



Homer Electric
Association, Inc.
A Tachum Energy Cooperative



MONDAY, JULY 20, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Anchorage, AK – The Implementation Committee (IC) of the Railbelt Reliability Council (RRC) named Chris Rose and Jerry Rust as the final two participants to the RRC’s unaffiliated seats. Now that the IC is fully seated, it will develop bylaws and other foundational documents to define and stand up the RRC. It is the goal of the RRC to then apply to become the Electric Reliability Organization (ERO) for the Railbelt electric system as defined in recent legislation, Senate Bill 123.

The RRC provides a forum and structure for six interconnected Railbelt utilities, along with six non-utility stakeholders, to work together to address Railbelt-wide electric system issues to ensure grid resilience and reduce long term costs.

“The Railbelt Reliability Council is a historic agreement and offers a chance for meaningful participation from a wide variety of stakeholders to address much-needed planning issues along the grid,” said Veri di Suvero, the consumer advocacy member of the IC’s Selection Committee. “The RRC will be a critical body for a region-wide approach to ensuring the best energy decisions for consumers.”

The RRC will define and enforce electric reliability standards, coordinate joint planning through an integrated resource planning process, and ensure consistent interconnection protocols for utilities, independent power producers and other grid users. The RRC will also work with the Regulatory Commission of Alaska to develop a cost sharing methodology for assets that have a regional benefit and will also identify and facilitate implementation of effective ways for the Railbelt electric system to reduce electricity costs for ratepayers.

Chris Rose is the Executive Director of Renewable Energy Alaska Project (REAP), a statewide non-profit focused on clean energy solutions. REAP, and Mr. Rose, supported the bi-partisan legislation, Senate Bill 123, that passed in the most recent legislature to formally establish a regulatory process for Electric Reliability Organizations like the RRC intends to become. Jerry Rust is the former President and current Special Assistant to the Chairman at Northwest Power Pool. Mr. Rust has worked with Alaskan utilities and has helped with planning and operation for Electric Reliability Organizations in the Lower 48.

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