



Meera Kohler
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Communities Served

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Alakanuk | Nightmute |
| Ambler | Noatak |
| Andreafsky | Noorvik |
| Anvik | Nulato |
| Brevig Mission | Nunapitchuk |
| Chevak | Old Harbor |
| Eek | Pilot Station |
| Elim | Pitkas Point |
| Emmonak | Quinhagak |
| Gambell | Russian Mission |
| Goodnews Bay | St. Mary's |
| Grayling | St. Michael |
| Holy Cross | Savoonga |
| Hooper Bay | Scammon Bay |
| Huslia | Selawik |
| Kaltag | Shageluk |
| Kasigluk | Shaktoolik |
| Kiana | Shishmaref |
| Kivalina | Shungnak |
| Kotlik | Stebbins |
| Koyuk | Teller |
| Lower Kalskag | Togiak |
| Marshall | Toksook Bay |
| Mekoryuk | Tununak |
| Minto | Upper Kalskag |
| Mt. Village | Wales |
| New Stuyahok | |



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AK-105

Where Do the Benefits of Wind Generation Go?

One of the questions I frequently am asked is: Does my village see any cost benefit from the wind turbines here? The answer is yes. The benefit stays in your village.

Your electric bill is comprised of a customer charge (\$5 for a residential consumer) and two energy charges. The first is for the nonfuel costs of producing electricity, which average about 25 cents a kilowatt-hour. This rate was lowered by 2 cents a kWh at the beginning of 2010. The second energy charge is the fuel charge. This component is the actual fuel cost per kWh in each village, and is calculated by dividing the cost of the fuel consumed in a village by the number of kWh sold in that village.

When we install wind turbines in a village, the electricity generated by those turbines replaces diesel fuel that otherwise would have been used, so less diesel is used in that village. As a result, the fuel charge is lower because the cost of the fuel consumed is lower.

As an example, the average fuel charge per kWh across the AVEC villages is 25 cents. In Toksook Bay and Kasigluk, where wind saved more than \$100,000 of fuel during 2009, that charge is 20 cents. This is the same fuel charge in Nunapitchuk, Tununak and Nightmute, which are connected to the two villages with wind turbines. This is the best example of the benefits that wind can bring to a community.

Don't Forget to Vote

On November 2, the polls will be open for the Alaska general elections. I urge each and every registered voter to go to your polling place and cast your vote. Sadly, only one-third of registered Alaska voters cast their ballots in last August's primary election. Two-thirds of all Alaskans did not cast ballots, so their voices went unheard.

In our state, we have demonstrated time and again that every ballot is valuable. Not long ago, a race was decided in Southwest Alaska by the toss of a coin because the two candidates had the same number of votes. In this year's primary, a candidate was elected because he had a four-vote lead over his opponent.

You can make a difference. Cast your own ballot and ask every adult you know if they will stand up and be counted along with you! Let's make our voice heard. This election is too important for someone else to decide for us what (and who) is best for Alaska.

Until next time,

Meera Kohler
President and CEO