



## Department of Energy Awards Funding to Igiugig, Alaska, to Advance Commercialization of ORPC's RivGen® Power System

**Igiugig, Alaska, March 1, 2016** - The U.S. Department of Energy has selected Igiugig to receive up to \$1,540,341 to further advance the design and operation of ORPC's marine hydrokinetic technology for rivers, its RivGen® Power System, which the company successfully demonstrated in the Kvichak River at Igiugig in 2014 and 2015, displacing the community's diesel fuel use by one-third. To initiate the project, the Energy Department has approved phase one funds of \$392,500.

"We're thrilled to continue work with our partners in Igiugig to reduce and stabilize their cost of energy, and in so doing, strengthen the community's sustainability," said ORPC President & CEO Chris Sauer, "We are moving forward to replicate our collaboration in Igiugig in other remote communities in Alaska, Canada and worldwide."

"ORPC's RivGen® Power System is allowing Igiugig to generate power locally without using diesel fuel or creating any carbon emissions," said AlexAnna Salmon, Igiugig Village Council President. "Increasing our self-sufficiency is critical to our future and aligns with our core values of maintaining a subsistence way of life. This project is a model for other remote communities considering alternative power and will accelerate Igiugig's path toward a sustainable energy solution, a long term goal of the village."

"The Igiugig project is so important since the marine power device being developed there could well be utilized in dozens of river villages statewide to reduce the high cost of power," said Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska), chairman of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. "This truly could be the path to bringing affordable electricity to many rural villages, if the efficiencies and the durability being pioneered in Igiugig can be replicated statewide."

The cost of generating electricity in Igiugig is nearly \$0.80/kWh (the national average is \$0.10/kWh) due to the community's remoteness and its reliance on diesel. Located in the Bristol Bay region of southwestern Alaska, Igiugig and the Kvichak River are accessible only by boat and plane and are home to the largest sockeye salmon fishery in the world.

Ocean Renewable Power Company is a global leader in hydrokinetic power system technology and project solutions. Worldwide it is the only company to have built, operated and delivered power to a utility grid from a hydrokinetic tidal project, and to a local







microgrid from a hydrokinetic river project. ORPC is committed to working with local partners and creating local economic opportunities. Significant environmental data is collected as part of all of its projects, and to date, no adverse impact has been shown on the marine environment. With this unique experience, ORPC also offers strategic expertise and support to other river and ocean energy projects through its subsidiary, ORPC Solutions.



Anchorage, Alaska CBS affiliate, KTVA, produced a segment about the Igiugig/ORPC project and the President and Secretary of State's focus on clean energy during their August 2015 trip to Alaska. See <a href="https://youtu.be/mtvl4t\_1Ezk">https://youtu.be/mtvl4t\_1Ezk</a>

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