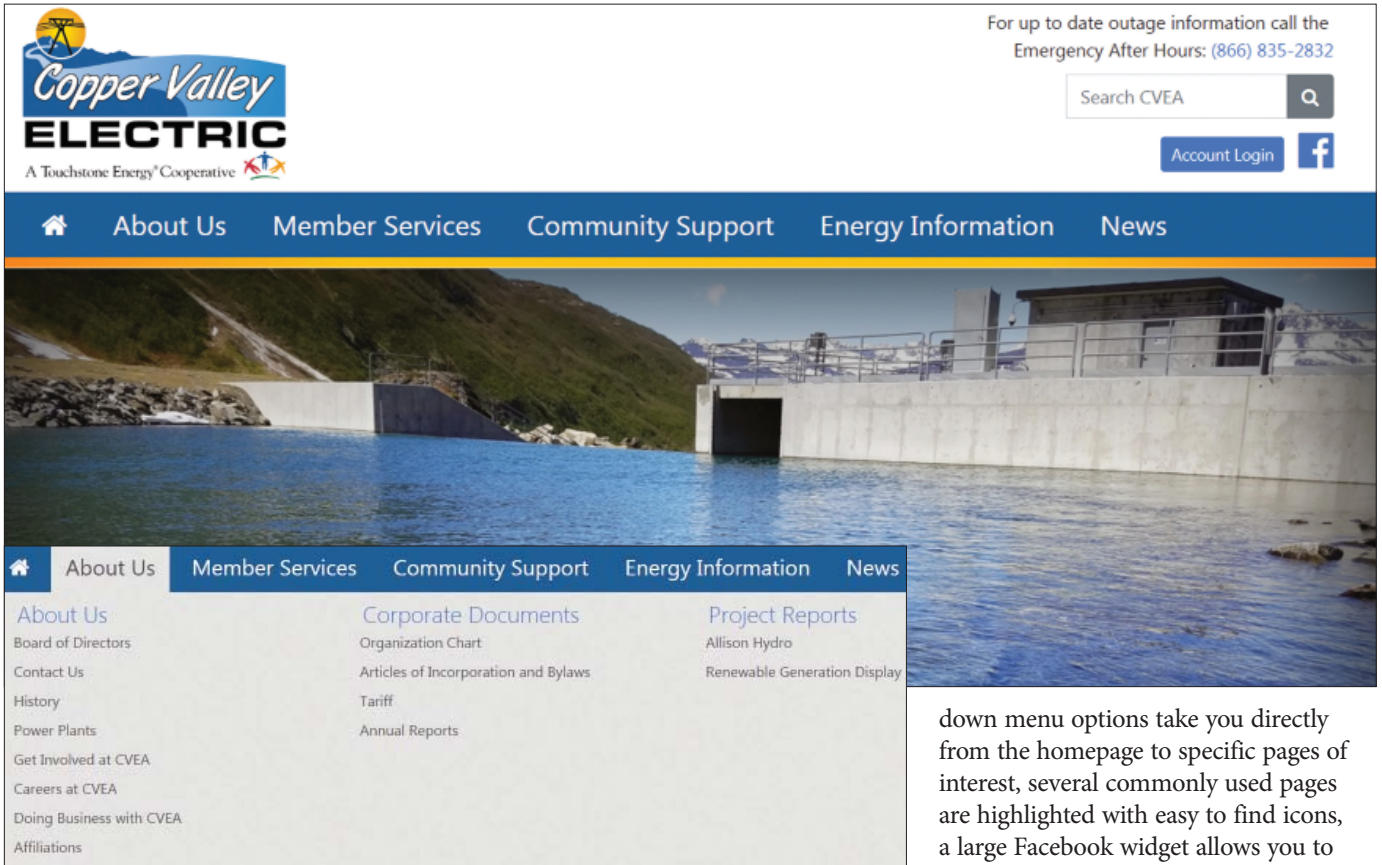


CVEA.ORG is Brand New and Better Than Ever



In an effort to continue improving communications with members, CVEA recently launched the newly updated cvea.org! The goal of the update was to provide users a more modern experience, a fresh, clean look, and vastly improved functionality. In addition, for the first time ever, cvea.org is now mobile friendly; allowing easy viewing and access through any mobile device or platform.

If you visited cvea.org in the past, you won't be disappointed with the changes; it is easier than ever to find what you are looking for. It has been reorganized with you, the user, in mind, and in most cases access to important information is now just a single click away.

For those of you who have never visited the Co-op's official website, there is no better time. CVEA.org is packed with

useful information, covering everything from new construction requirements to historical information, information on rates and fees, and educational scholarship applications, to name just a few. Visit the 'energy information' pages and learn the best way to save energy and manage your usage and your power bill. Also learn about service reliability, power disturbances, and safety.

Did you know you can access your account on cvea.org via SmartHub? SmartHub offers a variety of user-friendly features that make managing your account simple and straightforward; you'll be able to pay your bill, monitor your electric usage, contact customer service, and much more.

The home page at cvea.org now has one-click access to all things CVEA; drop

down menu options take you directly from the homepage to specific pages of interest, several commonly used pages are highlighted with easy to find icons, a large Facebook widget allows you to scroll current messages posted on the Cooperative's Facebook page even if you don't have a Facebook account, and there are featured stories, featured events, and important dates.

Other helpful features throughout the site include a monthly calendar with upcoming Co-op events, deadlines, and office closures, energy calculators to assist you in determining how much miscellaneous household appliances and personal care is costing you, slideshows of CVEA power plants, links to videos, historic Ruralite articles, annual reports, and a page dedicated to the Community Foundation.

The Co-op encourages members to save cvea.org as a favorite and visit often.

For additional information, email Sharon Scheidt, CVEA Director of Communications, at scheidt@cvea.org. ■



Shattering CVEA Hydroelectricity Records



Since 2013, CVEA has steadily increased hydropower generation, making it a bigger and growing part of the Co-op's generation portfolio. Another record was set in 2018, producing 65,996,900 kWhs of hydro, shattering previous hydro production records of nearly 57,500,000 kilowatt hours.

For the second year in a row, water was not the only thing flowing out of Allison Creek; benefits to the Membership also came rolling out of the project. Spring came late to the service territory and breakup was slow. Thankfully, Allison Creek came to the rescue providing an additional 6.5 megawatts of electricity. This enabled the Solomon Gulch Hydroelectric Project to run only one turbine in the spring and allow Solomon Lake to fill and prepare for summer generation requirements.

Throughout the summer, Allison Creek and Solomon Gulch worked in conjunction to supply all of CVEA's energy needs. According to CVEA COO Travis Million, "now in the Allison Creek project's second full year of operation, I believe we are starting to figure out the most efficient way to operate both of the plants together. This accounts for some of the increased

output." Increased summer loads accounted for a small amount of additional hydro production, and Mother Nature, of course, played a big role. For the first time in history, CVEA continued to generate with 100 percent hydropower into mid-December, extending summer generation by roughly two months.

Prior to Allison Creek, the reduction in available water for hydro generation typically forced CVEA to begin running the diesel or cogen plants mid October.

Although it is not a guarantee that summer generation will continue into December or that generation records will be broken every year, CVEA is pleased with the recordbreaking results in 2018. The Co-op will continue to work with local consumers and Mother Nature to use available water efficiently and maximize hydro benefits to members.

If you have questions on this topic, contact Sharon Scheidt at 907-822-5506, 907-835-7005, or email scheidt@cvea.org. If you are interested in details regarding either hydro project, visit cvea.org. ■

APA Readies for 2019 Legislative Session

By Michael Rovito

When the Alaska Legislature opened the 2019 session on January 15, legislators began a two-year meeting where Alaskans can expect to see hundreds of bills introduced on a variety of subjects.

Alaska Power Association, the statewide trade association for electric utilities, prepares for each legislative session by first agreeing with our members on the issues of importance to and how to address them with the legislature. Half education and half advocacy, being prepared with a unified message on behalf of the industry is a core strength of APA.

For the 2019 session, APA has identified a series of policy positions that will inform our advocacy in Juneau.

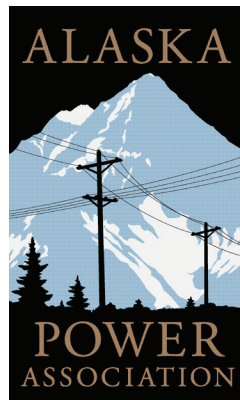
Electric utilities provide a crucial essential service to Alaskans. APA's mission is to assist our members in accomplishing their goals of delivering electric energy and other services at the best value to their consumers.

One of APA's policy positions focuses on renewables. Alaska's electric utilities are leaders in integrating renewables into their generation portfolios. Successful integration of renewables without raising electric rates on Alaskans relies on decisions made at the utility level without government mandates. Many utilities in the state have already set internal goals for renewable generation. They continue working toward those goals.

The state Legislature can help Alaskans by providing funding for the list of renewable energy projects recommended by the Alaska Energy Authority for funding under the Renewable Energy Fund program. APA also supports funding for the Emerging Energy Technology Fund that assists with the research, development and application of alternative energy sources into the Alaska electric utility generation portfolio.

APA keeps an eye on proposed and existing regulations that could increase costs on consumers or impeded the safe and reliable operation of the electric systems. APA's policy position says the Alaska Legislature and executive administration should reject bills and regulations that increase costs to Alaskans without commensurate benefits to the state. Any legislation or proposed regulations should garner electric utility industry feedback before proceeding, since only the utilities providing power in the state can accurately account for the impact on Alaskans' electric rates. Bills or regulations seeking to use punishment or taxation to compel utility behavior are harmful to Alaskans and should not be enacted.

Funding of electric utility projects that benefit consumers



through increased reliability and resiliency can be an opportunity to partner with the state on innovative financing models. APA urges the legislature's continued support of innovative financing mechanisms for funding electric energy projects. The state of Alaska's investments in electric energy development have provided long-term benefits for many communities. For example, in the successful Bradley Lake Hydroelectric Project financing model, construction was funded by a combination of bonds and state investment through appropriations. Project participants provide security for repaying the bonds by committing to buy the power generated by the project through a power

sales agreement.

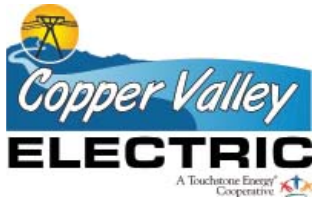
Once the bonds for a project are paid off, the state should give serious consideration to divesting from the asset and turning it over to the electric utilities that benefit from its generation for ownership and operation.

The Power Cost Equalization program is addressed in APA's positions. The PCE program is funded from an endowment fund. The program and fund are vitally important to Alaskans who receive PCE. APA supports preserving and maintaining the PCE endowment and the PCE program, which is a lifeline program that makes it feasible for rural Alaskans to have access to affordable electric power. APA urges the Legislature to fund PCE from PCE endowment earnings at 100 percent for FY 2020.

APA's policy positions also address efforts among Railbelt utilities to implement efficiencies. Alaska's Railbelt electric utilities have been working collaboratively to identify and implement new approaches that will bring about more efficiencies and benefits to consumers. Substantial progress already has been made on economic dispatch, system planning and efficient generation.

The legislature has helped these efforts by creating an environment whereby the Railbelt electric utilities can work independent of any state mandates. This has contributed to the Railbelt electric utilities' ability to craft solutions that provide the greatest benefits to consumers. The Railbelt electric utilities have also made regular reports to the Regulatory Commission of Alaska, which has weighed in with its analysis as well. Going forward, the Railbelt electric utilities should be encouraged to continue their efforts voluntarily to maximize efficiency in the Railbelt in a self-directed manner.

Each legislative session is different, but APA will be there throughout as the unified voice of Alaska's electric utility industry. ■



Winter Reminders from Your Electric Cooperative

Keep Your Electric Meter Clear

Many probably never notice their electric meter. It sits silently turning, measuring the amount of electricity a home or business consumes. Because members rarely have to worry about their meter, it can be easily forgotten.

The team at CVEA does think about meters on a daily basis because it is the link between a member's home or business and the utility. This is why it is crucial CVEA has access to all meters at all times, including the new automated meters that were deployed in the Valdez District in 2018.

Meters are placed in a variety of locations around a home or business, so the next time you walk around your property, take the time to find out exactly where your meter is.

Be aware the meter should be easily accessible by CVEA employees. This means an authorized staff member should be able to clearly reach the meter and see the numbers when standing next to it.

In winter, when snow levels get high, many obstacles prevent access to meters.

Here is a list of common winter obstacles and how you can help CVEA staff do their best to serve you:

- Snow and ice can obstruct the path to the meter; when removing snow, keep in mind a path to the meter must be kept clear
- Keep firewood piles away from the meter, if you must pile wood in the vicinity of your meter, ensure the view is unobstructed
- If your meter is located behind a gate or fence, make sure access is not impaired by snow or ice
- Keep pets away from the immediate



area, pets should never be chained or housed next to the meter, please contact CVEA if your pet poses a hazard or other concern

- Store seasonal items away from the meter

Following these simple suggestions helps CVEA to be more efficient when doing work that involves the meter.

If circumstances beyond the Cooperative's control make access to your meter dangerous or impractical for a meter reader, CVEA will send a bill based

on estimated usage considering, where applicable, the consumer's usage during the same month of the previous year or the amount of usage during the preceding month or months.

For those whose meters have not yet been switched out to an automated meter, keeping your meter clear and obstacle free will ensure the CVEA meter reader is able to take a precise read, providing you with the best possible service.



Moving Snow Safely

CVEA would like to remind everyone involved in snow removal, whether commercial or residential, to be aware of the dangers associated with piling snow on, under, or near CVEA equipment, lines, and facilities.

State of Alaska statutes prohibit any equipment from operating within 10 feet of an overhead electrical line. The 10-foot rule includes the highest point of the equipment being used and includes people on the ground, on a snow bank, or on the equipment. When snow is pushed under or near CVEA electrical lines, it creates a potential hazard for the equipment operator and general public. CVEA asks all snow removal equipment operators to keep in mind the 10-foot rule when pushing and piling snow.

Snowfall often obscures electrical equipment located directly on the ground and identified with snow markers. Make sure you are aware of the location of this equipment when moving snow. If you are unsure, please contact CVEA at the numbers herein.

Do not push snow against or pile snow on top of any electrical equipment. The force of the moving snow may cause damage to the equipment and create electrical hazards. This may also compromise reliability of the system due to the barrier created when access to the equipment becomes necessary.

If you come into contact with the equipment and your vehicle or equipment becomes entangled, a hazard-

ous condition may exist. Please do not attempt to free your vehicle or equipment and do not exit your vehicle unless a more hazardous condition exists inside the vehicle or equipment. If it is necessary to exit your vehicle, jump away from your vehicle ensuring you do not come into contact with your vehicle and the ground at the same time. Call CVEA immediately.

CVEA asks everyone to keep an eye out for potential electrical hazards, including heavy snow and ice buildup on powerlines. Never approach or make contact with an electrical line or damaged equipment. If you see a hazardous situation, please contact CVEA immediately at 822-3211 or 835-4301. To report something after hours, please call 866-835-2832.

Cold Weather Vehicle Safety

Driving in the winter means snow and ice can lead to slower traffic, hazardous road conditions, hot tempers and unforeseen dangers. To help you make it safely through winter, here are some suggestions from the National Safety Council to make sure that you and your vehicle are prepared.

Weather affects road and driving conditions and can pose serious problems. It is important to listen to forecasts on radio, TV, cable weather channel, or in the daily papers.

An emergency situation on the road can arise at any time and you must be prepared.

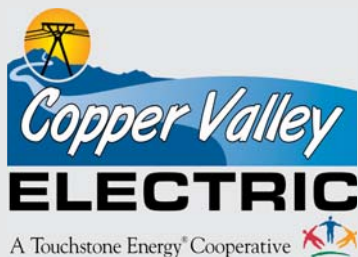
Along with a tuneup, a full tank of gas, and fresh anti-freeze, your trunk should carry a properly inflated spare tire, wheel wrench and tripod-type jack, a shovel, jumper cables, tow and tire chains, a bag of salt or cat litter, and a tool kit.

Be prepared with a “survival kit” that should always remain in the car, and remember to replenish after use. Essential supplies include a working flashlight and extra batteries, reflective triangles and brightly-colored cloth, compass, first aid kit, exterior windshield cleaner, ice scraper and snow brush, wooden stick matches in a waterproof container, scissors and string/cord, non-perishable, high energy foods like unsalted canned nuts, dried fruits, and hard candy.

In addition, if you are driving long distances under cold, snowy, and icy conditions, you should also carry supplies to keep you warm, such as a heavy coat, heavy woolen mittens, boots, socks, a cap, and blankets.

If you become stranded, do not leave your car unless you know exactly where you are, how far it is to possible help, and are certain you will improve your situation.

For more information, visit nsc.org. ■



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Glennallen, AK 99588
www.cvea.org

Copper Basin District

907-822-3211
907-822-5586 (fax)
Mile 187 Glenn Hwy.

Valdez District

907-835-4301
907-835-4328 (fax)
367 Fairbanks Dr.

After hours outage line

866-835-2832

Important Dates

February

Director Nomination Deadline: Thursday, February 14, 2019, prior to 6 p.m.

CVEA Offices Closed:

The CVEA offices will be closed Monday, February 18, 2019, for President's Day

CVEA Board Meeting: The February meeting of the Board of Directors is 1 p.m. Thursday, February 21, 2019, in Glennallen

Scholarship Application Deadline: Thursday, February 21, 2019, prior to 6 p.m.

March

CVEA Board Meeting: The March meeting of the Board of Directors is 1 p.m. Thursday, March 21, 2019, in Valdez

AK-34

Save the Date! 2019 Annual Meeting

Copper Basin: Tuesday, April 30
Valdez: Thursday, May 2

Help Wanted

Credentials & Election Committees

Credentials & Election (C&E) Committees are responsible for validating signatures on the back of director election ballot envelopes and counting the ballots for Director elections and Bylaws amendments.

The committees, one for each district, are comprised of interested members who are not employees, directors, candidates, or close relatives of these persons.

Service on the C&E Committees will take place during April, with most of the work performed the week prior to the meeting.

CVEA Community Foundation Scholarship Selection Committees

CVEACF Scholarship Selection Committees review scholarship application packets, determine which students to interview, conduct the interviews and select who will receive the scholarships being offered this year.

Participation on the committees requires attending three or four meetings as well as time for reviewing and scoring applications, and is estimated to take up to 10 hours.

If you would like more information, or would like to volunteer for either of these opportunities to serve, please contact Sharon Crisp at 822-5506, 835-7005, or email crisp@cvea.org. The committee volunteer deadline is Tuesday, February 19, 2019.



#cveacelebrates60