# **GVEA and the Railbelt:**

# **An Overview and Where We Are Today**

# March 7, 2024 By Gary Newman, GVEA Director District 4

## **On Cooperatives**

- Seven Cooperative Principles
- Organizational Structure
- Bylaws and Article of Incorporation as 501(c)12
- Mission and Vision
- Values
- Policies
- <u>Duties of Directors</u> Fiduciary, Strategic Direction, Oversee CEO
  - o Balance Risk and Reward with due diligence
- Director Education
  - o NRECA National Rural Electric Cooperative Association
  - Board Acronym List
  - o Member Advisory Committee the MAC

## **GVEA History**

- o History to 2018
- o Fast Facts 2022

#### **Running GVEA**

- Financial 3 legged stool of Debt, Equity and Capital Credits
  - Financial overview for 2022
  - o 2016 Form 7 Example
  - o Capital Credits
  - Setting Rates
- Strategic
  - o Strategic Directives
  - o Strategic Generation Plan
- Operational Engineering, Power Supply, Transmission, Outside Plant, Dispatch, <u>Environmental</u>, Member Services, Financial, Executive.
- <u>Communication</u> including <u>social media</u> and <u>Youtube</u>
- Governance (see Policies)
- Regulatory
  - o GVEA is economically regulated
  - Principle of cost causer-cost payer
- Member Resources and more. "My Account" access to bills and usage analysis. Outage map.
- Engagement with state and federal entities on Utility Issues
  - o Recent white paper to Interior legislators
  - A glossary of players in the Railbelt world (from 2022, needing update)

## **GVEA's Future**

- <u>Strategic Directives</u>
- Strategic Generation Plan
- Federal funding
- Long Duration Thermal Storage Westinghouse 4-24 hours +-
- Other technologies Distributed Energy Resources, Beneficial Electrification, EVs, heat pumps, enhanced efficiencies
- Nenana Solar Farm 16 mw (nameplate) by Renewable IPP proposal

#### **Railbelt Transmission**

- Studies (including generation)
  - o Alaska Railbelt Regional Integrated Resource Plan Study RIRP 2010
  - So many more over the decades
- Generation and transmission infrastructure 2021
- Railbelt Transmission Grid North and South with improvements needed.
- Federal funding AEA GRIP 206.5 mm with equal match for HVDC Nikiski to Beluga
- <u>Bradley Lake Project Management</u> Committee history, funding, projects
- Integrated Railbelt Transmission <u>AESTF</u> top recommendation, <u>SB 257</u> and others
- Long term Roadbelt

## **Railbelt Generation**

- Southcentral Alaska natural gas constraints Report June 2023
- Railbelt utilities direction is for fewer operational responsibilities and more Power Purchase Agreements
- Big projects too big for any single utility. Need state, federal, and independent power producers.
  - o Brian Hickey Presentation to House Energy Feb. 2023
- <u>Dixon Diversion</u> for Bradley Lake increased storage TBD, perhaps by 2030.
- Renewable Portfolio Standard, Clean Energy Standard proposed legislation in Alaska Legislature.
- <u>Susitna-Watana Dam</u> \$8-9 billion (my guess, 2014 was \$5.9 billion) 600 mw. Needs another \$100-150 mm to finish studies in order submit application to FERC.
- Gas line from Prudhoe Bay \$10+ billion for just in-state. The latest saga estimated with export \$43 billion. Hold your breath.
- Other potentials
- Too far out for current consideration/not commercially available.
  - o Nuclear (micro is a misnomer), tidal, geothermal, carbon capture, hydrogen, add your own.
  - Others too whack to consider any more Rampart Dam (1954-1980), add your own