



Clark's Point: A Rural Energy Success Story

**2016 ALASKA RURAL ENERGY CONFERENCE**

# Who am I?

- Mariano Floresta
- Born in Dillingham and raised in Clark's Point
- I wear several hats:
  - BBEDC Liaison since 2012
  - Vice-Mayor, City of Clark's Point
  - Nushagak Advisory Committee Member
  - Dyasuk Walrus Commission Member
  - Commercial Fisherman
  - Subsistence Hunter and Gatherer



# History of Clark's Point

- It was a booming commercial fishing town
- Most residents still commercial fish
- Trident Seafoods cannery operated until 2002
- School closed in 2012, drastically affecting the population
- Subsistence activities are still heavily practiced and relied on



# Clark's Point Electric Utility Began to Struggle

- With the population decline, the Clark's Point electric utility struggled financially
- The city was behind in repaying it's Bulk Fuel Loan with the state of Alaska
- Electric rates were charged at a flat rate of \$150/month regardless of household usage
- There was little incentive to conserve energy

# Advice and Assistance was Sought to Fix Problem

- Division of Community & Regional Affairs referred Clark's Point to Rural Alaska Fuel Services (RAFS)
- Del Conrad with RAFS assisted Clark's Point in transitioning electric utility management from the city to the tribe to become eligible for the Bulk Fuel Loan Program with the state
- Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) provided technical advice for powerhouse

# AMPY Meters were Installed



- Marsh Creek, LLC executed the project
- Funded by the Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation (BBEDC)
- Successful revenue collection and energy conservation began
- Bulk Fuel Loans are paid off

# Clark's Point Became PCE Eligible

- With AMPY meters in place, the electric utility could gather and provide the necessary data required to qualify for the Power Cost Equalization (PCE) program through AEA
- AEA provided guidance throughout the application process and continues to provide advice and assistance to maintain program eligibility

# Future of Energy in Clark's Point

- Skystream 3.7<sup>®</sup> Wind Turbines purchased from Susitna Energy using a grant through BBEDC
- Currently working with AEA who is developing a Conceptual Design Report for powerhouse upgrades which will include integration
- Line upgrades are planned for the near future to improve efficiency





# Clark's Point's Energy Situation is Now Stable

- Thank you to all the parties involved who assisted in making Clark's Point's energy situation manageable



- Providing reliable power infrastructure will have a positive impact on the community and hopefully will encourage population growth

# Thank You

- State of Alaska Division of Community and Regional Affairs
- Alaska Energy Authority
- Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation
- Rural Alaska Fuel Services
- Bristol Bay Native Association
- City of Clark's Point
- Clark's Point Village Council
- Community Members of Clark's Point
- Coastal Power Contractors