



# Copper Valley Electric Association, Inc.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Copper Valley Electric Receives \$3.5 Million in Appropriations**

Copper Valley Electric Association is very pleased to be included in the capital budget that was signed into law by the Governor on May 23, 2008. CVEA will receive \$3.5 million in appropriations to fund three important projects.

- \$2 million will fund the Glennallen plant upgrade which will improve reliability for the Copper Basin and provide more efficient diesel generation for the entire system.
- \$1 million will be used to prepare a license application for the Allison Lake hydro project which will move us one step closer to reducing our dependence on fossil fuel.
- \$500,000 will upgrade the Valdez substation, replacing a piece of equipment that is critical for providing power to the downtown distribution system in Valdez.

While this funding does not mean that rates will not have to be adjusted in the future, it does mean that members won't have to pay for these projects through CVEA rates and that's good news for everyone.

CVEA is confident that these appropriations remained in the budget, in part, due to the efforts of the membership. After the budget was sent to the Governor, CVEA encouraged members to show their support for the projects. Members from all communities within the CVEA service territory signed petitions, wrote letters, called, and sent emails to the Governor's office. In total, the Governor's office received approximately 1,000 communications. Sharon Crisp, CVEA Director of Communications, stated, "We would like to thank everyone who participated. This effort exemplified the Cooperative spirit and we believe that the CVEA membership was heard."

A fourth request, \$1.5 million to reimburse the co-op for money spent years ago evaluating a transmission line connection to the Railbelt Grid, was not funded. CVEA intended to use these funds to pursue non-fuel power generation projects and to construct system improvements. CVEA is hopeful this funding will be considered in future budget requests.

If you have any questions regarding this or any CVEA issue, please contact Sharon Crisp at 835-7005, 822-5506 or email [crisp@cvea.org](mailto:crisp@cvea.org)