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Ms. Kimberly Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street NE
Washington, DC 20426

RE: Senator Lisa Murkowski Comments and Letter of Support for Juneau Hydropower Inc.
FERC P-13563-003 Sweetheart Lake Hydroelectric Project

Dear Ms. Bose:

As a long-time supporter of renewable energy development in my State, I am writing to encourage the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to give timely federal consideration to the proposed Sweetheart Lake hydroelectric project in the Juneau area of Southeast Alaska.

I understand that Juneau Hydropower Inc. has applied to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a license to proceed with the 19.8-megawatt Sweetheart Lake hydroelectric project. Given the sky-high cost of diesel-fueled electrical generation throughout Southeast Alaska, where electricity currently can cost more than 60 cents per kilowatt hour in a number of smaller villages, I strongly support efforts to develop lower-cost renewable energy resources wherever it is economically, environmentally and logistically sound to do so.

Sweetheart Lake, about 30 miles south of downtown Juneau and only 8 miles from the Snettisham Electrical Transmission Line, has long been recognized as a viable source of hydroelectric power for the Panhandle depending on local load factors, most recently as part of the Alaska Energy Authority's Southeast Alaska Integrated Resource Plan. Given that the State of Alaska has a policy to derive 50 percent of its electrical power from renewable and alternative sources by 2025, I encourage FERC, which is currently studying the applicant's license request, to carefully consider the environmental and economic issues surrounding the project and make a decision on the Environmental Impact Statement and all required terms and conditions in a timely manner and in a way that will be most beneficial to the residents of Southeast Alaska.

Thank you for your consideration of this project.

Sincerely,



Lisa Murkowski,
U.S. Senator, Alaska