

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15 (d) of the Securities Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) January 30, 2017

CHUGACH ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Alaska (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) **33-42125** (Commission File Number) **92-0014224** (IRS Employer Identification No.)

5601 Electron Drive, Anchorage, AK
(Address of Principal's Executive Offices)

99518
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(907) 563-7494**

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communication pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Item 8.01 – Other Events

On January 30, 2017, Chugach Electric Association, Inc. issued a joint press release with the Municipality of Anchorage d/b/a Municipal Light & Power and Matanuska Electric Association, Inc. regarding the utilities' Power Pooling and Joint Dispatch Agreement (Agreement).

The Agreement allows the participating utilities to buy and sell power when it is more economic than generating their own. This collaboration facilitates the economic dispatch of power across the three utilities. The goal is to operate the most efficient electrical generation resources available, regardless of location or ownership.

The benefits for the utilities and their customers of power pooling and economic dispatch of power include reduced cost of power, reduced gas usage, reduced CO₂ emissions, potential improvement for integration of variable power, and expected additional efficiencies from regional generation and transmission planning. The utilities estimate power pooling will save between \$12 million to \$16 million a year in fuel and operations and maintenance costs, and reduce CO₂ emissions by between 90,000 to 120,000 tons per year.

Item 9.01 – Financial Statements and Exhibits

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
99	Press release announcing Power Pooling and Joint Dispatch Agreement between the Registrant and Municipality of Anchorage d/b/a Municipal Light & Power and Matanuska Electric Association, Inc.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

Date: January 30, 2017

CHUGACH ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

By:



Lee D. Thibert
Chief Executive Officer



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 30, 2017

Utilities Sign Power Pooling Agreement ***Collaboration to save millions for Railbelt customers***

Three of Alaska's Railbelt electric utilities have signed an agreement to collectively utilize their generation and transmission assets to benefit tens of thousands of customers. *The Power Pooling and Joint Dispatch Agreement*, signed by Chugach Electric Association (Chugach), Municipal Light & Power (ML&P), the Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) and Matanuska Electric Association (MEA), was filed with the Regulatory Commission of Alaska (RCA) today.

Signing of the agreement solidifies work of the utilities on a power market, allowing the utilities to buy and sell power when it is more economic than generating their own. By running the most efficient units first, regardless of location or ownership, the utilities estimate the arrangement will jointly save \$12 million to \$16 million a year in fuel, operations and maintenance costs, and will reduce CO2 emissions by 90,000 to 120,000 tons per year.

In addition to the reduced cost of power and reduced CO2 emissions, power pooling and economic dispatch of power will also reduce natural gas usage.

“Working together to provide power to our customers in the most efficient, cost-effective manner means lower costs and improved reliability for everyone,” said Lee Thibert, Chugach CEO. “This agreement represents a lot of hard work and cooperation on behalf of thousands of Alaska electric customers, and I want to thank everyone involved for the great work done.”

“We are pleased to see our recent utility cooperation expanded into a more formalized agreement that can reduce costs for our members,” said Tony Izzo, CEO, Matanuska Electric Association. “The Railbelt's new, more efficient generation suite brings significant opportunity for savings when we work together and we look forward to this new era of collaboration.”

“The work of the utilities serving Anchorage demonstrates what collaborative effort can achieve and builds on our cooperative work to provide reliable, cost-effective electric service for businesses and families,” said ML&P General Manager Mark Johnston.

The Power Pooling and Joint Dispatch Agreement is the framework for a commitment to jointly dispatch and share in the benefits of power pooling. The filing with the RCA is considered informational as the utilities continue to work out details of the dispatch and payment reconciliation process—called settlement—throughout 2017.

A filing requesting RCA approval of the final, long-term agreement is expected in 2018.

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For more information:

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