



ALASKA POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

INDIVIDUAL PERMIT – PRELIMINARY DRAFT

Permit Number: **AK0026603**

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
Wastewater Discharge Authorization Program
555 Cordova Street; Anchorage, AK 99501**

In compliance with the provisions of the Clean Water Act (CWA), 33 U.S.C. §1251 *et seq.*, as amended by the Water Quality Act of 1987, P.L. 100-4, this permit is issued under provisions of Alaska Statutes (AS) 46.03; the Alaska Administrative Code (AAC) as amended; and other applicable State laws and regulations. The

CHUGACH ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

is authorized to discharge from the Beluga Power Plant facility on the West side of Cook Inlet at the following location:

Outfall	Receiving Water or Body	Latitude	Longitude
001A	Krause Creek	61.186663 North	151.038724 West

In accordance with the discharge points effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, and other conditions set forth herein:

- This permit and authorization shall become effective **DRAFT**
- This permit and the authorization to discharge shall expire at midnight, **DRAFT**
- The permittee shall reapply for a permit reissuance on or before **DRAFT**, 180 days before the expiration of this permit if the permittee intends to continue operations and discharges at the facility beyond the term of this permit.

The permittee shall post or maintain a copy of this permit to discharge at the facility and make it available to the public, employees, and subcontractors at the facility.

Signature	DRAFT Date
DRAFT Printed Name	DRAFT Title

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SCHEDULE OF SUBMISSIONS

The Schedule of Submissions summarizes some of the required submissions and activities the permittee must complete and/or submit to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC or the Department) during the term of this permit. The permittee is responsible for all submissions and activities even if they are not summarized below.

Table 1: Schedule of Submissions

Permit Part	Submittal or Completion	Frequency	Due Date	Submit to *
Permit Section 3.1, Appendix A, 3.2	Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR)	2/Year	Must be submitted electronically through the eDMR system, on or before the 15th day of the following month.	NetDMR
Permit Section 1.3	Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Testing	As required	The permittee shall submit the results of the toxicity tests with the next required DMR due following the month of sample collection	Compliance
Appendix A, 1.3	Application for Permit Reissuance	1/permit cycle	180 days before expiration of the final permit	Permitting
Permit Section 1.4	APDES Application Form 2C Effluent Monitoring	1/permit cycle	With application for permit reissuance	Permitting
Appendix A, 3.4	Oral notification of noncompliance	As required	Within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances of noncompliance	Compliance
Appendix A, 3.4	Written notification of noncompliance	As required	Within 5 days after the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances	Compliance
Appendix A, 3.5	Other Noncompliance Reporting	As required	At the time the permittee submits discharge monitoring reports under Appendix A, Part 3.2.	Compliance
*See Permit Section 3.1, Electronic Reporting (E-Reporting) Rule				

1.0 LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

1.1 Discharge Authorization

- 1.1.1 During the effective period of this permit, the permittee is authorized to discharge pollutants from Outfall 001A to Krause Creek within the limits and subject to conditions set forth herein. This permit authorizes discharge of only those pollutants resulting from facility processes, waste streams, and operations clearly identified in the permit application process.

1.2 Effluent Limits and Monitoring

- 1.2.1 The permittee must limit and monitor discharges from Outfall 001A as specified in Table 2. All values represent maximum effluent limits, unless otherwise indicated. The permittee must comply with effluent limitations in the table at all times. All values unless otherwise indicated, regardless of monitoring frequency or reporting required by other provisions of this permit.
- 1.2.2 Discharge shall not cause contamination of surface or ground waters, and shall not cause or contribute to a violation of the Alaska Water Quality Standards (18 AAC 70), unless allowed in this permit and the excursions are authorized in accordance with applicable provisions in 18 AAC 70.200 – 70.240 (e.g. variance, mixing zone).
- 1.2.3 The permittee must not discharge any floating solids, debris, sludge, deposits, foam, scum, or other residues, including petroleum hydrocarbons or oil and grease, that cause a film, sheen or discoloration on the surface of the receiving water or adjoining shorelines; cause leaching of toxic or deleterious substances; or cause a sludge, solid, or emulsion to be deposited beneath or upon the surface of the water, within the water column, on the bottom, or upon adjoining shorelines.
- 1.2.4 Effluent samples must be collected from the effluent stream after the last treatment unit before discharge into receiving waters.
- 1.2.5 For all effluent monitoring, the permittee must use a sufficiently sensitive Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved test method that quantifies the pollutants to a level lower than applicable limits or water quality standards or use the most sensitive test method available, per Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 136 (Guidelines Establishing Test Procedures for the Analysis of Pollutants), adopted by reference at 18 AAC 83.010(f).
- 1.2.6 Permittees have the option of taking more frequent samples than are required in the permit. These samples must be used for averaging if they are conducted using DEC approved test methods (generally found in 18 AAC 70 and 40 CFR §136 [adopted by reference in 18 AAC 83.010]) and if the method detection limits are less than the effluent limits
- 1.2.7 For purposes of reporting on the DMR for a single sample, if a value is less than the method detection limit (MDL), the permittee must report “less than (<) {numeric value of MDL}” and if a value is less than the minimum level (ML) [also called a reporting limit (RL), practical quantification limit (PQL), or limit of quantitation (LOQ)] the permittee must report “less than (<) {numeric value of ML}.”

- 1.2.8 For purposes of calculating monthly averages, zero may be assigned for values less than the MDL and the numeric value of the MDL may be assigned for values between the MDL and the ML. If the average value is less than the MDL, the permittee must report “less than (<) {numeric value of MDL}” and if the average value is less than the ML, the permittee must report “less than (<) {numeric value of ML}.” If a value is equal to or greater than the ML, the permittee must report and use the actual value
- 1.2.9 For purposes of calculating the reported daily maximum pounds per day, the permittee must use the maximum observed effluent flow rate measured on the date the effluent sample was collected. For purposes of calculating the reported weekly or monthly pounds per day, the permittee may use the appropriate average flow, weekly or monthly

(Table 2: Outfall 001A: Effluent Limits and Monitoring Requirements
is located on the following page.)

Table 2: Outfall 001A: Effluent Limits and Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Effluent Limits					Monitoring Requirements		
	Units ^a	Daily Minimum	Monthly Average	Weekly Average	Daily Maximum	Sample Location	Sample Frequency	Sample Type
Total Flow	GPD	N/A	N/A	N/A	10,000	Effluent	Continuous	Recorded
Oil and Grease	mg/L	N/A	15	N/A	20	Effluent	1/Year ^c	Grab
	lbs/day ^b		1.25	N/A	1.67			
Oily Sheen	N/A	No Discharge Allowed				Effluent Cooling Pond	Daily/ When Discharging	Visual
PCB's ^d	µg/L	No Discharge Allowed				Effluent	1/Year	Grab
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	N/A	30	N/A	100	Effluent	1/Year	Grab
	lbs/day	N/A	2.5	N/A	8.34			
pH	SU	6.5	N/A	N/A	8.5	Effluent	1/Year	Grab
Temperature	° C	N/A	N/A	N/A	13	Effluent	1/Year	Grab
Total Aromatic Hydrocarbons (TAH)	µg/L	N/A	N/A	N/A	Report	Effluent	1/Year	Grab
Total Aqueous Hydrocarbons (TAqH)	µg/L	N/A	N/A	N/A	Report	Effluent	1/Year	Grab
Copper, Total Recoverable	µg/L	N/A	N/A	N/A	Report	Effluent	1/Year	Grab
Zinc, Total Recoverable	µg/L	N/A	N/A	N/A	Report	Effluent	1/Year	Grab

Footnotes:

- Units: gpd = gallons per day, mg/L = milligrams per liter, lbs/day = pounds per day, µg/L= micrograms per liter SU = standard units, °C= degrees Celsius.
- lbs/day = concentration (mg/L) x flow (mgd) x 8.34 (conversion factor).
- Once per year means taking one sample per calendar year, alternating between taking a sample during the summer months (June 1-September 30) and the winter months (October 1-May 31)
- There shall be no discharge of polychlorinated biphenyl compounds such as those commonly used for transformer fluid (40 CFR §423.15(b)).

1.3 Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing Requirements

1.3.1 The permittee must conduct annual chronic toxicity tests. Testing must be conducted in accordance with Sections 1.3.2 and 1.3.6.

1.3.2 Chronic Toxicity Species and Methods

- 1.3.2.1 Toxicity testing must be performed on 24 hour composite samples of effluent once per calendar year during a discharge event and submitted with the DMR. The annual testing shall take place in alternating seasons each year, occurring in the summer months (June 1– September 30) the first calendar year the permit is in effect and in the winter (October 1- May 31) the following year. If a yearly test is taken between June 1 and September 30, the next yearly sampling shall be done between October 1 and May 31.
- 1.3.2.2 If the permittee proposes an alternative species to be used for chronic toxicity testing, the permittee shall perform screening first and provide the results of the screening to DEC for review and written approval prior to implementing the use of the new test species.
- 1.3.2.3 Toxicity test results shall be reported according to the guidance and must include all relevant test information described for report preparation in [*Short-term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater Organisms*](#), (EPA/821-R-02-013, October 2002).
- 1.3.2.4 There are no chronic toxicity effluent limits for this discharge, the chronic WET trigger value is 1.0 TUc. Accelerated toxicity testing (See Section 1.3.4) is required if this chronic WET permit trigger is exceeded.
- 1.3.2.5 Results must be reported in TUc (chronic toxic units), where $TUc = 100/\text{No Observed Effect Concentration (NOEC)}$. See Appendix C for a definition of NOEC.
- 1.3.2.6 A minimum of two test species with approved test protocols shall be used. The permittee shall use the following critical life stage toxicity tests to measure chronic toxicity (TUc): The survival and growth test species shall be the fathead minnow (*Pimephales promelas*), and the survival and reproduction test species shall be the water flea (*Ceriodaphnia dubia*).

1.3.3 Quality Assurance-Whole Effluent Toxicity

- 1.3.3.1 For this discharge, a mixing zone is not authorized. The chronic instream waste concentration (IWC) for this discharge is 100% effluent. At a minimum, the dilution series shall include 100%, 62.5%, 12.5%, and 6.25% effluent and a control.
- 1.3.3.2 All quality assurance criteria and statistical analyses used for chronic tests and reference toxicant tests must be in accordance with [*Short-term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater Organisms*](#), (EPA/821-R-02-013, October 2002) and the individual test protocols.
- 1.3.3.3 In addition to those quality assurance measures specified in the methodology, the following quality assurance procedures must be followed:
 - 1.3.3.3.1 The permittee shall make every effort to have the toxicity tests initiated within thirty-six hours of sample collection. If this is not possible, the permittee must document that the delivery time cannot be met and describe how the issue will be resolved. In no case should more than seventy-two hours elapse between sample collection and use of the sample. The sample must be held at 0-6 °C, from sample collection until test preparation.

- 1.3.3.3.2 If organisms are not cultured in-house, concurrent testing with reference toxicants must be conducted. If organisms are cultured in-house, monthly reference toxicant testing is sufficient. Reference toxicant tests must be conducted using the same test conditions as the effluent toxicity.
- 1.3.3.3.3 If either one of the reference toxicant tests or the effluent tests does not meet all test acceptability criteria as specified in the test methods manual, the permittee must re-sample and re-test within 14 days of receipt of the test results.
- 1.3.3.3.4 To the extent practicable, control and dilution water should be receiving water. If the dilution water used is different from the culture water, a second control, using culture water, must also be used. In no case shall water that has not met test acceptability criteria be used for either dilution or control.

1.3.4 Accelerated Testing

- 1.3.4.1 If toxicity is greater than 1.0 TUc in any test, the permittee shall conduct four biweekly tests over a 10-week period. This accelerated testing must be initiated within two weeks of receipt of the test results that indicate exceedance.
- 1.3.4.2 Initial investigation: If the permittee demonstrates through an evaluation of facility operations that the cause of the exceedance is known and corrective actions have been implemented, only one accelerated test is necessary.
- 1.3.4.3 The permittee must notify DEC of the exceedance in writing within two weeks of receipt of the test results. The notification must include the following information:
 - 1.3.4.3.1 A status report on any actions required by the permit, with a schedule for actions not yet completed.
 - 1.3.4.3.2 A description of any additional actions the permittee has taken or will take to investigate and correct the cause(s) of the toxicity, and;
 - 1.3.4.3.3 Where no actions have been taken, a discussion of the reasons for taking no action;
- 1.3.4.4 If toxicity is greater than 1.0 TUc in any of the accelerated tests, the permittee must initiate a toxicity reduction evaluation (TRE) as outlines in section 1.3.5 within 15 days of the exceedance.
- 1.3.4.5 If none of the accelerated tests indicates toxicity trigger greater than 1.0 TUc, the permittee may return to the normal testing frequency.
- 1.3.4.6 If the permittee is able to adequately demonstrate through an evaluation of facility operations that the cause of the exceedance(s) is known and corrective actions have been immediately implemented, or in cases where additional test quality assurance or quality control is necessary, only one accelerated test is necessary. If toxicity is greater than 1.0 TUc then TRE requirements in Section 1.3.5 shall apply.

1.3.5 Toxicity Reduction Evaluation and Toxicity Identification Evaluation

- 1.3.5.1 If toxicity is greater than 1.0 TUc in any of the accelerated tests, the permittee shall initiate a TRE in accordance with [Generalized Methodology for Conducting Industrial Toxicity Reduction Evaluations](#) (EPA/600/2-88/070 April 1989).
- 1.3.5.2 The permittee will develop a more detailed TRE workplan as expeditiously as possible. At a minimum, the TRE must include:
 - 1.3.5.2.1 Further actions to investigate and identify the cause of toxicity;
 - 1.3.5.2.2 Actions the permittee will take to mitigate the impact of the discharge and to prevent recurrence of toxicity; and
 - 1.3.5.2.3 A schedule for these actions.
- 1.3.5.3 The permittee may initiate a Toxicity Identification Evaluation (TIE) as part of the TRE process. Any TIE must be performed in accordance with EPA guidance manuals, [Toxicity Identification Evaluation: Characterization of Chronically Toxic Effluents, Phase I](#) (EPA/600/6-91/005F, May 1992); [Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations, and Phase II Toxicity Identification Procedures for Samples Exhibiting Acute and Chronic Toxicity](#) (EPA/600R-92/080, September 1993); and [Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations, Phase III, Toxicity Confirmation Procedures for Samples Exhibiting Acute and Chronic Toxicity](#) (EPA-600/R-92/081, September 1993).

1.3.6 Reporting

- 1.3.6.1 The permittee shall submit the results of the toxicity tests with the next required DMR (in a separate report) due following the month in which results are received.
- 1.3.6.2 The permittees shall submit results of any accelerated testing, under Section 1.3.4, within two weeks of receipt of results from the laboratory. The full report must be submitted within four weeks of receipt of results from the laboratory. If an initial investigation indicates the source of toxicity and accelerated testing is unnecessary, the result of the investigation must be submitted with the next required DMR for the month following completion of the investigation.
- 1.3.6.3 The toxicity test report must include all relevant information outlined in Section 10, Report Preparation of [Short-Term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity and Receiving Water to Freshwater Organisms](#) (EPA/821-R-02-013, October 2002). In addition to toxicity test results, the permittees must report dates of sample collection and initiation of each test, flow rate at the time of sample collection.

1.4 APDES Application Form 2C Effluent Monitoring

- 1.4.1 The permittee shall perform the additional effluent testing in the Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Application Form 2C for existing manufacturing, commercial, mining, and silvicultural operations. Monitoring results must be included with the application for reissuance for permit reissuance.

2.0 SPECIAL CONDITIONS

2.1 Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP)

- 2.1.1 Within 180 days of the effective date of the permit, the permittee shall review, update as necessary, and implement a QAPP for all monitoring required by this permit.
- 2.1.2 The QAPP must be designed to assist in planning for the collection and analysis of all samples in support of the permit and to help explain data anomalies whenever they occur.
- 2.1.3 The QAPP shall be retained electronically or physically onsite and made available to DEC upon request.
- 2.1.4 Throughout all sample collection and analysis activities, the permittee must use DEC-approved Quality Assurance/Quality Control and chain-of-custody procedures, as described in the [Requirements for Quality Assurance Project Plans](#) (EPA/QA/R-5, March 2001) and [Guidance for Quality Assurance Project Plans](#) (EPA/QA/G-5, December 2002).
- 2.1.5 The QAPP must be prepared in the format specified in these documents.
- 2.1.6 At a minimum, a QAPP must include:
 - 2.1.6.1 Details on number of samples, type of sample containers, preservation of samples, holding times, analytical methods, analytical detection and quantitation limits for each target compound, type and number of quality assurance field samples, precision and accuracy requirements, sample preparation requirements, sample shipping methods, and laboratory data delivery requirements;
 - 2.1.6.2 Maps indicating the location of each sampling point;
 - 2.1.6.3 Qualification and training of personnel; and
 - 2.1.6.4 Specifications for the collection and analysis of quality assurance samples for each sampling event, including matrix spiked and duplicate samples and analysis of field blanks (sample blanks); and
 - 2.1.6.5 Name, address, and telephone number of all laboratories used by or proposed to be used by the permittee.
- 2.1.7 The permittee must amend the QAPP whenever sample collection, sample analysis, or other procedure addressed by the QAPP is modified.
- 2.1.8 An electronic or physical copy of the QAPP must be kept on site and made available to DEC upon request.

2.2 Best Management Practices Plan

- 2.2.1 Within 180 days of the effective date of this permit, the permittee shall review, update as necessary, and implement the BMP Plan. The BMP Plan shall incorporate practices to achieve the objectives and specific requirements listed below. The permittee shall fully comply with the BMP Plan along with any amendments.

- 2.2.2 The BMP Plan shall be retained electronically or physically at the facility's office of record and made available to DEC upon request.
- 2.2.3 The BMP Plan must be reviewed annually. Documentation of annual BMP Plan review by the permittee shall be retained at the facility's office of record and made available to DEC upon request.
- 2.2.4 The permittee must develop and amend the BMP Plan consistent with the following objectives for the control of pollutants:
- 2.2.4.1 The number and quantity of pollutants and the toxicity of effluent generated, discharged, or potentially discharged at the facility must be minimized by the permittee to the extent feasible by managing each waste stream in the most appropriate manner.
 - 2.2.4.2 Under the BMP Plan and especially within any standard operating procedures in the BMP Plan, the permittee must ensure proper operation and maintenance of water management systems.
 - 2.2.4.3 Each facility component or system must be examined for its waste minimization opportunities and its potential for causing a release of significant amounts of pollutants to lands and waters of the State due to equipment failure, improper operation, natural phenomena such as rain or snowfall. The examination must include all normal operations and ancillary activities including material storage areas, storm water, in-plant transfer, material handling and process handling areas, loading or unloading operations, spillage or leaks, sludge and waste disposal, or drainage from raw material storage.
- 2.2.5 The BMP Plan must be consistent with the objectives contained in Section 2.2.4 and the general guidance contained in [*Guidance Manual for Developing Best Management Practices*](#) (EPA 833-B-93-004, October 1993) and [*Storm Water Management for Industrial Activities, Developing Pollution Prevention Plans and Best Management Practices*](#) (EPA 832-R-92-006, September 1992) or any subsequent revision to these guidance documents.
- 2.2.6 The BMP Plan must comply with the following conditions:
- 2.2.6.1 The BMP Plan shall be developed in accordance with good engineering practices.
 - 2.2.6.2 The BMP Plan shall be documented in narrative form, and shall include any necessary plat plans, drawings, or maps.
- 2.2.7 The BMP Plan shall be organized and written with the following structure:
- 2.2.7.1 Name and location of facility.
 - 2.2.7.2 Statement of BMP policy
 - 2.2.7.3 Structure, functions, and procedures of the BMP Committee.
- 2.2.8 The BMP Plan shall be organized and written with the following structure:
- 2.2.8.1 Modification of equipment, facilities, technology, processes, and procedures.
 - 2.2.8.2 Statement of BMP policy.
 - 2.2.8.3 Substitution of materials.

- 2.2.8.4 Improvement in management, inventory control, materials handling or general operational phases of the facility.
 - 2.2.8.5 Risk identification and assessment.
 - 2.2.8.6 Materials compatibility.
 - 2.2.8.7 Good housekeeping.
 - 2.2.8.8 Inspections and records.
 - 2.2.8.9 Preventative maintenance.
 - 2.2.8.10 Security.
 - 2.2.8.11 Employee training.
 - 2.2.8.12 At a minimum, the BMP Plan must contain the planning, development and implementation, and evaluation/reevaluation components discussed in [*Guidance Manual for Developing Best Management Practices*](#) (EPA/833-B-93-004, October 1993) or any subsequent revisions to the guidance document.
 - 2.2.8.13 The BMP Plan must contain final constructed site plans, drawings, and maps (including detailed storm water outfall/culvert configurations).
- 2.2.9 BMP Plan must establish specific BMPs or other measures to achieve the objectives under Section 2.2.4 which ensure that the following specific requirements are met:
- 2.2.9.1 Ensure that all water control devices, including but not limited to structures and berms, and all solids retention structures such as berms, dikes, and pond structures and dams, shall be maintained to continue their effectiveness and protect from unexpected and catastrophic failure.
 - 2.2.9.2 Solids, sludge, or other pollutants removed in the course of treatment or control of water and wastewaters must be disposed of in a manner to prevent any pollutant from such materials from entering waters of the State.
 - 2.2.9.3 The permittee must amend the BMP Plan whenever there is a change in the facility design, construction, operations, or maintenance which materially affects the facility's potential for discharge of significant amounts of hazardous or toxic pollutants into the waters of the State. Modifications to the BMP Plan must be consistent with the objectives and requirements of Section 2.2.
 - 2.2.9.4 If the BMP Plan proves to be ineffective as determined by the permittee or DEC, in achieving the general objective of preventing the release of significant amounts of pollutants to waters of the State and the specific objectives and requirements listed in this section, the permit and/or the BMP Plan shall be subjected to modification to incorporate the revised BMP requirements.

3.0 GENERAL PROVISIONS

3.1 Electronic Reporting (E-Reporting) Rule

3.1.1 **E-Reporting Rule for DMRs (Phase I).** The permittee must submit DMR data electronically through NetDMR per Phase I of the E-Reporting Rule (40 CFR 127) upon the effective date of the Permit. Authorized persons may access permit information by logging into the NetDMR Portal (<https://cdx.epa.gov/>). DMRs submitted in compliance with the E-Reporting Rule are not required to be submitted as described in Appendix A – Standard Conditions unless requested or approved by the Department. Any DMR data required by the Permit that cannot be reported in a NetDMR field (e.g. mixing zone receiving water data, etc...), shall be included as an attachment to the NetDMR submittal. DEC has established an e-Reporting Information website at <https://dec.alaska.gov/water/compliance/electronic-reporting-rule> that contains general information about this new reporting format. Training materials and webinars for NetDMR can be found at https://usepa.servicenowservices.com/oeca_icis?id=netdmr_homepage.

3.1.2 **E-Reporting Rule for Other Reports (Phase II).** Phase II of the E-Reporting rule integrates electronic reporting for all other reports required by the Permit (e.g., Annual Reports and Certifications). All wastewater permit required submissions (e.g., Notices of Intent (NOI's), Notice of Terminations (NOT), Annual Reports, Noncompliance Notification, and Corrective Action reports are to be submitted electronically through DEC's Environmental Data Management System (EDMS, accessible via <https://dec.alaska.gov/water/edms>, unless prior approval has been obtained from DEC for an alternative means.

3.2 Removed Substances. Collected screenings, grit, solids, scum, and other facility residuals, or other pollutants removed in the course of treatment or control of water and wastewaters shall be disposed of in a Department approved manner and method in accordance with 18 AAC 60, such as to prevent any pollution from such materials from entering navigable waters.