



# Copper Valley Electric

**Mission:** To provide exceptional service through safe, reliable, cost-effective electric service and programs

## ABOUT US

- 45 Alaskan employees
- CVEA is not connected to a grid; we generate and transmit our own power from five power plants
- The Co-op serves approximately 23,000 square miles of Alaska, roughly the size of West Virginia
  - Service to over 260 miles of highways including the Richardson, Glenn, and Edgerton
  - Over 540 miles of distribution and transmission lines
  - 9 substations
  - 40 megawatts of generating capacity
  - Density of 7 consumers per mile
- CVEA does not receive the State of Alaska rural subsidy - Power Cost Equalization (PCE)
- CVEA is locally regulated by an elected Board of Directors
- CVEA experiences extremely low temperatures in the Copper Basin and extremely high amounts of snowfall in Valdez

## HOW CVEA PRODUCES POWER

- CVEA produces electricity at five power plants subject to seasonal and contractual requirements
- During the summer season, typically June through October, the Solomon Gulch and Allison Creek Hydroelectric projects carry the system load
- During the winter months, on average, as much as 72 percent of system requirements are generated with fuel

## HOW CVEA RATES COMPARE

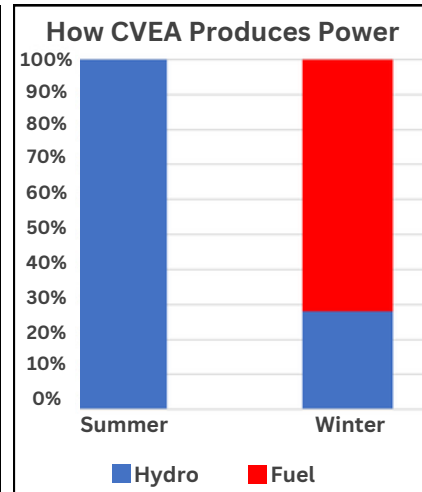
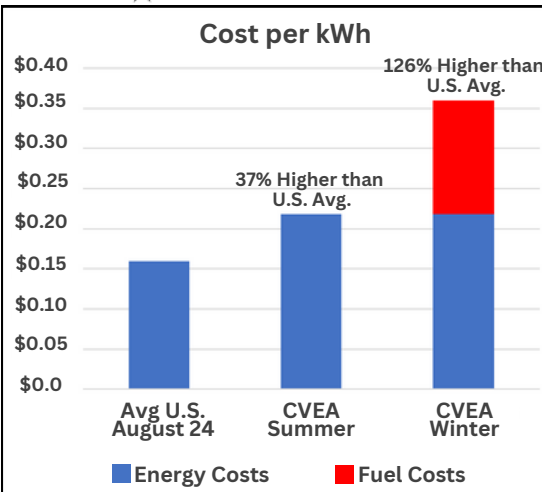
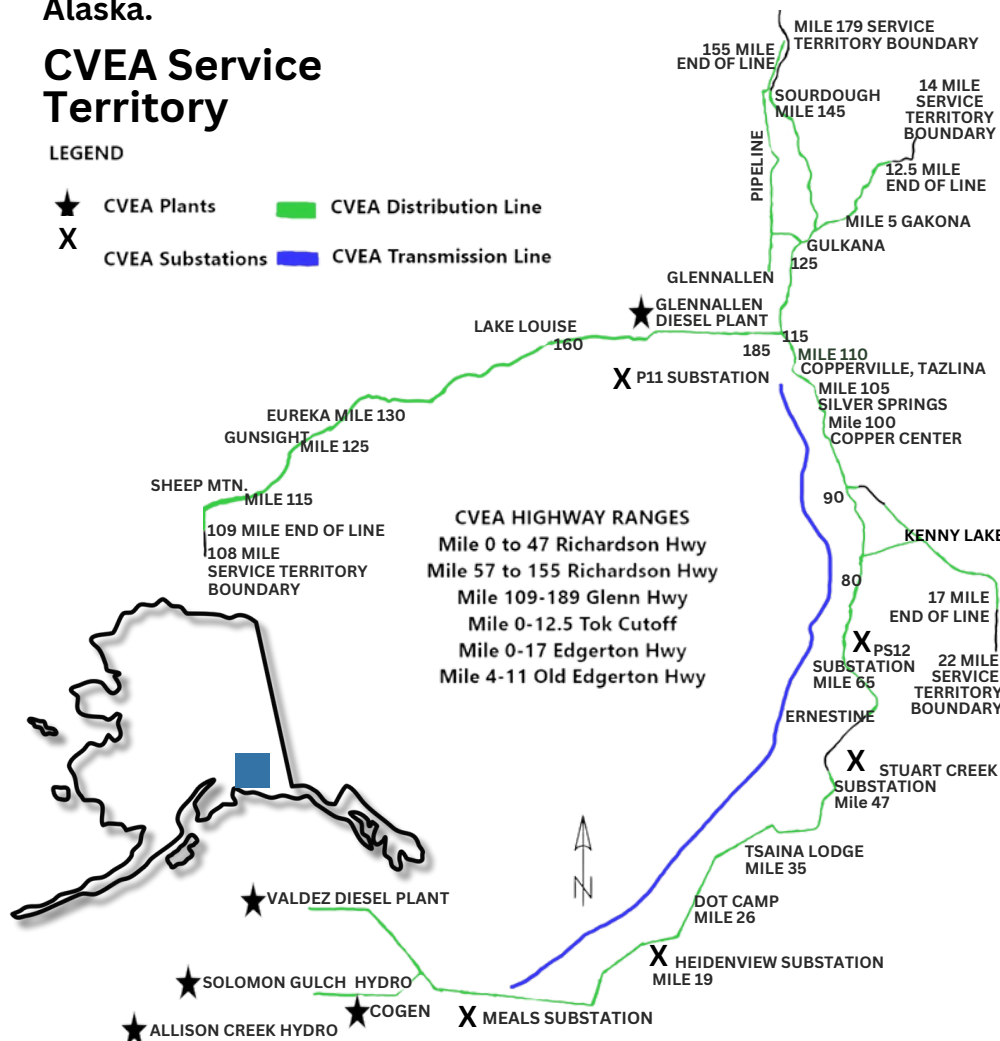
- As a nonprofit providing power at cost, high electric rates are a significant concern to CVEA
- With seasonal generation, electric rates are significantly higher in the winter
- The cost to generate and transmit power to CVEA members is 75 percent of CVEA costs
- CVEA's average winter electric bill is 126 percent higher than the US average (\$180 vs \$80)

**A cooperative providing electric service to roughly 2,800 residential and commercial members with over 4,000 meters within the Copper River Basin and Valdez regions of Alaska.**

## CVEA Service Territory

### LEGEND

- ★ CVEA Plants
- X CVEA Substations
- CVEA Distribution Line
- CVEA Transmission Line



# Copper Valley Electric

## BIGGEST ISSUES FACING COPPER VALLEY ELECTRIC

- High Fuel Prices Equals High Winter Rates
- Aging Infrastructure
- Cost of Regulation - Over \$1 million is spent annually on environmental and regulatory requirements; an average of two residential electric bills go towards the cost of regulation

## NEW & FUTURE ENDEAVORS

### Recently Completed:

- Implementation of 5-Year Rate Structure, 2023-2028 (Goal - Investment in aging infrastructure)
- Interconnection to the Alyeska Valdez Marine Terminal (VMT) - To be completed in 2025 (Goal - Lowering overall fuel costs for members)
- Significant upgrades to power lines and structures - Ongoing (Goal - Improved system reliability)
- Cogeneration Plant Overhaul - Completed 2024 (Goal - Improved system reliability)
- Aggressive right-of-way clearing program - Ongoing (Goal - Improved system reliability)

### On the Horizon:

- Evaluating VMT impacts in pursuit of raising the Solomon Gulch dam - Project evaluation 2025 (Goal - Lower winter rates for members)
- Update the CVEA Strategic Issues Paper to evaluate generation potential within the service territory - 2025 (Goal - Improved system reliability and lowering overall fuel costs for members)



## CVEA SUPPORTS EFFORTS TO:

- Address the problem of **high fuel costs**
- Reduce the number and cost of **burdensome regulations**
- Develop infrastructure in Alaska and **strengthen** the energy grid
  - **Interconnection to the Railbelt Grid**
- Support **hydroelectricity** as a renewable energy source
- Support the development of **nuclear** energy in Alaska
- **Shield utilities from liability** for damage caused by vegetation outside of a utility's right-of-way

## SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITIES



- The CVEA Community Foundation awards thousands of dollars in educational and leadership scholarships to students each year
- The Foundation contributes annually to nonprofit organizations with educational, scientific, or charitable missions - over \$30,000 in contributions in 2024
- The Cooperative participates and contributes to charitable regional events
- Promotes electrical education and safety for the schools and public
- Employees are active members of their communities

## MAJOR CVEA CONSUMERS

- 48 U.S. government meters
- 68 Alaska government meters
- 67 Valdez government meters
- 23 Alaska Native tribe meters
- Alyeska Pipeline Service Company
- Copper River School District
- Valdez School District
- Department of Transportation
- UAF (High Active Auroral Research Project)
- Petrostar Refinery
- Providence Valdez Medical Center
- Safeway Foods
- Silver Bay Seafoods
- United States Coast Guard

## CONTACT US


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