

**From:** Christy Everett <christyeverett.personal@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Monday, April 14, 2025 12:45 PM

**To:** House Energy <House.Energy@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** Please support HB 153

Dear Members of the House Energy Committee:

As a 38 year resident of North Pole, Alaska, as well as a mother and grandmother of Alaskans, I urge you to pass HB 153. This bill would implement a much-needed Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS).

As you may be aware, the Railbelt is heavily dependent on expensive natural gas, oil and coal. Although DNR has been projecting a shortfall in Cook Inlet natural gas since 2009, utilities have not pursued many other energy sources, and the Railbelt's energy portfolio is only about 15% renewable sources. While LNG costs are expected to rise by 50-100% over current prices in new contracts (and have risen 800% in the last 35 years), the cost of renewable energy has been dropping rapidly over the past decade. During the same decade electricity prices in the Railbelt have risen more than 50% and are now 50% higher than the national average.

An RPS would provide investment and regulatory certainty, helping attract experienced power producers to Railbelt projects. It would give utilities some negotiating leverage in LNG contracts by providing sideboards. There are currently several renewable projects already proposed that would meet the RPS standard of 40% renewable energy by 2030 if implemented, and building them would provide local jobs. An RPS would encourage cooperation between utilities to meet the standards, and would lower costs for consumers like me and my family.

Please support this important step in bringing energy prices down. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christine Everett

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