



With Spirit and Strength

June 19, 2020

RE: In support of the Makushin Volcano Geothermal Project

Dear Unalaska City Council, City Manager, and whom it may concern,

The Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association (APIA) is a regional non-profit tribal organization with members consisting of 13 federally recognized tribes of the Aleutian Chain and Pribilof Islands Region. Our Mission is to provide self-sufficiency and independence of the Unangan/Unangas by advocacy, training, technical assistance and economic enhancement; to assist in meeting the health, safety and well-being needs of each Unangan/Unangas community; to promote, strengthen and ensure the unity of the Unangan; and to strengthen and preserve Unangax cultural heritage.

APIA is in support of the City of Unalaska improving local energy security with the Makushin Volcano Geothermal Project. The Ounalashka Corporation and Chena Power partnership to develop the geothermal resource, as well as installation and distribution of clean energy, is a critical foundation for taking action to reduce emissions.

Geothermal power is steady, reliable, and dependable, providing an ideal power supply for the residents and Tribal members of the community, as well as numerous industries. By relying less on fossil fuels and the volatile costs associated with them, Unalaska can look forward to more predictable electrical costs to the consumer and consistent rates. In addition to powering the community, geothermal power can provide opportunities to expand Unalaska's economy and sustainable industries, including agriculture, eco-tourism, and your world-renowned fisheries' processing. Affordable, predictable energy rates can accommodate investments in advanced technologies, such as installing additional energy infrastructure.

The Ounalashka Corporation (OC), through its joint venture with Chena Power, will provide organizational and financial support for the project; presenting the City of Unalaska with an opportunity to participate while limiting local government risk. In support of energy cost control projects across the region, APIA encourages the City of Unalaska to form an agreement with OC and Chena Power. Thank you for your consideration and please contact Environment and Safety Program Manager Karen Pletnikoff at karenp@apiai.org or (907)276-2700 with any follow up.

Sincerely,

Dimitri Philemonof, President/CEO
Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association