

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

## SESSION

State Capitol, Rm 516  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
(907) 465-3873 Phone  
(907) 465-3922 Fax  
(877) 463-3873 Toll Free  
Senator\_Bert\_Stedman@legis.state.ak.us



## INTERIM

50 Front Street  
Suite 203  
Ketchikan, AK 99901-6442  
Phone (907) 225-8088  
Fax (907) 225-0713

**SENATOR BERT K. STEDMAN**  
*CO-CHAIR, SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE*

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**CONTACT:** Miles Baker 465-3873

## **Stedman Applauds Palin's Intertie Appropriation**

### *\$28.0 million Capital Budget Amendment an Excellent Start*

(JUNEAU) - Today, Sen. Bert Stedman (R-Sitka) applauded Gov. Palin's \$28.0 million FY 08 Capital Budget amendment for the Swan Lake-Lake Tyee electrical intertie.

"Over the last three months, I've worked with Gov. Palin and her budget team on a financial plan for completing this critical infrastructure project. Today's amendment is a huge validation of those efforts and a clear indication that the Governor believes as I do, that the Swan-Tyee intertie is a project of statewide importance", Stedman said.

The Four Dam Pool Power Agency has requested \$46.2 million to complete the 57-mile project which connects the Tyee Lake hydro facility south of Wrangell with the Swan Lake hydro facility near Ketchikan. The project is fully permitted, the Right-of-Way has been cleared and 50% of the micropile foundations have been installed. A combination of federal, state and local funds have financed the project so far. When complete, the line will enable 63 million kilowatt-hours of surplus Tyee Lake hydropower to be delivered to Ketchikan.

Governor Palin's \$28.0 million amendment represents 60% of the funds the Four Dam Pool estimates are needed to complete the project. Stedman, who is responsible for writing the FY08 capital appropriation bill in the Senate, is confident that the legislature will explore options for financing the additional \$18.2 million during this year's capital budget process.

"I'd like to thank the Governor for this initial appropriation. I will continue working with her administration and my legislative colleagues to fully fund this project before our Forest Service permits expire in 2009", Stedman said.

## DISTRICT A

*Ketchikan • Sitka • Petersburg • Wrangell*

*Pelican • Elfin Cove • Port Alexander • Saxman • Meyers Chuck • Thorne Bay • Coffman Cove • Hollis*

The Swan-Tyee intertie is the backbone of a planned regional power grid which, when complete, will provide Southeast Alaska with a renewable source of reliable energy. The State Chamber of Commerce and the Southeast Conference have identified the project as one of the state's top economic development priorities.

If project funds are approved this year, the intertie will go online in the last quarter of 2009.

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