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This letter is to express our strong support for the City of Unalaska's initiative to pursue a Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The City is seeking \$125 million in funding for projects aimed at transitioning Unalaska to renewable energy sources, including wind turbines and geothermal. This would dramatically reduce the community's reliance on diesel generators to provide power.

In 2019, Unalaska commissioned a wind power study that concluded the City could generate 5 MW of electricity from five wind turbines at a cost of \$39 million. Concurrently, the City signed a power purchase agreement to support the private development of geothermal power at Makushin Volcano. However, after four years of seeking project financing without success, the City declined an extension request for the power purchase agreement in February, 2024.

Instead, the City is now partnering with the Ounalashka Corporation and the Qawalangin Tribe to develop the geothermal project. Upgrades to the electric generation and distribution systems, which were delayed pending the delivery of geothermal power, are now critical. Furthermore, discussions have commenced to form a power cooperative to increase resiliency and alternative resources in the short term while transitioning away from diesel generation to eliminate harmful emissions such as NOx, PM10, and CO2. This will align Unalaska with global efforts to combat climate change and reduce environmental impacts.

Unalaska's project goal is to reduce carbon emissions to zero for power generation to improve long-term environmental health and sustainability. This project will be a big step toward achieving this goal and will establish a lower cost, reliable source of electricity for decades to come. Funding the City of Unalaska's grant request will enable the characterization of the volcanic well field which is badly needed to obtain project financing through grants, loans, and investments. Additionally, it will fund a 5 MW wind farm and a BESS system to integrate these sources into Unalaska's power grid.

For decades, Unalaska has been the nation's number one fishing port for volume of seafood landed. Electrical power cost is one of the largest expenses associated with the operation of the seafood processing facilities. As a large seafood processing company, we express our full endorsement of the City of Unalaska's grant application to the CPRG EPA program. The funds are crucial to advancing the geothermal project and wind power for diversifying energy sources, increased power security and resilience, mitigating environmental impacts, and adding economic sustainability to an important domestic food source which benefits Unalaska, the State of Alaska, and the rest of the United States.

Best Regards,


Mark JoHahnson

President

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Mark JoHahnson
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