December 29, 2011

Ms. Kimberly Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20426

RE: Alaska Energy Authority
    Susitna-Watana Hydroelectric Project No. 14241
    Notice of Intent and Pre-Application Document

Dear Secretary Bose:

The Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) hereby files electronically its: (1) Notification of Intent to File an Application for Original License and Request for Designation as Non-Federal Representative and for Authorization to Initiate Consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NOI); and (2) Pre-Application Document (PAD), for the Susitna-Watana Hydroelectric Project No. 14241. Pursuant to 18 C.F.R. §§ 5.5(c) and 5.6(a), these documents are also being distributed to resource agencies, Alaska Native entities, local governments, and members of the public likely to be affected by or interested in the proposed project.

This filing consists of two volumes:

- Volume I (Notification of Intent and Pre-Application Document)
- Volume II (Pre-Application Document Appendices)

Pursuant to 18 C.F.R. § 5.3(d)(2), notice of this filing is being published in the Anchorage Daily News, Alaska Journal of Commerce, Fairbanks Daily News Miner, Mat-Su Valley Frontiersman, and Homer News, newspapers of general circulation in the project region. AEA will shortly file a copy of said notices with the Commission.

AEA looks forward to working with the Commission, other federal and state agencies, Alaska Native entities, local governments, and members of the public to timely develop a license application and supporting record that fully serves the needs of all agencies with
Ms. Kimberly Bose, FERC  
December 29, 2011  
Page 2  

permitting authority for the Project. If you have any questions, please contact Wayne Dyok, Project Manager, at (916) 719-7022 or wdyok@aidea.org.

Sincerely,

ALASKA ENERGY AUTHORITY

[Signature]

Sara Fisher-Goad  
Executive Director

Enclosures

cc: Douglas Johnson, FERC Portland Regional Office  
Department of the Interior, Office of Environmental Affairs -Washington, D.C.  
FERC Division of Hydropower Licensing  
Bureau of Land Management, Alaska State Office  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Anchorage District  
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<tr>
<td>Elijah Waters, Acting Field Manager</td>
<td>U.S. Department of Interior; Bureau of Land Management</td>
<td>P.O. Box 147</td>
<td>Mile Post 186.5 Glenn Hwy.</td>
<td>Glennallen, AK 99588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Jangala</td>
<td>U.S. Department of Interior; Bureau of Land Management</td>
<td>P.O. Box 147</td>
<td>Mile Post 186.5 Glenn Hwy.</td>
<td>Glennallen, AK 99588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pamela Bergmann,</td>
<td>Regional Environmental Officer</td>
<td>U.S. Department of Interior; Environmental Policy and Compliance</td>
<td>1689 C Street, Room 119</td>
<td>Anchorage, AK 99501-5126</td>
</tr>
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### DISTRIBUTION LIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michael Buntjer</td>
<td>Conservation Planning Assistance Brand Chief</td>
<td>U.S. Department of Interior; Fish and Wildlife Service</td>
<td>605 West 4th Street, Room G-61, Anchorage, AK 99501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Enriquez</td>
<td>U.S. Department of Interior; Fish and Wildlife Service</td>
<td>3000 Vintage Boulevard, Suite 201, Juneau, AK 99801</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ann Rappoport, Field Supervisor</td>
<td>U.S. Department of Interior; Fish and Wildlife Service</td>
<td>605 West 4th Street, Room G-61, Anchorage, AK 99501</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Betsy McCracken, Biologist</td>
<td>U.S. Department of Interior; Fish and Wildlife Service</td>
<td>605 West 4th Street, Room G-61, Anchorage, AK 99501</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Rice, Hydrologist</td>
<td>U.S. Department of Interior; Fish and Wildlife Service</td>
<td>605 West 4th Avenue Rm. G-61, Anchorage, AK 99501</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Department of Interior; National Park Service; Alaska Regional Office</td>
<td>240 West 5th Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99501</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Anderson, Superintendent</td>
<td>U.S. Department of Interior; National Park Service; P.O. Box 9</td>
<td>Denali National Park and Preserve, Denali Park, AK 99755</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Holzapfel, Program Manager</td>
<td>U.S. Department of Interior; National Park Service;</td>
<td>240 West 5th Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99501</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Meyer, Hydrology</td>
<td>U.S. Department of Interior; U.S. Geological Survey</td>
<td>4210 University Drive, Anchorage, AK 99508</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Curtis</td>
<td>U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10</td>
<td>1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900, Seattle, WA 98101</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew LaCroix</td>
<td>Office of Ecosystems, Tribal &amp; Public Affairs Aquatic Resources Unit</td>
<td>U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 222 W 7th Ave. #19, Anchorage, AK 99513</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honorable Don Young</td>
<td>U.S. House of Representatives</td>
<td>2314 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515-0201</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honorable Lisa Murkowski</td>
<td>U.S. Senate</td>
<td>709 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515-0202</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DISTRIBUTION LIST

Honorable Mark Begich
U.S. Senate
111 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-0201

Village of Dot Lake
P.O. Box 2279
Dot Lake, AK 99737

Village of Salamatof
P.O. Box 2682
Kenai, AK 99611

Brad Evans, General Manager
Chugach Electric Association, Inc.
5601 Electron Drive
P.O. Box 196300
Anchorage, AK 99519-6330

Jim Posey, General Manager
Anchorage Municipal Light & Power
1200 East 1st Ave.
Anchorage, AK 99501

Brian Newton, General Manager
Golden Valley Electric Association
758 Illinois Street
P.O. Box 71249
Fairbanks, AK 99707-1249

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391 N Main St
Wasilla AK 99654

Talkeetna Public Library
23151 S Talkeetna Spur Rd
Talkeetna, AK 99676

Noel Wien Public Library
1215 Cowles Street
Fairbanks, AK 99701

Dot Lake Native Corporation
P.O. Box 2271
Dot Lake, AK 99737
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Before The
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Alaska Energy Authority ) Susitna-Watana Hydroelectric Project
) Project No. 14241

Notice of Intent to File Application for Original License
And Request for Designation as Non-Federal Representative
And for Authorization to Initiate Consultation under
Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

I. Notification of Intent

The Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) hereby notifies the Commission of its intent
to file an application for an original license for the unconstructed Susitna-Watana
Hydroelectric Project (Project), to be located on the Susitna River in the Matanuska-
Susitna Borough in Alaska.

The following information is provided pursuant to 18 C.F.R. § 5.5(b).

1) License Applicant

   Alaska Energy Authority
   813 West Northern Lights Boulevard
   Anchorage, AK 99503

   Applicant Contacts
   Wayne Dyok
   Susitna-Watana Project Manager
   Alaska Energy Authority
   Telephone: (907)-719-7022
   Facsimile: (614) 337-6220
   wdyok@aidea.org

   Michael A. Swiger
   Van Ness Feldman, PC
   Telephone: (202) 298-1800
   Facsimile: (202) 338-2416
   mas@vnf.com

2) FERC Project Number

   Project No. 14241
(3) Statement of Intent to File

AEA hereby unequivocally states its intent to file an application for an original license for the Susitna-Watana Hydroelectric Project No. 14241.

(4) Project Location and Description

The proposed Project is to be located on the Susitna River at river mile 184 above the river mouth, approximately halfway between Anchorage and Fairbanks, Alaska. The Susitna River has its headwaters in the mountains of the Alaska Range about 90 miles south of Fairbanks. It flows generally southwards for about 318 miles before discharging into Cook Inlet just west of Anchorage. The small, unincorporated Native village of Cantwell, in the Denali Borough, is located about 45 air miles from the proposed Project dam, while Anchorage is approximately 180 air miles generally south of the Project area.

The licensed Project would have a concrete gravity or rock-filled dam for which different configurations are under consideration with heights above the riverbed of approximately 700 to 800 feet. The crest length would be approximately 2,700 feet based on a 700 foot high dam, but somewhat longer if a project with a larger dam is proposed to be licensed. The Project would also have a 39-mile-long reservoir with a normal surface elevation of 2,000 feet mean sea level, a surface area of 20,000 acres, and a usable storage capacity of approximately 2,400,000 acre-feet based on a 700 foot dam, and commensurately greater dimensions if a project with a larger dam is proposed to be licensed.

Optimization studies are ongoing and the capacity of the Project eventually proposed for licensing is expected to be between 600 and 800 megawatts (MW) depending on results of future updates to the Railbelt Integrated Resource Plan. With a 600 MW installed capacity the powerhouse is initially sized for three 200 MW turbine-generator sets, but this may be modified to smaller unit sizes depending upon future electrical system studies. The Project would be constructed with an additional bay which may be used to accommodate a potential future capacity increase. The exact number and size of the generating units to be installed will be determined during the feasibility studies that are planned to be conducted prior to submittal of the license application. As currently envisioned up to three 230-kV primary transmission lines travelling westward to a point of interconnection with the Railbelt Intertie near Chulitna or northward to a point of interconnection with the Railbelt Intertie near Cantwell will be constructed to deliver Project output to the existing power grid.

(5) Cities, Towns, Political Subdivisions or Federal Facilities used by the Project

(i) Counties in which any part of the Project, and in which any federal facility that is to be used by the Project, would be located:
The Project will not use any federal facilities.

(ii) Cities, Towns, and Similar Political Subdivisions:

(1) In which any part of the Project or federal facility that would be used by the Project would be located:

None.

2) With a population of 5,000 or more and is located within 15 miles of the Project facilities:

None. The proposed Project is to be located on the Susitna River at river mile 184 above the mouth, approximately half-way between Anchorage and Fairbanks. The small, unincorporated Native village of Cantwell, in the Denali Borough, is located about 45 air miles from the proposed Project dam and powerhouse site.

(iii) Irrigation districts, drainage districts, or similar special purpose political subdivisions:

(1) In which any part of the Project, and any federal facilities that would be used by the Project, would be located:

None.

(2) That owns, operates, maintains, or uses any project facilities or any federal facilities that would be used by the Project:

None.

(iv) Other political subdivisions in the general area of the Project that are likely to be interested in, or affected by, this notice of intent:

Municipality of Anchorage
632 West 6th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Fairbanks Northstar Borough
P.O. Box 71267-1267
Fairbanks, AK 99701
(v) Affected Indian tribes:

The following Federally-recognized Tribes and other Alaska Native entities are likely to be interested in, or be affected by, the proposed Project:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regional Corporations</th>
<th>Group Corporations</th>
<th>Urban Corporations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ahtna, Inc. P.O. Box 649 Glennallen, AK 99588</td>
<td>Caswell Native Association HC 89, Box 83 Willow, AK 99688</td>
<td>Kenai Natives Association, Inc. 15 Fidalgo Ave #102 Kenai, AK 99611-7795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cook Inlet Region, Inc. 2525 C St., Suite 500 Anchorage, AK 99503</td>
<td>Gold Creek-Susitna NCI P.O. Box 847 Talkeetna, AK 99676</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doyon, Ltd. 1 Doyon Place, Suite 300 Fairbanks, AK 99701</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexander Creek, Inc. 8126 Wisteria St Anchorage, AK 99502-4573</td>
<td>Montana Creek Native Association P.O. Box 100379 Anchorage, AK 99510</td>
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<tr>
<td>Point Possession, Inc. 1321 Oxford Dr Anchorage, AK 99503-6941</td>
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<td>Group Corporations</td>
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<td>Village Corporations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexander Creek, Inc. 8126 Wisteria St Anchorage, AK 99502-4573</td>
<td>Caswell Native Association HC 89, Box 83 Willow, AK 99688</td>
<td>Chickaloon-Moose Creek Native Association P.O. Box 875046 Wasilla, AK 99674</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana Creek Native Association P.O. Box 100379 Anchorage, AK 99510</td>
<td></td>
<td>Chitina Native Corporation P.O. Box 3 Chitina, AK 99666</td>
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<td>Village Corporations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eklutna, Inc. 16515 Centerfield Drive, Suite 201 Eagle River, AK 99577</td>
<td>Knikatnu, Inc. P.O. Box 872130 Wasilla, AK 99687</td>
<td>Ninilchik Native Association, Inc. 701 West 41st, Suite 201 Anchorage, AK 99515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mendas Cha-ag Native Corporation 457 Cindy Drive Fairbanks, AK 99701</td>
<td>Northway Natives P.O. Box 401 Northway, AK 99764</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Salamatof Native Association, Inc. P.O. Box 2682 Kenai, AK 99611</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federally Recognized Tribes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seldovia Native Association, Inc.</td>
<td>Tanacross, Inc.</td>
<td>Tetlin Native Corporation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Drawer L Seldovia, AK 99663</td>
<td>22808 Green Garden Road Chugiak, AK 99576</td>
<td>P.O. Box 657 Tok, AK 99780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toghotthele Corporation</td>
<td>Tyonek Native Corporation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 249 Nenana, AK 99760</td>
<td>1689 C Street, Ste. 219 Anchorage, AK 99501</td>
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<th>Federally Recognized Tribes</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cheesh-Na Tribal Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 241 Chistochina, AK 99586</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eklutna Native Village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26339 Eklutna Village Rd. Chugiak, AK 99567</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kenaitze Indian Tribe</td>
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<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 988 Kenai, AK 99611</td>
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<tr>
<td>Native Village of Cantwell</td>
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<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 94 Cantwell, AK 99729</td>
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<tr>
<td>Native Village of Tazlina</td>
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<td>P.O. Box 87 Glennallen, AK 99588</td>
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<td>Nenana Native Association</td>
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<td>P.O. Box 369 Nenana, AK 99760</td>
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<td>Seldovia Village Tribe</td>
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<td>Drawer L Seldovia, AK 99663</td>
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<tr>
<td>Village of Salamatof</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 2682 Kenai, AK 99611</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(6) As required by 18 C.F.R. § 5.5(c) and other applicable law, AEA is providing a copy of this NOI to all federal, state, and interstate resource agencies, Alaska Native Corporations established under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, Indian tribes, local governments, and members of the public likely to be affected by or interested in the proceeding, as set forth on the distribution list attached to the Pre-Application Document (PAD).

II. Designation as Non-Federal Representative and Authorization to Initiate Consultation

Pursuant to 18 C.F.R. § 5.6(c), AEA hereby requests to be designated the Commission’s non-federal representative for purposes of consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and the joint agency regulations thereunder at 50 CFR part 402, and Section 305(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and the implementing regulations at 50 CFR 600.9920. AEA also requests authorization to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the implementing regulations at 36 CFR 800.2(c)(4).

III. Public Notice

As required by 18 CFR 5.3(d)(2), AEA published notice of the filing of its Notification of Intent (NOI) and of the PAD contemporaneously with the filing date of the NOI in the following daily or weekly newspapers of general circulation in the project region: Anchorage Daily News, Alaska Journal of Commerce, Fairbanks Daily News Miner, Mat-Su Valley Frontiersman, and Homer News.