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Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Siting of Microreactors – Public Scoping for Regulation Development
PO Box 111800 Juneau, AK 99811

To Whom it May Concern,

Doyon Utilities (DU) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments for this public scoping for regulation development related to the siting of microreactors in Alaska. Microreactors can play a key role in providing safe, resilient, secure, and carbon-free sources of energy in Alaska.

Doyon Utilities is a utility regulated by the Regulatory Commission of Alaska. DU owns and operates the electric, steam heat, natural gas, water and wastewater utilities at Fort Wainwright, AK; Fort Greely, AK; and the Fort Richardson portion of Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, AK. As a regulated energy utility, we have a strong interest in development of these regulations.

Federal regulations, administered primarily by the Nuclear Regulatory Agency, address the technical and public safety considerations for permitting and operating nuclear facilities. DEC's role in microreactor development and deployment, defined by AS 18.45 as modified by SB177, will be to coordinate state and federal regulators. The issuance of a site permit is left to local municipalities. SB177 was passed specifically to enable the use of microreactors in Alaska. DU urges the DEC to craft the minimum regulations needed to support this limited role so that the benefits of microreactor technology can be enjoyed by Alaskans as quickly and easily as possible.

Sincerely,

Lou Florence
President and CEO