

### **KENAI SOLAR FARM**

KPB ASSEMBLY PRESENTATION, OCTOBER 12, 2021

PRESENTER: JENN MILLER, CEO

### **DISCUSSION OUTLINE**



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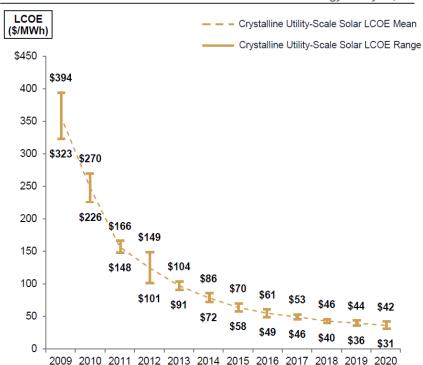
- 1. Solar... In Alaska?
- 2. Renewable IPP Company Overview
- 3. Independent Power Producers & Utility Scale Solar
- 4. Kenai Solar Farm Project
- 5. Property Tax Considerations
- 6. Next Steps



### **SOLAR... IN ALASKA?**

Source: LAZARD

Unsubsidized Solar PV LCOE Levelized Cost of Energy Analysis, V14



- Since 2009 solar energy cost has decreased 90%
- HEA cost of generation: \$0.07-0.09/kWh
- Average US solar cost: \$0.03-\$0.04/kWh
  - Alaska's solar energy cost is higher due to lower production, but still competitive!

### RENEWABLE IPP- COMPANY OVERVIEW



### Mission:

"Economic Renewable Energy for Alaska"

### Who We Are:

Alaska-grown small business, owned by 4 engineers

### What We Do:

Develop, construct & operate utility scale solar farms

### Our Experience: Willow Solar Farm Project

- Alaska's largest solar farm
- Delivered under budget & economic!

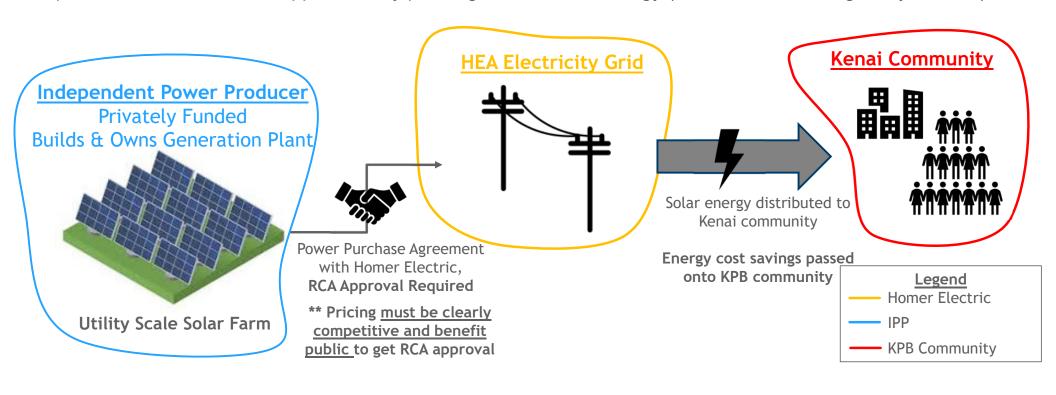


Renewable IPP Partners (left to right): Sam Dennis, Chris Colbert, Grant Smith & Jenn Miller

## INDEPENDENT POWER PRODUCERS (IPP) & THE UTILITY SCALE SOLAR BUSINESS MODEL



**Independent Power Producer:** An entity that is not a public utility but owns facilities to generate electric power for sale to utilities. Applies to any power generation technology (solar, wind, natural gas, hydro, etc.)



### KENAI SOLAR FARM PROJECT OVERVIEW



- 20 MW Output, 30 MW of Solar Panel Capacity
- Produces enough energy to support ~4,500 homes
- Provides generation to meet 6.5% of Homer Electric energy demand
- Approximately 60,000 solar panels
- 40-60 Construction jobs
- Land location identified (~160 acres), working on lease
- 30-40+ year operating life



20X the Willow Solar Farm!

### **PROPERTY TAXES**



- Solar farms are expensive capital assets, Kenai Solar Farm ~\$30-35 million
  - Infrastructure project vs. retail business
- IPP's are at a competitive disadvantage because public utilities do not pay property taxes
- Property taxes threaten our ability to
  - Provide the lowest cost power to HEA members
  - Agree a power purchase contract with the utility & receive RCA approval

### IPP PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION REQUEST



### Our Request:

- For the KPB Assembly to consider a property tax exemption for IPP's selling electricity to RCA regulated utilities
  - RCA oversight ensures electricity is cost competitive for KPB residents

#### Benefits to the KPB:

- Lower electricity prices for KPB residents & businesses
  - Value of property taxes are made up through electricity cost savings
  - Lower energy prices help other KPB businesses thrive
- Economic development
- Local jobs

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### **NEXT STEPS & CONTACT INFO**

- Feedback, Q&A from Assemblymembers
- KPB Resilience & Security Advisory Commission (RSAC)
  - Completing independent review
  - November: Memo & recommendation to KPB Assembly
- THANK YOU! Please Reach Out Anytime!

