

April 7, 2008

Fellow Alaskans:

Governor Palin recently appointed me to serve as Alaska's new Energy Coordinator and Executive Director for Alaska Energy Authority. I am deeply honored, and am eager to tackle the challenges we face.

I don't need to tell you what today's high energy costs are doing to every single Alaskan. Each one of us in every area of our state feels the impact. In some areas, the cost of energy has produced near crisis circumstances.

I'm here to do something about it, to get us beyond the talking points, beyond the planning stage and into rapid deployment of solutions.

Right now the Alaska Energy Authority has a team working to develop and implement a comprehensive, action-oriented plan that not only builds on the good work already done, but promotes immediate solutions to ease today's energy burdens, and even more importantly, helps secure our long-term economic future – for our children and grandchildren.

But I cannot do this alone.

That's why I am asking Alaskans to join me now in this endeavor so vital to our present-day and future well being.

I want to hear from you. I want to talk with you, and I want you to know that I understand what the high cost of energy is doing to you and your family.

I invite you to send your name, contact information and comments to me at energycoordinator@aidea.org.

Soon our team and I will be meeting many of you as we travel throughout Alaska to jump-start things into high gear. In the meantime, I want to know what you care about, and I want to know your ideas.

Together we are going to restore Alaska's self-sufficiency. Together we are going to put our abundant resources to good use, and together we are going to create and deploy solutions.

Thank you,

Steve Haagenson
Executive Director
Alaska Energy Authority
Energy Coordinator