



Azachorok Incorporated

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Azachorok, Inc. Submits Resolutions to Protect and Update Power Cost Equalization Program

Resolutions urge Legislature to preserve endowment while incentivizing affordable energy solutions

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA- The Azachorok, Incorporated Board of Directors passed two resolutions this week to protect the Power Cost Equalization (PCE) endowment while creating opportunities for long-term affordable energy in rural Alaskan communities. The first resolution urges the Alaska State Legislature to refrain from using money from the PCE to pay for other services as state revenues dwindle after a massive recent drop in oil prices.

“We understand the State’s current financial situation, but we ask Legislators to not finance the crisis on the backs of Alaskans who are already paying two to three times more for energy than anywhere else,” said Loren Peterson, Chairman of the Azachorok Board. “People are being forced to leave their families and cultures to move to urban areas, or choose between power and food, in order to live. Gutting this crucial lifeline to our most vulnerable communities is unconscionable and will set back years of progress towards sustainable rural communities.”

Azachorok Board members felt strongly that the request should also be accompanied by a solution. They passed a second resolution to urge lawmakers to use the PCE endowment as leverage to incentivize private investors to build renewable energy and energy efficient solutions in remote communities which will save money while boosting economic development and creating much-needed jobs. Copies of both resolutions are attached.

“We see this as a win-win-win proposal,” said Chairman Peterson. “The villages win because their energy prices don’t increase any further and less-costly energy solutions are introduced and built within those villages. Second, it helps slow the urban creep and keeps our Native cultures strong, while boosting economic development and opportunities in our villages. Finally, these resolutions show our commitment to mitigating and adapting to the effects of climate change on Alaska Native communities.”

During the 2015 Alaska Federation of Natives Annual Convention in October, Chairman Peterson, on behalf of Azachorok, introduced amendments to a resolution addressing the impact of climate change on Alaska Native communities. The amendments, which passed unanimously, urge the federal and state governments to consider feasibility of renewable energy resources and infrastructure to mitigate climate change. To read more about that resolution, please click [here](#).

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Azachorok, Incorporated represents approximately 493 shareholders from Mountain Village, which is a Central Yup'ik village in Western Alaska. Azachorok is a for-profit ANCSA Village corporation that invests in sustainable business opportunities for the benefit of shareholders while preserving traditional subsistence culture and values. For more information, please contact Azachorok President Andrei Jacobs at (907) 677-2527.