

## Chugach's community solar program approved

The Regulatory Commission of Alaska has approved Chugach's proposal for a three-year pilot program that will allow members to voluntarily subscribe and receive solar energy.

Chugach's plan is for a 500-kilowatt (kW), four-acre community solar project with 1,280 panels. Members may voluntarily subscribe to pay for one to 20 panels and receive the energy from those panels credited to their bill. After a one-year minimum subscription, members may continue or end their subscription at any time. The current schedule anticipates applications opening in October

2024, and the project is expected go live in March 2025. The cost to participate will be finalized after proposals are received to design, build and operate the project, which is located at Chugach's Retherford Substation in South Anchorage.

### *Additional solar panels to be added on Chugach buildings*

Chugach also plans to add solar panels to its two main power plants and its Operations building. The panels are expected to be about 100 kW per power plant, making them more efficient and reducing the use of natural gas. About 165 kW of solar



panels will be installed as part of a remodel of the Operations building on Chugach's South Campus.

These projects are progress toward the Chugach Board of Directors' goal to reduce the utility's carbon intensity by at least 35% by 2030 and at least 50% by 2040, without a negative material impact on member rates or reliability.

## Current member information important for voting in annual election

As we prepare for Chugach's 2024 Annual Meeting and Election, it is important for members to have current contact information on file to streamline the voting process. Chugach's election utilizes electronic voting and, upon



request, will provide paper ballots. If you are receiving your billing statement in the mail or by email notification, your contact information is up to date and no action is required.

If you want to use a different email address for voting in the Chugach election, log into your My Account portal from the website (feature not available in mobile app),

click the profile icon, and select Update Election Email. Watch for a Chugach election email to arrive from Survey & Ballot Systems, our 2024 election administrator. Add them to your safe sender list so you do not miss any important election updates.

### *Two board seats on the ballot*

Voting in the annual election will begin on April 17, with members choosing two candidates to serve on the Chugach Board of Directors. Members can also expect any proposed bylaw amendments to be on the 2024 election ballot. {1119431}

### *Annual Meeting and Member Appreciation Event*

The Chugach Annual Meeting and Member Appreciation Event are scheduled for Friday, May 17, at ChangePoint Alaska. Stay tuned for details in the April Outlet, on the Chugach website, and Chugach's social media channels.



## In the community | Fur Rondy support

Our line crew helped prepare for Fur Rendezvous by hanging the Rondy banner across 4th Avenue on February 7. Chugach is happy to support Anchorage's winter festival.

## Linemen complete avalanche training

Chugach linemen recently completed their annual avalanche training which allows them to practice the skills needed to stay prepared in a rescue situation. Each year, the linemen attend one of several Companion Rescue Avalanche Training classes provided by Gravity Works. The class covers valuable skills and knowledge for those who sometimes have to work in avalanche terrain, which in our case is linemen performing a line patrol after an outage, or a heavy crew performing repair work should one of our transmission structures be impacted by an avalanche.

The skills taught include beacon searches, probing the narrowed down search area, and shoveling techniques. Our avalanche forecaster also reviews how to assess



avalanche terrain as well as the decision-making process in avalanche-prone environments. This class is one of the key tools that helps keep our linemen safe and prepared for the terrain they encounter in an Alaska winter.

## CHUGACH EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

*From Engineering to Operations to Member Services, all of Chugach's roughly 450 employees live and work in Alaska.*

*Each month we introduce you to one of our employees who works every day to provide safe, reliable power to our members.*



**Name:** Paul Johnson  
**Position:** VP, Control & Communications  
**Time at Chugach:** 39 years

Paul says the most challenging part of his job is balancing competing demands for time. He most enjoys collaborating with many great people and always finding new and innovative ways to serve members.

## Green Corner Reducing our carbon footprint

Using your dishwasher is more energy efficient than washing dishes by hand. To maximize efficiency, wash full loads and don't block the arms that move while it is in use. For additional savings, turn on the "air dry" setting instead of using "heat dry" and use a rinse aid to help dishes dry faster without streaking. *Source: Dept. of Energy*



### The Outlet

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### Member number hide-n-seek

Find your member number in (brackets) in the Outlet and get a \$100 credit on your electric bill. Call Chugach at 907-563-7366 to claim your prize.