29-LS0259\E

HOUSE BILL NO. 78

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE WILSON

Introduced: 1/23/15 Referred:

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act bearing the short title of the 'Alaska Competitive Energy Act of 2015'; and

2 relating to the Regulatory Commission of Alaska."

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

4 * Section 1. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section
5 to read:

6 SHORT TITLE. This Act may be known as the Alaska Competitive Energy Act of 7 2015.

8 * **Sec. 2.** AS 29.35.070(a) is amended to read:

9 (a) The assembly acting for the area outside all cities in the borough and the 10 council acting for the area in a city may regulate, fix, establish, and change the rates 11 and charges imposed for a utility service provided to the municipality or its inhabitants 12 by a utility that is not subject to regulation under AS 42.05 unless that utility is 13 exempted from regulation under AS 42.05.711(a), (d) - (k), [(o),] (p), or (r) [, OR IS 14 EXEMPTED UNDER REGULATIONS ADOPTED UNDER AS 42.05.810 FROM

1	COMPLYING WITH ALL OR PART OF AS 42.05.141 - 42.05.721].
2	* Sec. 3. AS 42.05.141(c) is amended to read:
3	(c) In the establishment of electric service rates under this chapter the
4	commission shall promote the conservation of resources used in the generation of
5	electric energy and the competitive and nondiscriminatory procurement of
6	electrical energy from and by public utilities, qualifying facilities, and
7	independent power producers.
8	* Sec. 4. AS 42.05.141 is amended by adding new subsections to read:
9	(e) The commission shall make regulatory decisions consistent with the state
10	energy policy declared in AS 44.99.115. In addition, the commission shall
11	(1) promote the competitive procurement and market-driven
12	development of renewable and alternative energy resources, including geothermal,
13	wind, solar, hydroelectric, hydrokinetic, tidal, and biomass energy, for use by residents
14	of the state and for export;
15	(2) promote the competitive procurement and market-driven
16	development, transport, and efficient use of energy resources, including fossil,
17	alternative, and renewable energy resources, for use by residents of the state and for
18	export;
19	(3) work to identify and assist with development of long-term, market-
20	driven sources of energy for each community statewide; and
21	(4) streamline, including reducing the time and cost of, permitting and
22	regulatory processes to promote private investment and encourage independent power
23	producers to develop, finance, own, operate, and manage qualifying facilities and
24	independent power producers.
25	(f) The commission shall require the owner of a transmission asset located in
26	the state to provide a qualifying facility, independent power producer, or public
27	facility fair, nondiscriminatory access to a transmission asset, including for joint use or
28	interconnection, in accordance with AS 42.05.311 and 42.05.321.
29	* Sec. 5. AS 42.05.151(a) is amended to read:
30	(a) The commission <u>shall</u> [MAY] adopt regulations, <u>consistent</u> [NOT
31	INCONSISTENT] with <u>state</u> [THE] law <u>, including the provisions of</u>

1	AS 42.05.141(e) and the state energy policy declared in AS 44.99.115, necessary or
2	proper to exercise its powers and to perform its duties under this chapter.
3	* Sec. 6. AS 42.05.175(e) is amended to read:
4	(e) The commission shall issue a final order in a rule-making proceeding
5	(1) not later than <u>365</u> [730] days after a complete petition for adoption,
6	amendment, or repeal of a regulation under AS 44.62.180 - 44.62.290 is filed <u>;</u> or
7	(2) [,] when the commission initiates a rule-making docket, not later
8	than <u>365</u> [730] days after the order initiating the proceeding is issued.
9	* Sec. 7. AS 42.05.211 is amended to read:
10	Sec. 42.05.211. Annual report. The commission shall, by November 15 of
11	each year, publish an annual report reviewing its activities during the previous fiscal
12	year and notify the legislature that the report is available. The report must
13	(1) address the regulation of public utility service in the state as of
14	June 30 <u>:</u>
15	(2) [AND MUST] contain details about the commission's compliance
16	with the requirements of AS 42.05.175(a) - (e), with the timeline extensions made by
17	the commission under AS 42.05.175(f), and with other performance measures
18	established by the commission; and
19	(3) list the avoided cost of each public utility issued a certificate
20	under AS 42.05.221, including reporting the costs of production, capital, debt,
21	fuel, operation, and maintenance for each source of electrical generation.
22	* Sec. 8. AS 42.05.221(d) is amended to read:
23	(d) In an area where the commission determines that two or more public
24	utilities are competing to furnish an identical utility service to end users and that this
25	competition does not lower electrical costs for end users [IS NOT IN THE PUBLIC
26	INTEREST], the commission shall take appropriate action to limit access to the retail
27	market and eliminate [THE COMPETITION AND] any undesirable duplication of
28	facilities, but the commission may not limit wholesale competition. This
29	appropriate action may include [, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO,] ordering the
30	competing utilities to enter into a contract that, among other things, would [:]
31	(1) delineate the service area boundaries of each in those areas of

1	competition;
2	(2) eliminate existing duplication and paralleling of infrastructure
3	serving end users to the fullest reasonable extent;
4	(3) preclude future duplication and paralleling <u>of infrastructure</u>
5	serving end users;
6	(4) provide for the exchange of customers and facilities for the
7	purpose [PURPOSES] of providing lower electrical costs for end users [BETTER
8	PUBLIC SERVICE AND OF ELIMINATING DUPLICATION AND
9	PARALLELING]; and
10	(5) provide [SUCH] other mutually equitable arrangements to lower
11	electrical costs for end users, including, when appropriate, a requirement that a
12	public utility purchase electric energy or energy capacity from a qualifying
13	facility or independent power producer at the avoided cost of the public utility or
14	at a mutually agreed upon rate [AS WOULD BE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST].
15	* Sec. 9. AS 42.05.221 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:
16	(g) In this section, "end user" does not include a purchaser of electricity for
17	wholesale or industrial use or a bulk buyer of electricity.
18	* Sec. 10. AS 42.05.311(a) is amended to read:
19	(a) A public utility having sewers, conduits, utilidors, poles, pole lines, pipes,
20	pipelines, mains, or electric or other distribution or transmission facilities shall, for
21	[A] reasonable compensation, permit another public utility, a qualifying facility, or
22	an independent power producer to use them when the use is consistent with public
23	convenience and necessity [REQUIRE THIS USE] and the use will not result in \underline{a}
24	demonstrated and substantial injury to the owner, or in a demonstrated and
25	substantial detriment to the service of [TO] the end users [CUSTOMERS OF THE
26	OWNERS]. The actual cost of modifications or additions necessary to accommodate
27	a joint use shall be at the expense of the public utility, qualifying facility, or
28	independent power producer requesting the use of the facilities. Except as provided
29	in (d) of this section, if a public utility and another party requesting use under
30	this section cannot agree on terms of use or reasonable compensation, the
31	commission may determine and require a public utility to comply with the terms

1	of service and compensation for the use for up to 90 days.
2	* Sec. 11. AS 42.05.311 is amended by adding new subsections to read:
3	(d) Upon receiving a request for joint use or interconnection from a public
4	utility, qualifying facility, or independent power producer, a public utility having
5	electric distribution or transmission facilities shall, within a reasonable time, permit
6	the joint use or interconnection to be made if the joint use or interconnection
7	(1) is consistent with public convenience and necessity;
8	(2) is consistent with AS 42.05.141(e) and the state energy policy
9	declared in AS 44.99.115;
10	(3) will not result in demonstrated and substantial injury to the owner
11	or other users of the facilities of the entities making the connection;
12	(4) will not result in demonstrated and substantial detriment to the
13	service provided by the entities making the connection; and
14	(5) will not create safety hazards.
15	(e) If a request for interconnection or joint use is made to a public utility for
16	use of a facility located in the state that was financed in whole or in part with federal
17	or state grants or loans and an interconnection or joint use study has not been
18	performed in the five years immediately preceding the request, the public utility shall
19	pay for the applicable study. If an interconnection or joint use study has been
20	completed in the five years immediately preceding the request, the entity requesting
21	interconnection or joint use may procure the applicable study at its own expense.
22	(f) When providing access to a transmission asset, a public utility may not
23	(1) discriminate between users of the transmission asset;
24	(2) employ an anticompetitive practice with a transmission asset; or
25	(3) use its management, ownership, or control of a transmission asset
26	to increase the cost of or prevent use by a utility, qualifying facility, or independent
27	power producer attempting to use a transmission asset.
28	(g) A public utility may assess reasonable integration charges or credits to
29	another public utility, qualifying facility, or independent power producer connecting to
30	its system.
31	(h) A benefit resulting from a connection described in this section shall be

1	credited toward the connecting entity.
2	(i) Upon request of the commission or the connecting entity, the owning
3	public utility shall
4	(1) disclose the basis for the interconnection or integration charges or
5	credits;
6	(2) bear the burden of demonstrating that the interconnection or
7	integration charges or credits comply with this section;
8	(3) demonstrate that the interconnection or integration charges and
9	credits are fair, reasonable, and nondiscriminatory and comply with this chapter.
10	(j) The commission may fine a public utility for failure to comply with this
11	section.
12	* Sec. 12. AS 42.05.321 is amended to read:
13	Sec. 42.05.321. Failure to agree upon joint use or interconnection. (a) In
14	case of failure to agree upon the joint use or interconnection of facilities or the
15	conditions or compensation for joint use or interconnections, a qualifying facility, an
16	independent power producer, a [THE] public utility, including any municipality, or
17	an interested person may apply to the commission for an order requiring the
18	interconnection. If, after investigation and opportunity for hearing, the commission
19	finds that the joint use or interconnection is consistent with public convenience and
20	necessity [REQUIRE THE JOINT USE OR CONNECTION], that the use or
21	connection is consistent with AS 42.05.141(e), 42.05.311, and the state energy
22	policy declared in AS 44.99.115, and that the use or connection will not result in
23	demonstrated and substantial injury to the owner utility having a transmission asset
24	or [ITS] customers of an owner utility, [OR] in demonstrated and substantial
25	detriment to the services furnished by the owner utility having a transmission asset,
26	or in the creation of safety hazards, the commission [IT] shall
27	(1) order that the use be permitted;
28	(2) prescribe reasonable conditions and compensation for the joint use;
29	(3) order the interconnection to be made;
30	(4) determine the time and manner of the interconnection;
31	(5) determine the apportionment of costs and responsibility for

1 operation and maintenance of the interconnection.

2 Notwithstanding an exemption from other regulation, this [THIS] (b) 3 section and AS 42.05.311 apply to a utility, qualifying facility, or independent 4 power producer [ALL UTILITIES WHETHER OR NOT THEY ARE EXEMPT 5 FROM OTHER REGULATION UNDER AS 42.05.711].

6 * Sec. 13. AS 42.05.321 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

7

(c) The commission shall ensure that a fee charged under this section for joint 8 use or interconnection by a public utility owning a transmission asset is reasonable and 9 that system charges constitute reasonable integration charges and are determined in the 10 same manner that the public utility owning the transmission asset charges or allocates those costs to itself. The commission may temporarily set a fee charged under this 11 12 section to zero if a public utility does not provide sufficient information for the 13 commission to determine whether a fee charged under this section is reasonable.

14 (d) Within 90 days after a request for an order requiring joint use or 15 interconnection is filed with the commission under (a) of this section, the commission 16 shall issue a temporary order requiring joint use or interconnection or a statement 17 explaining why the order was denied and actions that may be taken to facilitate the 18 approval of a subsequent request for joint use or interconnection.

19 Within 365 days after a request for an order requiring joint use or (e) 20 interconnection is filed with the commission under (a) of this section, the commission 21 shall issue a permanent order requiring joint use or interconnection or a detailed 22 finding explaining why the order was denied.

23 * Sec. 14. AS 42.05.381(a) is amended to read:

24 (a) All rates demanded or received by a public utility, or by any two or more 25 public utilities jointly, for a service furnished or to be furnished shall be just and 26 reasonable; however, a rate may not include an allowance for costs of political 27 contributions, costs of [OR] public relations, or costs related to formal or informal 28 adjudicatory proceedings or judicial actions against a qualifying facility or 29 independent power producer except for reasonable amounts spent for

30 31 (1) energy conservation efforts;

(2) public information designed to promote more efficient use of the

1	utility's facilities or services or to protect the physical plant of the utility;
2	(3) informing shareholders and members of a cooperative of meetings
3	of the utility and encouraging attendance; [OR]
4	(4) emergency situations to the extent and under the circumstances
5	authorized by the commission for good cause shown; or
6	(5) a mediator, independent expert, or similar impartial analyst
7	used in good faith negotiations with a qualifying facility or independent power
8	producer if the negotiations result in a mutually agreed upon resolution of the
9	formal or informal adjudicatory proceeding or judicial action, including a
10	settlement or a power purchase agreement.
11	* Sec. 15. AS 42.05.411 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:
12	(d) Upon the filing of a new or revised tariff, the commission shall review the
13	entire tariff for consistency with AS 42.05.141(e) and the state energy policy declared
14	in AS 44.99.115. If the new or revised tariff is not consistent with AS 42.05.141(e)
15	and the state energy policy, the commission shall direct the utility to revise the tariff to
16	be consistent with AS 42.05.141(e) and the state energy policy and submit the revised
17	tariff to the commission for approval under this section.
18	* Sec. 16. AS 42.05.431(c) is amended to read:
19	(c) Notwithstanding (b) of this section,
20	(1) a wholesale agreement for the sale of power from a project licensed
21	by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on or before January 1, 1987, and
22	related contracts for the wheeling, storage, regeneration, or wholesale repurchase of
23	power purchased under the agreement, entered into between the Alaska Energy
24	Authority and one or more other public utilities or among the utilities after October 31,
25	1987, and before January 1, 1988, and amendments to the wholesale agreement or
26	related contract, and the wholesale agreement or related contract assigned by the
27	Alaska Energy Authority to a joint action agency formed under AS 42.45.310 that
28	purchases the project from the Alaska Energy Authority, are not subject to review or
29	approval by the commission until all long-term debt incurred for the project is retired,
30	or, for a wholesale agreement or related contract assigned to a joint action agency
31	formed under AS 42.45.310, until all long-term debt incurred to pay the purchase price

1	to the Alaska Energy Authority is retired, except that an agreement under this
2	paragraph or related contracts or amendments are not exempt from
3	AS 42.05.311 or 42.05.321; [AND]
4	(2) a wholesale agreement or related contract described in (1) of this
5	subsection may contain a covenant for the public utility to establish, charge, and
6	collect rates sufficient to meet its obligations under the contract; the rate covenant is
7	valid and enforceable:
8	(3) a wholesale agreement between a public utility and a qualifying
9	facility or independent power producer for the sale of power at or below the
10	avoided cost of the public utility is valid and enforceable; and
11	(4) a wholesale agreement for the purchase and sale of electricity is
12	not subject to review or approval by the commission if, at the time the initial
13	agreement is made, the entity providing the electricity is not a utility and the
14	purchaser is located outside the certificated service area of a utility, regardless of
15	whether the purchaser later becomes part of the certificated service area of a
16	utility.
17	* Sec. 17. AS 42.05.431(e) is amended to read:
18	(e) Validated costs incurred by a utility in connection with the related
19	contracts described in (c)(1) of this section must be allowed in the rates charged by the
20	utility. In this subsection, "validated costs" are the actual costs that a utility uses, under
21	the formula set out in related contracts described in (c) of this section, to establish
22	rates, charges for services and rights, and the payment of charges for services and
23	rights. This subsection does not grant the commission jurisdiction to alter or amend
24	the formula set out in those related contracts. except that the commission may alter
25	or amend the formula to ensure that the contracts are consistent with
26	AS 42.05.141(e) and the state energy policy declared in AS 44.99.115.
27	* Sec. 18. AS 42.05.511(a) is amended to read:
28	(a) The commission may
29	(1) investigate the management of a public utility, including [BUT
30	NOT LIMITED TO] staffing patterns, wage and salary scales and agreements,
31	investment policies and practices, purchasing and payment arrangements with

1	affiliated interests, for the purpose of determining inefficient or unreasonable practices
2	that adversely affect the cost or quality of service of the public utility:
3	(2) review emergency backup, mid-term, and long-term fuel
4	supply plans of a public utility for reasonableness;
5	(3) investigate suspected discriminatory or anticompetitive
6	practices in the procurement of wholesale power from a qualifying facility or
7	independent power producer by a public utility.
8	* Sec. 19. AS 42.05.711(b) is amended to read:
9	(b) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection [AND IN (o) OF THIS
10	SECTION], public utilities owned and operated by a political subdivision of the state,
11	or electric operating entities established as an [THE] instrumentality of two or more
12	public utilities owned and operated by political subdivisions of the state, are exempt
13	from this chapter, other than AS 42.05.221 - 42.05.281 and 42.05.385. However,
14	(1) the governing body of $\underline{\mathbf{the}}$ [A] political subdivision may elect to be
15	subject to this chapter; and
16	(2) a utility or electric operating entity that is owned or [AND]
17	operated by a political subdivision and that directly competes with another public
18	utility, joint action agency, qualifying facility, independent power producer,
19	transmission utility whose primary function is to control, operate, and maintain
20	transmission facilities of 69 kilovolts or more, or electric operating entity is subject
21	to this chapter [AND ANY OTHER UTILITY OR ELECTRIC OPERATING
22	ENTITY OWNED AND OPERATED BY THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION IS
23	ALSO SUBJECT TO THIS CHAPTER; THIS PARAGRAPH DOES NOT APPLY
24	TO A UTILITY OR ELECTRIC OPERATING ENTITY OWNED AND
25	OPERATED BY A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION THAT COMPETES WITH A
26	TELECOMMUNICATIONS UTILITY].
27	* Sec. 20. AS 42.05.711(<i>l</i>) is amended to read:
28	(1) A person, utility, joint action agency established under AS 42.45.310, or
29	cooperative that is exempt from regulation under (a), (d) - (k), [(o),] or (r) of this
30	section is not subject to regulation by a municipality under AS 29.35.060 and
31	29.35.070.

1	* Sec. 21. AS 42.05.711(r) is amended to read:
2	(r) A plant or facility owned or operated by an independent power
3	producer [THAT GENERATES ELECTRICITY ENTIRELY FROM RENEWABLE
4	ENERGY RESOURCES] is exempt from regulation under this chapter if the plant or
5	facility sells more than 50 percent of the net electricity it generates to purchasers
6	located outside the state or
7	(1) the plant or facility
8	[(A)] is first placed into commercial operation on or after
9	August 31, 2010, and before January 1, 2025 [2016];
10	(2) the plant or facility [AND (B)] does not generate more than 80
11	[65] megawatts of electricity; and
12	(3) [(2)] the <u>net</u> electricity generated by the plant or facility is sold
13	only to one or more electric utilities that are regulated by the commission or to one or
14	more purchasers who are located outside a certificated service area of a utility
15	and who are not the public, as that term is defined in AS 42.05.990 [; AND
16	(3) THE PERSON THAT CONSTRUCTS, OWNS, ACQUIRES, OR
17	OPERATES THE PLANT OR FACILITY HAS NOT RECEIVED FROM THE
18	STATE
19	(A) A GRANT THAT WAS USED TO GENERATE THE
20	ELECTRICITY FROM THE RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES; OR
21	(B) A TAX CREDIT RELATED TO THE GENERATION OF
22	ELECTRICITY FROM THE RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES].
23	* Sec. 22. AS 42.05.711 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:
24	(u) A qualifying facility is exempt from regulation under this chapter.
25	* Sec. 23. AS 42.05.990(6) is amended to read:
26	(6) "public utility" or "utility" includes every corporation whether
27	public, cooperative, joint action agency, or otherwise, company, individual, or
28	association of individuals, their lessees, trustees, or receivers appointed by a court, that
29	owns, operates, manages, or controls any plant, pipeline, or system for
30	(A) furnishing, by generation, transmission, or distribution,
31	electrical service to the public for compensation;

1	(B) furnishing telecommunications service to the public for
2	compensation;
3	(C) furnishing water, steam, or sewer service to the public for
4	compensation;
5	(D) furnishing by transmission or distribution of natural or
6	manufactured gas to the public for compensation;
7	(E) furnishing for distribution or by distribution petroleum or
8	petroleum products to the public for compensation when the consumer has no
9	alternative in the choice of supplier of a comparable product and service at an
10	equal or lesser price;
11	(F) furnishing collection and disposal service of garbage,
12	refuse, trash, or other waste material to the public for compensation;
13	(G) furnishing the service of natural gas storage to the public
14	for compensation;
15	(H) furnishing the service of liquefied natural gas storage to the
16	public for compensation;
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17	* Sec. 24. AS 42.05.990 is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:
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17 18 19 20	 * Sec. 24. AS 42.05.990 is amended by adding new paragraphs to read: (14) "anticompetitive practice" means (A) a practice that directly or indirectly manipulates the purchase or sale of electric energy, access to an electric transmission facility,
17 18 19 20 21	 * Sec. 24. AS 42.05.990 is amended by adding new paragraphs to read: (14) "anticompetitive practice" means (A) a practice that directly or indirectly manipulates the purchase or sale of electric energy, access to an electric transmission facility, the cost of electric energy, the price paid for wholesale electric energy, or the
17 18 19 20 21 22	 * Sec. 24. AS 42.05.990 is amended by adding new paragraphs to read: (14) "anticompetitive practice" means (A) a practice that directly or indirectly manipulates the purchase or sale of electric energy, access to an electric transmission facility, the cost of electric energy, the price paid for wholesale electric energy, or the charges or credits allocated to a qualifying facility or independent power
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 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 	 * Sec. 24. AS 42.05.990 is amended by adding new paragraphs to read: (14) "anticompetitive practice" means (A) a practice that directly or indirectly manipulates the purchase or sale of electric energy, access to an electric transmission facility, the cost of electric energy, the price paid for wholesale electric energy, or the charges or credits allocated to a qualifying facility or independent power producer, including interconnection, integration, wheeling, and demand ratchet charges or credits;
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 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 	 * Sec. 24. AS 42.05.990 is amended by adding new paragraphs to read: (14) "anticompetitive practice" means (A) a practice that directly or indirectly manipulates the purchase or sale of electric energy, access to an electric transmission facility, the cost of electric energy, the price paid for wholesale electric energy, or the charges or credits allocated to a qualifying facility or independent power producer, including interconnection, integration, wheeling, and demand ratchet charges or credits; (B) an act, practice, or scheme by a utility to defraud; or (C) making an untrue statement or omitting a material fact in a
 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 	 * Sec. 24. AS 42.05.990 is amended by adding new paragraphs to read: (14) "anticompetitive practice" means (A) a practice that directly or indirectly manipulates the purchase or sale of electric energy, access to an electric transmission facility, the cost of electric energy, the price paid for wholesale electric energy, or the charges or credits allocated to a qualifying facility or independent power producer, including interconnection, integration, wheeling, and demand ratchet charges or credits; (B) an act, practice, or scheme by a utility to defraud; or (C) making an untrue statement or omitting a material fact in a communication published by a public utility for use by the commission, a
 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 	 * Sec. 24. AS 42.05.990 is amended by adding new paragraphs to read: (14) "anticompetitive practice" means (A) a practice that directly or indirectly manipulates the purchase or sale of electric energy, access to an electric transmission facility, the cost of electric energy, the price paid for wholesale electric energy, or the charges or credits allocated to a qualifying facility or independent power producer, including interconnection, integration, wheeling, and demand ratchet charges or credits; (B) an act, practice, or scheme by a utility to defraud; or (C) making an untrue statement or omitting a material fact in a communication published by a public utility for use by the commission, a qualifying facility, an independent power producer, or the customers of the

1	qualifying facility or independent power producer, the utility would have to generate
2	itself or purchase from another source;
3	(16) "distribution lines" means low voltage transmission lines that
4	deliver power to retail customers;
5	(17) "independent power producer" means a corporation, person,
6	agency, authority, or other legal entity other than a qualifying facility that owns or
7	operates facilities for the generation of electricity for wholesale delivery to a public
8	utility or for use by customers outside the certificated service area of a utility;
9	(18) "joint action agency" means an entity established under
10	AS 42.45.300;
11	(19) "qualifying facility" means
12	(A) a small power production facility located in the state that
13	generates 80 megawatts of electricity or less and whose primary energy source
14	(i) is a renewable or alternative energy resource,
15	including geothermal, wind, solar, hydroelectric, hydrokinetic, tidal, or
16	biomass energy; or
17	(ii) originates in the state; or
18	(B) a cogeneration facility located in the state that sequentially
19	produces electricity and another form of useful thermal energy, including
20	steam or heat, in a manner that is more efficient than the separate production of
21	both forms of energy;
22	(20) "reasonable compensation" means the cost of maintenance plus a
23	return on the private equity of the owning public utility or joint action agency for the
24	portion of the sewer, conduit, utilidor, pole, pole line, pipe, pipeline, main, or other
25	distribution or transmission facility that is jointly used;
26	(21) "reasonable integration charges or credits" means the fair,
27	nondiscriminatory costs that are directly attributable to the system connection,
28	reasonably necessary to maintain safe and reliable operations of the utility system, in
29	excess of the corresponding costs that the public utility would have otherwise
30	incurred, not duplicative of costs already charged related to the system connection,
31	offset by credits for benefits attributable to the system connection, and determined in

1 the same manner as the utility allocates the charges to itself; 2 (22) "transmission asset" means an asset used to move bulk electricity 3 from where it is produced or generated to distribution lines. 4 * Sec. 25. AS 42.45.300 is amended to read: 5 Sec. 42.45.300. Joint action agencies. Two or more public utilities may form 6 a joint action agency for the purpose of participation in the design, construction, 7 operation, and maintenance of a generating or transmission facility and to secure 8 financing for carrying out the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of the 9 facility. A joint action agency may request the Alaska Industrial Development and 10 Export Authority to issue revenue bonds for projects of the agency. A joint action agency may be regulated as [HAS THE POWERS OF] a public utility under 11 12 AS 42.05. 13 * Sec. 26. AS 42.05.711(o) is repealed.