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Press Release

ACEcoalition.com Announces

Wrangell Energy Summit Success

Wrangell, AK December 11-12

The Wrangell Energy Summit had participation by 159 people over a two day period by teleconference, webcast and over 60 in person each day. The Native community held an opening event Friday evening featuring a meal and traditional Native dance and welcoming ceremony.



Dignitaries Address Participants

Saturday morning opened with comments from US Senators Murkowski and Begich, Representative Young, and Former Alaska Governor Frank Murkowski. Janine North, Co-Chair Highway 37 coalition, told the conference about the current status of the Northwest Transmission Line. She indicated the Canadian Federal government in Ottawa moved the process timeline significantly ahead with a decision to cede the environmental assessment entirely to the Provincial government. Gordon Loverin a member of the Tahltan Nation addressed the summit with a progressive approach designed to advance the economic positions of native peoples on both sides of the border.



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Paul Southland
Special Project Director



Canadian market expert Doug Bishop stressed need for Alaska to enter the planning process of the Northwest Transmission Line. Bishop said **next four months critical** period to insure adequate capacity on NTL for potential projects. Robert Loescher, an Alaskan energy advocate, stressed that the time for the AK/BC Intertie was now. Greg Mickelson, AP&T, indicated that many potential power generation projects have near term construction potential but lack economic viability without a connection to a larger market.

All panel participants indicated that a market exists today for Southeast Alaska's renewable energy if it can be "bussed" to the North American Grid.

Plea for Help Heard

During an open Townhouse discussion Albert Howard, Mayor of Angoon, rendered a heart wrenching plea for his community. Angoon with over 85% unemployment and electric rates in the range of 60 cent/kWh is the owner of a permit to develop two sites in Thomas Bay. Howard said some of his people daily have to make the decision of "eat or heat". Mayor Howard offered cooperation to his neighbors of Southeast if only they would and could help. He stated, "We not only offer a problem, but also, a solution."

ACEcoalition.com will be posting further details of the Wrangell Energy Summit on its' website as they become available. Please, check back often and consider becoming a member.