

APA Federal Legislative Trip Overview

June 10, 2026

CEO Jaime Matthews recently travelled to Washington D.C. to attend the Alaska Power Association (APA) Federal Legislative Conference. During this conference, CEO Matthews had the opportunity to visit with and hear from Natural Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), National Hydropower Association (NHA), American Public Power Association, Federal Energy Regulatory Authority (FERC), Department of Energy (DOE), Rural Utilities Service (RUS), and staff members from Senator Sullivan and Senator Murkowski's offices.

CEO Matthews had the opportunity to work towards one of our cooperative's strategic goals of advocating for our Members by hitting the highlights about the regulation and cost struggles of providing power to rural Alaska. The highlights included:

- The cost of regulation: 2 out of 12 electric bills paying for federal regulation, mostly FERC
- Our Solomon Gulch re-licensing efforts taking 8 years and over \$1.5 million
- Having 12 pending items with FERC with an average of 2 years behind

Overall, CEO Matthews found herself in Washington D.C. at a great time. The Flows Act, a bill that would allow FERC licensed utilities to do basic maintenance without approval is a pending document that should be submitted soon. The Hydropower Relicensing Transparency Act, which would require FERC to annually submit a report on all relicensing efforts passed the House and is awaiting action by the Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee. Additionally, CEO Matthews learned that 242 and 247 hydro funding is going to be pushed through. CVEA has benefited from the 242 incentive funding in the past, and will submit the required paperwork when this funding opens.

CEO Matthews will continue to advocate for our membership at the upcoming Alaska utility and FERC meeting with Senator Dan Sullivan on Thursday, June 11.

Questions?

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