



Legislative Update From Representative Bryce Edgmon



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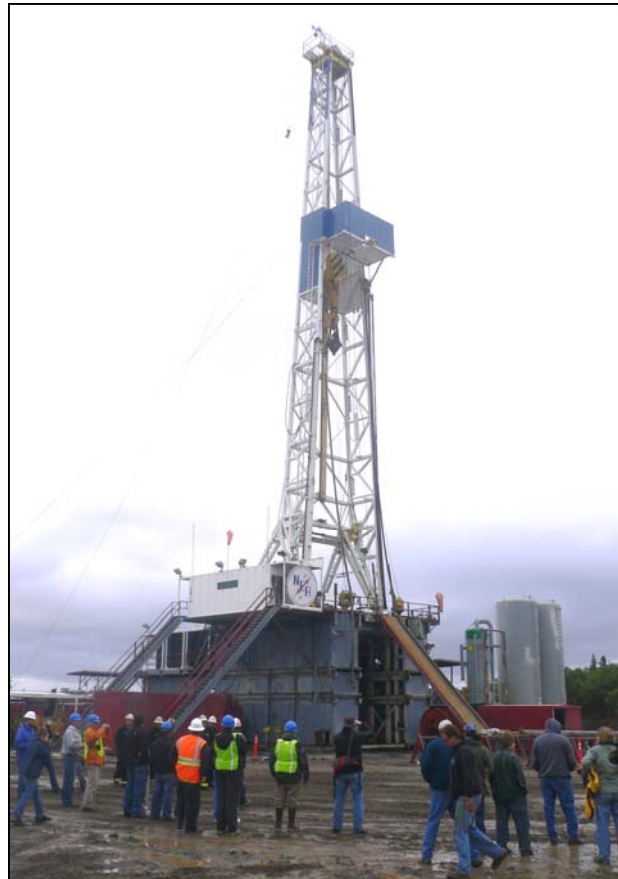
August 17th, 2009

Naknek Electric Breaks Ground in a Big Way on Geothermal Exploration

On Saturday I attended a ceremony to kick off the latest phase of Naknek Electric Association's (NEA) ambitious exploration into providing lower cost, alternative energy to as many as 28 Bristol Bay communities. Along with our Senator Lyman Hoffman, I joined a group of about 100 others, including many NEA board members as well as officials from the Denali Commission, the Alaska Energy Authority, Bristol Bay Native Association, and staff from Sen. Lisa Murkowski's office.

At a site a few miles outside of King Salmon, a massive drilling rig brought up from California will bore an exploratory well this summer to reach from 8,000 to as much as 12,000 feet deep. Potentially, the well could one day be used in the first utility-scale geothermal project

in the state. Certainly this is the largest-scale geothermal exploration so far undertaken in Alaska.



Shipped up from California and barged from Washington state to the Bay, the drill rig may bore as deep as 12,000 feet into the earth.

NEA's present drilling schedule will continue for 70 days, with contingency for as many as 20 additional days if called for. The cooperative expects to have learned a great deal more about the site's viability by mid-October.

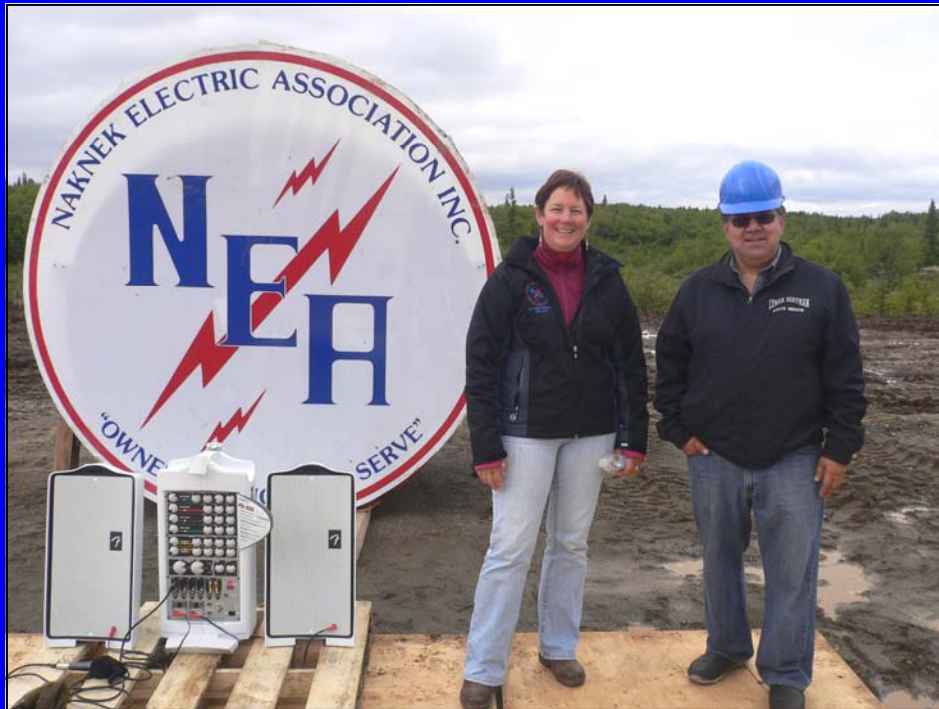
I want to congratulate the NEA Board, General Manager Donna Vukich, and many others in Naknek and King Salmon who have worked for years to bring their search for an alternative energy source this far. Their determination has been inspirational to all of us who want to bring about a dramatically improved energy landscape in the Bristol Bay region.



Bryce at right with Senator Lyman Hoffman, below the big rig now poised to drill in search of Geothermal energy that could power dozens of villages in the region.



Bryce saying a few words to those gathered for the "spud in."



Senator Hoffman with NEA board member Nancy Lyons Morris.

Keep in Contact

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