

# Outilet

www.chugachelectric.com

April 2014

Number 314

# Annual meeting and election May 22

Four Chugach members are running for three seats on the utility's board of directors in this year's election. Election results will be announced at the May 22 annual meeting.

Chugach is organized as a member-owned cooperative. The organization is governed by a 7-member board elected by and from the membership. In 2013, nearly 13 percent of the more than 68,000 members voted in the election.

The candidates in the 2014 election are Harry Crawford, lames Henderson, leffrey Land-

field and Janet Reiser. Crawford, Henderson and Reiser are incumbents on the board, while Landfield served on the 2014 Bylaws Committee.

Crawford is a former Alaska State Legislator, retired iron worker and a small-real estate developer. Henderson is a principal with New American Financial Group in the financial services industry. Landfield is an account executive at Network Business Systems. Reiser is the Director of Business and Resource Development for The Aleut Corporation.

In 2013, following a change in the state statute on electric and telephone cooperatives, Chugach members approved a bylaw changing director terms from 3 years to 4 years. The 2014 election provides a transition to those new terms. The two candidates who receive the most votes will be elected to 4-year terms, while the third-highest vote getter will be elected to a 3-year term.

Members will also vote on a pair of bylaw amendments.

One would add more time for candidates to submit election

materials and the other calls for notice in the annual election pamphlet when director compensation changes.

The board set April 3 as the record date for voting in this year's election and at the annual meeting. Ballot packets will be sent to members of record on April 22. Members will also be able to vote via the Internet, and -- for the first time - by using the keypad on their phone. Members have until noon on Monday, May 19 to return a ballot by mail, or until noon on Thursday, May 22 to vote electronically

In-person voting will be allowed at the cooperative's annual meeting May 22 at the Dena'ina Civic & Convention Center for members who haven't yet cast a ballot. Registration opens at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.







Jim Henderson



Jeff Landfield



Janet Reiser

# Bills advance legislative agenda

Bills introduced in the Legislature seek to advance two items on Chugach's legislative agenda.

House Bill 340 and Senate Bill 196 address unification of the Railbelt transmission system. They would charge the Regulatory Commission of Alaska with reporting to the Legislature how an Independent System Operator could be implemented for the region, and what powers the RCA would need to regulate it.

House Bill 305 addresses the issue of metals theft. Like legislation enacted in other states, it targets the transaction between a seller and a scrap dealer. {1183227}

Additionally, requests for electric infrastructure project funding have been entered into the database used by legislators to build the capital budget. Through its membership in the regional generation & transmission cooperative called ARCTEC, Chugach is

supporting requests to fund the State's half of the Battle Creek diversion at the Bradley Lake Hydroelectric Project, the rebuild of two sections of the 115-kilovolt transmission line between Anchorage and the Kenai Peninsula, and the first phase of work on substation projects associated with the Eklutna Generation Station and the Eklutna Hydroelectric Project.

Chugach has worked with other organizations and individu-

als on these key issues. The legislative session is scheduled to end April 20.

## Scholarship opportunity

The Alaska Power Association is giving \$1,000 scholarships and textbook stipends of up to \$500 to Alaskans studying engineering in Alaska. Go to http://www.alaskapower.org/news.htm for details about the Hank Nikkels Scholarship, or send an email to cenkvist@ alaskapower.org. Application packets are due May 9.

### Recent RCA actions and filings

The Regulatory Commission of Alaska provides oversight of electric utilities in Alaska. Here is a summary of recent Chugach actions before the Commission.

#### 2012 test-year rate case

On March 14 the RCA issued an order in a rate case Chugach filed based upon a test-year ending June 30, 2012. In the order, the RCA agreed with Chugach on system rate concepts and the ratemaking treatment of certain transmission line segments. In addition, the RCA reaffirmed its acceptance of earlier stipulations in the case. The order will not significantly change the interim rates granted Chugach when

it filed the case in December 2012, though Chugach will refund about \$200,000 under the terms of the order.

#### Loss calculation updated

Chugach filed an updated line loss calculation with the RCA on March 17. The line losses on the Chugach transmission system in 2013 were calculated at 2.5 percent, down from 2.88 percent in 2012. Line loss is a term that refers to the fact that physically, you don't receive all the power off the grid that the generators put on it. Losses occur because the wires and other components of the system heat up as electricity flows through them. Electric energy

lost by conversion to heat energy is not available for power sales.

In part, the reduction was due to the first year of operation of the Southcentral Power Project. Because the new power plant is located in Anchorage in the heart of Chugach's retail load, less power is needed to be moved across the transmission system from the Beluga Power Plant. Lower system losses lead to lower generation costs because less fuel is needed to generate power to meet system load requirements. A 0.4 percentage point reduction in losses saves about \$300,000 in fuel.

The loss factor is used in allocating costs between Chugach's generation and transmission customers and those of its distribution system.

#### New fuel charge proposed

On March 3, Chugach filed to amend its fuel and purchased power charges to customers in the second quarter of 2014. The charges are adjusted quarterly to reflect past and projected changes in cost of the natural gas purchased to run Chugach's power plants. If approved by the RCA, the total monthly bill for a Chugach residential customer using 650 kWh of electricity will increase approximately 2 percent.

## Middle school classes recognized for energy savings

Monday - Friday

8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

(800) 478-7494

563-7494

563-7366

762-4678

762-7803

563-5060

762-4731

762-7227

762-7676

762-7888

(800) 390-2782 276-6222

(800) 478-7494

811

In an effort to educate middle-school students about the importance of energy efficiency and conservation, Chugach partnered with the Renewable Energy Alaska Project (REAP) to co-host a 3-month competition, titled the Watts Up or Down Energy Challenge, encouraging students to reduce their families' energy consumption and

learn the basic principles of energy generation and usage.

The challenge ran from Oct. 1, 2013 through Dec. 31, 2013 and encouraged more than 700 students to participate in two energy-saving measures: completing an educational energy efficiency workbook and signing up for a Social Energy App, known as Opower,

which tracks monthly energy use. The students that signed up for the app

earned points for their team if they used less electricity during the three month challenge period in 2013 compared to the



same three months in 2012.

Using the results from the app, the teams saved enough electricity to power an Xbox for nearly 20 years or to power one LED light bulb for more than 160 years.

The winning team, from Mr. Noah Zogas' 7th grade class-room, saved enough electricity during the challenge to power a home for two months. The top three teams were from Goldenview Middle School.

#### 1st Place:

Team Zogawatt - 7th grade

#### 2nd Place:

Watts Going Down - 8th grade

#### 3rd Place:

Electric Sliders - 8th grade

The Chugach Outlet

A Publication of Chugach Electric Association, Inc. 5601 Electron Drive • P.O. Box 196300 • Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6300

	Monthly residential service cost (based on 650 kwh)	S
	Customer charge/month	\$ 8.00
	Energy charge \$0.09432 x kwh =	\$61.31
	Fuel \$0.04564 x kwh =	\$29.67
	Purchased power \$0.00537 x kwh =	\$3.49
	FIW renewable energy adj. \$0.00146 x kwh =	\$0.95
	(Fuel, Purchased power and FIW renewable energy adjustment factors effective Apr. 1, 2014, subject to Regulatory Commission of Alaska approval )	
	Subtotal	103.42
	2% MOA Undergrounding Charge =	\$ 2.07
	Regulatory Cost Charge \$0.000578 x kwh =	\$ 0.38
ly priced energy	Total bill	\$105.87

#### $\textbf{\textit{Corporate Mission:}} \ \ \textbf{Through superior service, safely provide reliable and competitively priced energy.}$

**Corporate vision:** Powering Alaska's future

Contact us

Main number

Member Services Member Services fax

24-hour payment line

Power theft hotline

Danger tree hotline

Street light hotline

Underground locates

**Regulatory Commission of AK** 

To report a power outage In Anchorage

**Outside Anchorage** 

Hours

Toll free

Credit

**Personnel policy:** It is a policy of Chugach Electric Association, Inc., to recruit, hire, train, compensate and promote persons without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, disability, veterans status, age or any other classification protected by applicable federal, state, or local law. Chugach is also an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Current openings are posted on the employment page at http://chugachelectricapplicantpro.com. Chugach only accepts applications for open vacancies.

## Member number

Find your member number {in brackets} in the Outlet and get a \$100 credit on your electric bill. Call Chugach's service center at 563-7366 to claim your prize.

