

Introduced by: Hugh Short, Jr.
Date: July 27, 2004
Action:
Vote:

CITY OF BETHEL, ALASKA

Resolution #04-28

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A COAL-FIRED PLANT TO BE PLACED IN THE CITY OF BETHEL TO PROVIDE LOW COST POWER TO THE DONLIN CREEK MINE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT AND THE CALISTA/AVCP REGION

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska funded a feasibility analysis through the Alaska Energy Authority for providing low cost electrical power to the Donlin Creek Gold Mine Development Project and to villages in the AVCP/Calista Region, which was completed by Nuvista Light and Power Company, a non-profit formed by Calista Corporation;

WHEREAS, this study has determined that the lowest cost and most favorable option as a Coal-Fired electrical power plant in Bethel, Alaska with a 190 mile transmission line to Donlin Creek be constructed to provide power to the Donlin Creek Gold mine Development Project and villages in the Calista/AVCP region;

WHEREAS, electricity required for heating homes and businesses are basic infrastructure needs of the residents of the City of Bethel and the Calista/AVCP region;

WHEREAS, the existing energy infrastructures in the City of Bethel and for the Calista/AVCP region are inadequate to meet the needs of the residents for reasonable cost of power;

WHEREAS, lowering the high cost of energy is necessary to improve the social and economic well-being of the residents of the City of Bethel and the Calista/AVCP region;

WHEREAS, the City of Bethel is committed to improving the social and economic well-being of the residents of the City of Bethel and the Calista/AVCP region;

WHEREAS, the City of Bethel is the ninth largest community in Alaska and the largest community in Western Alaska with a substantial infrastructure including an all-weather airport and port facilities;

WHEREAS, the population of the City of Bethel and the Calista/AVCP Region is expected to grow substantially along with increased need for power;

WHEREAS, a Coal-Fired Electrical Power Generation plant located in Bethel would provide additional benefits besides low cost power such as:

- 50+ year power infrastructure,

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- Reduced dependence on Fuel Oil,
- District Heating Utility capturing the waste heat generated by a Coal—Fired Plant for residential homes and public facilities, including those facilities operated and maintained by the City of Bethel,
- Construction and long term skilled jobs at the power plant, transmission line and Donlin Creek,
- Improved Communications,
- Improved Quality of Life,
- Concrete/Ash-Aggregate sales and utilization;
 - Dust reduction,
 - Gravel Substitute for road construction,
- Attracts businesses to Bethel and the region with lower costs of energy, disposal of burnable landfill waste, sewage sludge; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined by the Nuvista Light and Power feasibility study that a Coal-Fired Plant will be designed using state of the art control technology, and according to stringent specifications that exceed all emissions standards;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED The City of Bethel Council supports the Calista Corporation in their efforts to plan, develop, and fund a Coal-Fired Plant within the City of Bethel.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 27th DAY OF JULY 2004, BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Hugh Short, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Selena Malone, Acting City Clerk