

CLERKS GUILLER

MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

ASSEMBLY MEMORANDUM

No. AM 1346-93

Date: 12-14-93

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Meeting Date: December 14, 1993

From:

Mayor

Subject:

Alaska Intertie Extension Project - Approval of Participants Agreement

On December 6, 1993, the Municipality of Anchorage successfully completed negotiations with Chugach Electric Association, Inc. (CEA), Municipality of Fairbanks d/b/a Fairbanks Municipal Utilities System (FMUS), Golden Valley Electric Association, Inc. (GVEA), the City of Seward d/b/a Seward Electric System (SES), Homer Electric Association, Inc. (HEA), Matanuska Electric Association, Inc. (MEA), and Alaska Electric Generation and Transmission Cooperative, Inc. (AEG&T) regarding the 1993 Alaska Intertie Project Participants Agreement (Participants Agreement). CEA, FMUS, GVEA, SES, AEG&T, and ML&P are known as the "Participants", and HEA and MEA are "Additional Parties." The terms of the Participants Agreement were reached pursuant to the Interties Grant Agreement which ML&P, the other Participants, the Additional Parties, the State of Alaska Department of Administration (DOA), and the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA) negotiated in October 1993.

The combined effect of the Participants Agreement and the associated grant and project agreements outlined herein will, over the useful life of the Alaska Intertie Extension Project, produce net economic benefits for ML&P's ratepayers. The economic benefits derive, in part, from the State of Alaska's funding of the 1993 Alaska Intertie Project to the extent of \$90 million. Moreover, the agreements will contribute to lowering ML&P's costs of transmission and produce additional economies resulting from greater electric power reliability and improved efficiency.

The significant particulars of the Participants Agreement are as follows. The Participants have agreed to design, construct, operate, maintain, and own the 1993 Alaska Intertie Project, which is composed of two electric power transmission lines: (a) a 138-kV line between Anchorage, Alaska and Kenai Peninsula of Alaska (the southern line), and (b) a 138-kV line between Healy, Alaska and Fairbanks, Alaska (the northern line). The current estimated dates of commercial operation are 2001 for the southern line and 1996 for the northern line. The Agreement will expire at the end of the Project's useful life, as reasonably determined by the Participants.

The Participants have agreed, collectively, to fund project costs to the extent that they exceed the amount of funds granted by the State. In exchange for an ownership share of 22.43 percent, ML&P will pay 22.43 percent of all project costs that exceed the State grant. Payments owed are payable solely from ML&P's system revenues as a cost of transmission, not from any tax revenues. To finance construction, it is expected that ML&P will incur debt service obligations for bonds to be issued collectively at some time in the future by the Participants or separately by ML&P. Total project costs (net of grant) are currently estimated to be \$90 million, of which ML&P's share is expected to be \$20,187,000; ML&P's annual payments are estimated to be \$2.1 million. Project costs include design, construction, "peration, maintenance, renewals and replacements.

A Participants ownership committee (know as the IPG) will make significant project decisions, including design, routing, budget approvals, and selection of managers. ML&P has one membership vote. It also has a percentage vote equal to its 22.43 percent ownership interest. The Participants Agreement contemplates that the Participants will enter into further agreements regarding the construction, operation and maintenance for each of the project's transmission lines. ML&P has promised to negotiate and execute these additional project agreements, the terms and conditions of which are outlined in the Participants Agreement, with the other Participants. However, ML&P will request Assembly approval of the additional agreements after negotiations are successfully concluded.

ML&P and the other Participants are working together with DOA and AIDEA to manage and disburse the funds granted by the State. AIDEA, DOA, CEA, MEA, HEA, GVEA, AEG&T, FMUS, SES and ML&P have entered/will enter into the Grant Transfer and Delegation Agreement, which provides for AIDEA to hold and administer the grant funds for the benefit of the Participants. AIDEA, CEA, MEA, HEA, GVEA, AEG&T, FMUS, SES and ML&P have entered/will enter into the Grant Administration Agreement, which provides for management and disbursement of the grant funds. Together, these two agreements insure that all statutory conditions and contractual regultements will be satisfied in the expenditure of state funds granted for project. Per AMC 7.20.080, competitive bidding for the 1993 Alaska Intertie Project is not required because the contractors identified in the subject agreement are reasonably the sole source for the service provided

The Assembly approval is respectfully requested for the administration to enter into the agreement outlined above.

and particularly considering the \$90 million state contribution to the funding of the project.

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Executive Manager, Enterprise Activities

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> Larry D. Crawford Municipal Manager

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Prepared b Thomas R. Stahr General Manager, ML&P

Chief Fiscal Officer

Fund Certification: \$20,187,000

Subject to future ML&P Operating and Capital Budgets

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