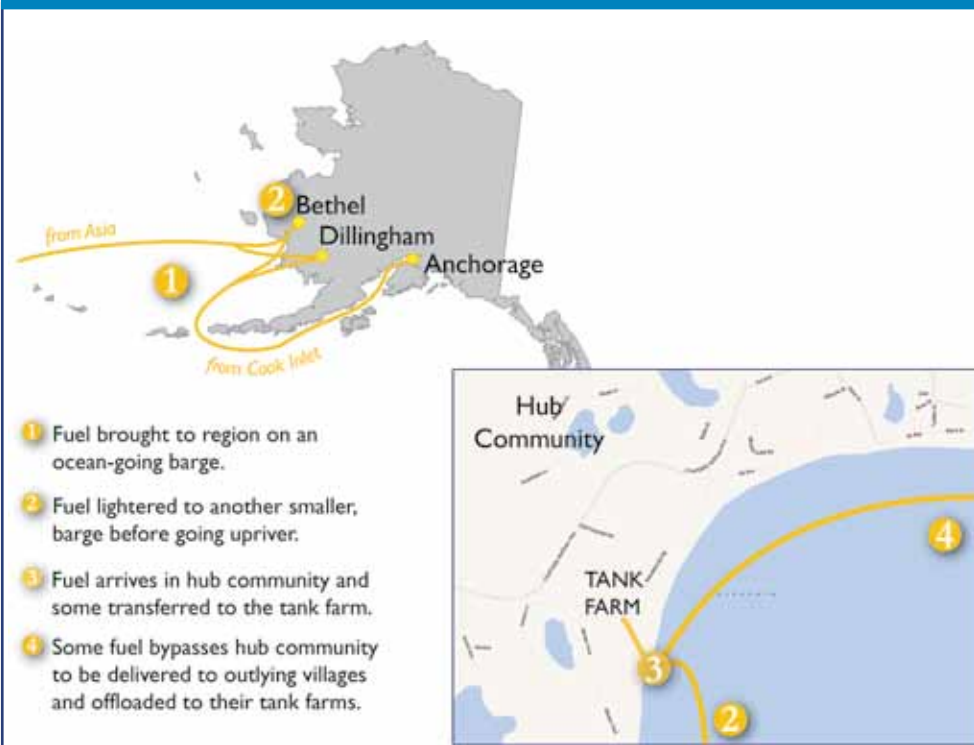




NUVISTA'S MISSION IS...to improve the energy economics in rural Alaska by creating energy generation and transmission infrastructure to serve, connect, and enable the region to attain affordable, long term energy sustainability and self-sufficiency.

A Day in the Life of a Gallon Of Diesel Fuel in Rural Alaska

As we all know, diesel fuel is the main source of energy used throughout much of rural Alaska for the heating and electricity needs of residential, industrial, and commercial customers. Have you thought about what it takes to deliver fuel to your community?



Staying in Touch

Contact the Nuvista Team
 Elaine Brown, Executive Director
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Chuck Casper P.E., Program Manager
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 907-644-6319 | pmurphy@NuvistaCoop.org

Sign Up for Nuvista E-News
 tanya@agnewbeck.com

Visit the Nuvista Website
 www.NuvistaCoop.org

Subscribe to the Project Docket
 with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
 www.ferc.gov Project: P-14369

Energy Star

The Energy Star for this issue of Nuvista News is the Tazimina River Hydroelectric Project. See inside for more details!

Energy Stars are individuals, organizations, and projects working to improve the energy future of rural Alaska.

Energy Saving Tip

Unplug all unused electric appliances when not in use. Up to 15% of the average home electric usage is generated by keeping unused appliances on standby. Try plugging your TV, VCR, DVD cords or coffee maker and toaster cords into one power strip so you can turn off all of these electronics after use.

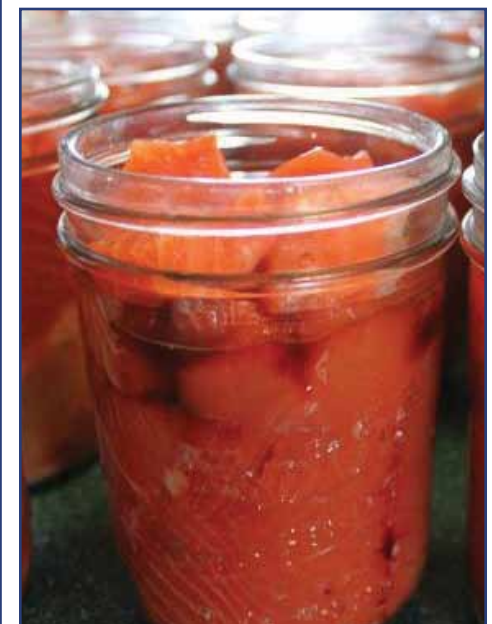
Stay in Touch

Visit Nuvista's website, www.NuvistaCoop.org, for regular updates on times and locations of upcoming meetings in the region.

You can also subscribe to receive regular e-newsletter updates by contacting tanya@agnewbeck.com.

Farewell Summer, Hello Winter

And what a busy summer it has been. But, the seasons are changing – kids to school, heaters on, fish canned, berries picked, meeting season is upon us. We will be coming in person to your community soon to offer updates on Nuvista's many projects. We look forward to talking with you in October and November. Please check our website – www.NuvistaCoop.org for regular updates to the meeting schedule.



Local Energy Star:

TAZIMINA RIVER HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT

Western Alaska is on the cutting edge of new solutions to the challenges of finding sustainable, stable-priced energy sources. The Tazimina River Hydroelectric Project is an innovative, local answer to the cost of high power and increasing diesel prices. The Tazimina River Hydroelectric Project is located about 12 miles northeast of Iliamna Lake on the Tazimina River, which flows into Six Mile Lake, near the village of Nondalton.

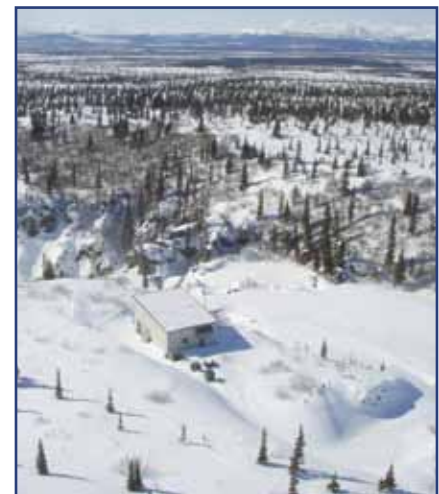
Iliamna-Newhalen-Nondalton Electric Cooperative (INNEC) owns and operates Tazimina, which produces power for the cooperative's three member communities. It is a run-of-the-river project that came online in 1998, with a capacity of capacity of 824 kW.

Run-of-river facilities take advantage of rivers where there is sufficient natural drop in the river to operate the turbine without the requirement for a dam. At Tazimina a diversion structure directs water from the stream channel into a penstock (pipe).

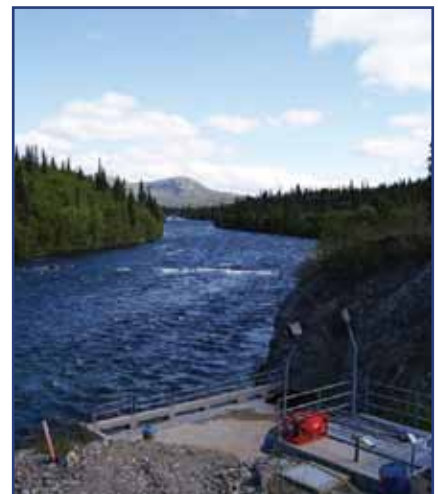
According to INNEC's website, the hydroelectric plant was built with care to minimize potential environmental impacts. INNEC located the project to avoid impact on fish, minimize land disturbance and siltation of the river. INNEC notes that when its member communities use hydropower, less diesel fuel is consumed to generate electricity; this saves money, reduces emissions of climate change gases, and reduces risks of oil spills because less fuel is being shipped and stored.

Another key element of the success of this project is the fact that all three communities are connected to a single electricity distribution network. This increases efficiencies and reduces operational costs.

The Tazimina River Hydroelectric generates enough power that INNEC sells excess power to the local school district for heating the Newhalen and Nondalton schools. Over the last three years Tazimina has saved these schools many thousands of gallons of fuel. INNEC offers a very low rate of 12 cents per Kwh, not only displacing fuel but saving the local a lot of money.



Even in winter Iliamna, Newhalen and Nondalton run on 100 % hydro power.

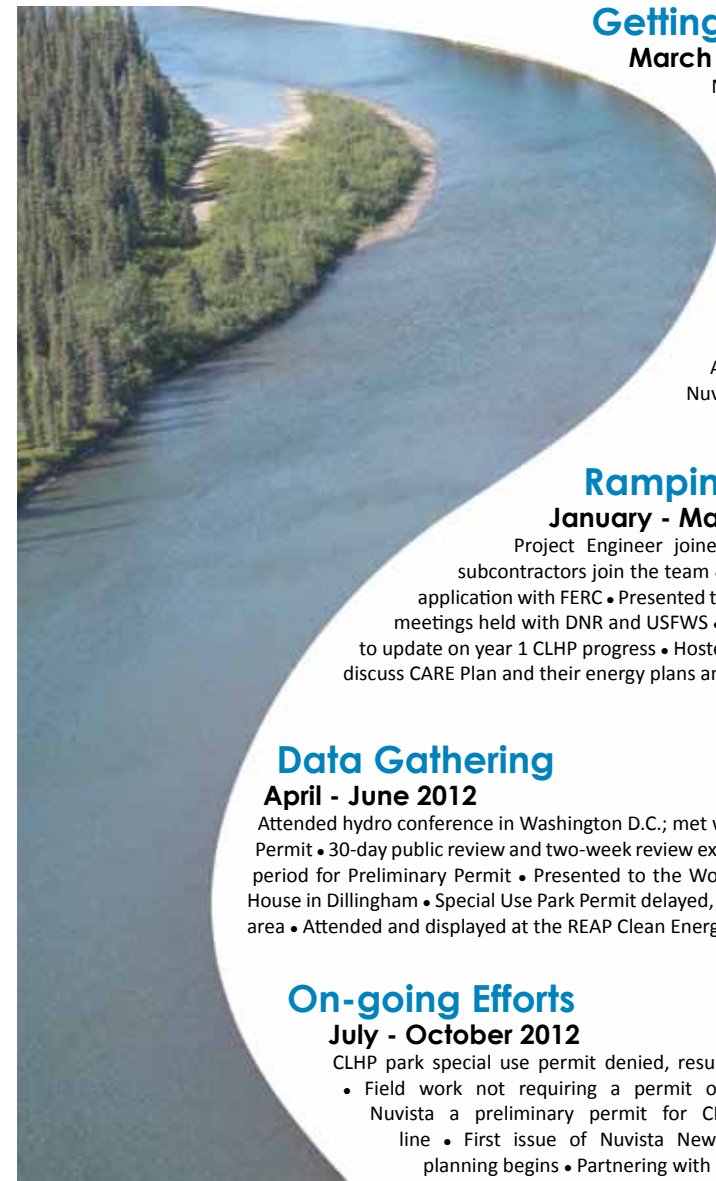


View of the Tazimina River from the Hydroelectric intake.

A Year of Progress:

NUVISTA IS MAKING STRIDES

Nuvista has made great strides since July 2011 on the Calista AVCP Regional Energy (CARE) Plan and the Chikuminuk Lake Hydroelectric Project (CLHP). From hiring capable staff, to extensive community outreach, to receiving a preliminary permit application from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), to studying Chikuminuk Lake's hydropower potential; Nuvista has been working diligently to help find energy answers to the challenges faced in western Alaska.



Getting Started

March - September 2011

Nuvista hired Executive Director • Chikuminuk Lake Hydroelectric Project (CLHP) selected by AVCP-RHA as the preferred candidate to address regional energy needs at their annual conference • Identified and read past energy reports • USGS installed stream gage in the Allen River

Gaining Momentum

October - December 2011

Signed an engineering agreement with Hatch Engineering Associates to assist with CLHP • Project Administrator joined the Nuvista team to help with CARE Plan coordination

Ramping Up

January - March 2012

Project Engineer joined the Nuvista team to work with Hatch on the CLHP • CLHP subcontractors join the team • Signed CLHP grant agreement with AEA • Filed preliminary permit application with FERC • Presented to the AK House Energy & Resources Committee • CLHP informational meetings held with DNR and USFWS • Hosted Agency Kick-off Meeting • Attended AVCP-RHA conference to update on year 1 CLHP progress • Hosted a Community Open House in Bethel • Traveled to communities to discuss CARE Plan and their energy plans and needs

Data Gathering

April - June 2012

Attended hydro conference in Washington D.C.; met with FERC, DOI, DOE, and USFWS • Submitted State Park Special Use Permit • 30-day public review and two-week review extension of State Park Special Use Permit • FERC application comment period for Preliminary Permit • Presented to the Wood-Tikchik State Park Advisory Council • Hosted Community Open House in Dillingham • Special Use Park Permit delayed, planned field work delayed • Data gathering trip to Chikuminuk Lake area • Attended and displayed at the REAP Clean Energy Conference

On-going Efforts

July - October 2012

CLHP park special use permit denied, resubmitted for certain study area topics to be approved individually • Field work not requiring a permit occurs (raptor and fish studies, water analysis) • FERC grants Nuvista a preliminary permit for CLHP • Determined potential alignment of CLHP transmission line • First issue of Nuvista News mailed out • 2012 field season reports being filed • 2013 planning begins • Partnering with RuralCAP to bring energy wise program to Western AK

Nuvista Works to Bring the Energy Wise Program to Communities in Western Alaska

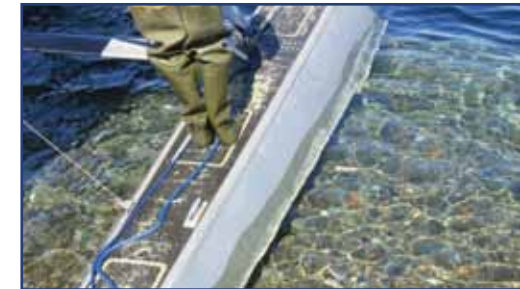
Nuvista is working in partnership with RurAL CAP to bring the Energy Wise Program to Western Alaska. Energy Wise engages rural Alaskan communities in behavior change practices resulting in energy efficiency and energy conservation. Locally hired crews are trained to educate community residents and conduct basic energy efficiency upgrades during full-day home visits. Through Energy Wise, rural Alaskans reduce their energy consumption, lower their home heating and electric bills, and save money. An evaluation of the Energy Wise program completed in 2010 showed that the average, per household combined resident and PCE electrical savings were approximately \$59/month or \$708/year with the program in place.

(Source: Energy Wise 2012 Fact Sheet)

Chikuminuk Lake Tid Bits: Did you know?



Chikuminuk Lake has been the subject of analysis for decades. Studies of Chikuminuk Lake's potential for hydroelectric power date back to 1954.



In 1982, Alaska State Parks issued an "incompatible use permit" allowing field investigations related to hydroelectric projects at Chikuminuk and Upnuk Lakes. A seismic line was part of the field work permitted by State Parks.



Chikuminuk Lake is over 600 feet deep. The deepest part of the lake is below sea level. Rapids in the Allen River below Chikuminuk form a barrier to salmon migration.



The eastern half of Chikuminuk Lake and all of the Allen River are within special use airspace for military operations.



Without the Power Cost Equalization (PCE) subsidy, electricity rates in rural Alaska would be three to five times higher than rates in more urban areas of the state.



According to Wood-Tikchik State Park records, very few people (about nine) people visited the Chikuminuk Lake, Allen River area of the park in 2011.