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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**GVEA and AIDEA reach agreement**

Golden Valley Electric Association and the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority met in Fairbanks on Thursday and mutually agreed to focus on getting the mothballed Healy Clean Coal Plant up and running.

This meeting is a positive first step toward resolving a long-standing dispute between AIDEA, the plant's owner, and GVEA, the potential operator. Both parties have been unable to agree on the success of the technology, the impact of the economics and the safety and reliability of the plant. It is the newly appointed AIDEA board that has made this era of collaboration possible.

While HCCP is sitting idle, it's a financial burden to AIDEA. As the plant's operator, Golden Valley would incorporate this 50-megawatt coal plant into its fuel mix. This would offset the Interior cooperative's aging power plants and help meet steady load growth.

AIDEA executive director Ron Miller states, "We want HCCP to provide benefits to the people of Alaska. We also realize any solution needs to work long-term for GVEA and its ratepayers."

Both parties will be meeting over the next two months to evaluate the economics of available solutions.

This is a great stride forward after a long period of disagreement. I'm optimistic that together we will find a solution for all Alaskans," states GVEA president & CEO Steve Haagenson.

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