

Rate case moving forward

The rate case filed by Chugach at the end of June is moving forward with the Regulatory Commission of Alaska (RCA). The RCA has officially opened a docket to review the rate filing by Chugach which, if approved, would result in an overall system average increase to member total bills of 5.8%. The RCA also approved Chugach's request for an interim and refundable rate adjustment effective Sept. 1, 2023, increasing member total bills by 3.6% on a system average basis,

with the balance of the increase expected in September 2024. If the final, approved retail increase is lower than the interim increase, Chugach will refund the difference, with interest, to its members.

When Chugach purchased Municipal Light & Power (ML&P) in October 2020, the RCA required the utility to file a rate case in 2023 to combine the rates of the customer classes regardless of geographic location. Since the acquisition closed nearly three years ago, there have been separate rates for the Chugach

legacy members and the former customers of ML&P.

The base rates of ML&P legacy customers have not been adjusted since 2017, and the Chugach legacy members' base rates have not been adjusted since 2020. As a comparison, inflation in Southcentral Alaska has risen by 18% since 2017 and 14% since 2020. Without the realized savings from the acquisition of ML&P, the projected increase would be in double digits. More information is available at chugachelectric.com/rate-case.

Study supports importing LNG to fill gas supply gap

As Chugach continues to investigate options for how to address upcoming shortages in natural gas supplies from Cook Inlet, a new report supports importing liquified natural gas as a near-term, cost-effective way to address the anticipated gas shortfall.

In a filing with the Regulatory Commission of Alaska, Chugach included the findings of the Black and Veatch Phase 1 Study looking at options for filling the gas supply gap. The report suggests that imported LNG could be competitive with prices of future Cook Inlet gas. It's similar to the findings of a recent report, supported by the Railbelt utilities from the Berkeley Research Group, which found additional gas supplies will be needed to offset the projected decline in Cook Inlet gas production.

Earlier this year, the Alaska Department of Natural Resources issued its Cook Inlet Gas Forecast, identifying shortfalls in projected Cook Inlet natural gas production beginning in 2027, with supply and demand imbalances

increasing each year thereafter. With a two-thirds ownership in the Beluga River gas field, Chugach's gas requirements are fully met through the first quarter of 2028, and the utility is taking a multi-faceted approach in evaluating options to ensure long-term generation requirements are met. While Chugach's reliance on natural gas is expected to decline as new clean energy resources are added to its generation portfolio, natural gas will remain an integral part of its power supply.

Phase 2 of the Black & Veatch study, expected to be completed by the end of the year, will further investigate the costs, timing, and viability of LNG options.



A drilling rig at the Beluga River gas field in Cook Inlet.

Get involved with your utility

Chugach is looking for members interested in serving on its 2024 Bylaws, Election, and Nominating committees. These committees are an excellent opportunity to get involved with your electric cooperative.

- **Bylaws:** reviews bylaws and considers recommended revisions
- **Election:** responsible for ensuring a fair election
- **Nominating:** screens potential board candidates

Applications are available at chugachelectric.com/media/annual-meeting and must be received by 5 p.m., Monday, Nov. 6. For questions, call (907) 762-

Join us for an EV forum



Chugach will be celebrating National Drive Electric Week

with a forum on electric vehicles at the Anchorage Museum. Join a panel of EV experts from Chugach, Launch Alaska, Alaska Center for Energy and Power, and Alaska Energy Authority to discuss home and public charging, incentives, electric bill impact and gas savings, driving experience, and infrastructure plans in Alaska. Join us for this **free event on Friday, Sept. 29, from 6:30–8 p.m.** by registering at bit.ly/ChugachDriveElectric2023.

Save the date for October energy efficiency events

October is National Cooperative and Energy Awareness month. Chugach is ready to celebrate with you!



Efficient Fridays: Visit us in the Member Services lobby at 5601 Electron Drive from 10:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m., any Friday in October. Members will have an opportunity to learn more about electric vehicles, renewable energy, beneficial electrification, and Chugach's commitment to sustainability. {1198869}

In preparation for the colder months, we'll provide energy saving tips including ideas to prepare your home for winter. Members can also learn ways to leverage My Account to detect high consumption early and closely monitor energy consumption. For those who want to know exactly how much energy appliances are using, Kill-A-Watt meters will be available to check out, free of charge. We look forward to providing ways for our members to control their energy consumption by increasing efficiency.

Home Energy Efficiency Webinar: Join us Oct. 26 from 6–7 p.m. to learn how to monitor and manage your electric use and get information on resources and incentive programs. To register: bit.ly/ChugachWorkshopOct2023



From Engineering to Operations to Member Services, all of Chugach's roughly 460 employees live and work in Alaska.

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

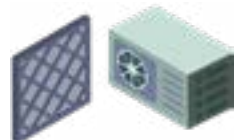


Name: Candace Strandberg
Position: HR Personnel Asst.
Time at Chugach: 1 year

Candace says with so many unknowns, event coordinating is a challenging but fun part of her job. Working in HR, she enjoys interacting with employees daily and meeting new people on a regular basis.



Is your home heating system



ready for winter? One easy way to keep it running efficiently is to regularly replace filters. If your central air system has a filter, it should be replaced about every 90 days. If your home is heated through warm-air registers, baseboard heaters or radiators, clean them regularly to boost efficiency.



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.