Federal Legislation and Regulations

#### Successes:

- Passage of the RURAL ACT included in federal spending bill. Fixed consequence of 2017 tax law that threatened non-profit status of electric cooperatives. Alaska's Congressional Delegation co-sponsored this legislation.
- Alaska Remote Generator Act Sen. Dan Sullivan's bill required EPA to revise air emissions standards on 2014 or later model remote diesel generators. Passed Congress last year. EPA issued final rule fall of 2019.

### Ongoing:

Tribal Energy Reauthorization Act – Sen. Lisa Murkowski - Addresses Indian land requirements for energy project grants; allows non-profit electric cooperatives to apply for OIE funding, among other items.



## Crystal Enkvist

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