
ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
1577 "C" Street, Suite 300 – Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 274-3611 Fax: (907) 276-7989

June 23, 2008

The Honorable Lyda Green, President
Alaska State Senate
Room 111, State Capitol Bldg.
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
via Fax: 907-465-3805

The Honorable John Harris, Speaker
Alaska House of Representatives
Room 208, State Capitol Bldg.
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
via Fax: 907-465-3799

Dear Senator Green and Representative Harris:

I am writing to request a meeting with you on behalf of the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN), to discuss proposals that can be enacted during the upcoming Special Session to deal with the energy crisis. At its May Board meeting in Anchorage, AFN adopted the attached resolution calling on the Governor and the Alaska legislature to adopt a long-term energy policy for the State that covers all regions of the Alaska. Such a plan should have as its overall goal the equalization of energy costs for all Alaskans. It must also provide additional funding for long-term development of alternative energy resources and conservation efforts and provide immediate relief through measures that will help individuals deal with the rising cost of energy. With those goals in mind, AFN has developed a number of ideas for addressing the current crisis and for developing long-term programs/projects that will lessen our dependence on fossil fuel. Our top five recommendations are as follows:

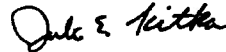
1. Strengthen the Power Cost Equalization Program by fine-tuning its mission, adding more resources and expanding the eligibility requirements;
2. Buy down debt of rural utilities in order to reduce costs passed on to consumers and include a price cap on fuel stock purchased prospectively, with a mechanism for reimbursement from the State for costs in excess of the cap;
3. Expand and support bulk fuel purchasing, transportation and cooperative purchase agreements and contribute to the Denali Commission bulk fuel storage program in an effort to eliminate the storage tank backlog and complete rural upgrades;

4. Provide a family fuel subsidy to help meet the immediate crisis; and
5. Make a sizeable investment in projects that promote renewable/alternative energy and conservation efforts. The high cost of fossil fuel is not going to go away, so we need to start investing in alternative/renewable energy and in energy conservation efforts.

I, along with members of our Energy Workgroup, would appreciate an opportunity to sit down with you in the coming weeks to discuss these recommendations. Please let me or my Secretary, Judy Jaworski, 274-3611, know if there is a time that we can meet with you before the July 4th holiday

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Julie Kitka,
President

Cc: Representative Mary Nelson, Co-Chair, Bush Caucus
Representative Albert Kookesh, Co-Chair, Bush Caucus

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June 23, 2008

The Honorable Sarah Palin
Governor of the State of Alaska
P. O. Box 110001
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001
via Fax: 907-465-3532

Dear Governor Palin:

RE: Energy Crisis

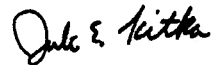
I am writing to request a meeting with you on behalf of the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN), to discuss proposals that can be enacted during the upcoming Special Session to deal with the energy crisis. At its May Board meeting in Anchorage, AFN adopted the attached resolution calling on your Administration and the Alaska legislature to adopt a long-term energy policy for the State that covers all regions of the Alaska. We strongly believe that such a plan should have as its overall goal the equalization of energy costs for all Alaskans. It must also provide additional funding for long-term development of alternative energy resources and conservation efforts, and provide immediate relief through measures that will help individuals, especially in rural Alaska, deal with the rising cost of energy. With those goals in mind, AFN has developed a number of ideas for addressing the current crisis and for developing long-term programs/projects that will lessen our dependence on fossil fuel. Our top five recommendations are as follows:

1. Strengthen the Power Cost Equalization Program by fine-tuning its mission, adding more resources and expanding the eligibility requirements;
2. Buy down debt of rural utilities in order to reduce costs passed on to consumers and include a price cap on fuel stock purchased prospectively, with a mechanism for reimbursement from the State for costs in excess of the cap;
3. Expand and support bulk fuel purchasing, transportation and cooperative purchase agreements and contribute to the Denali Commission bulk fuel storage program in an effort to eliminate the storage tank backlog and complete rural upgrades;
4. Provide a family fuel subsidy to help meet the immediate crisis; and
5. Make a sizeable investment in projects that promote renewable/alternative energy and conservation efforts. The high cost of fossil fuel is not going to go away, so we need to start investing in alternative/renewable energy and in energy conservation efforts.

I, along with members of AFN's Energy Workgroup, would appreciate an opportunity to sit down with you and those in your Administration who are working on the energy issue to discuss these recommendations. Please let me or my Secretary, Judy Jaworski, 274-3611, know if there is at time that we can meet with you in the coming weeks, hopefully before the July 4th holiday.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Julie Kitka,
President

Cc: Representative Mary Nelson, Co-Chair, Bush Caucus
Representative Albert Kookesh, Co-Chair, Bush Caucus
Ralph Anderson, Chair, AFN Energy Workgroup