

25 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. · Suite 450 · Washington, D.C., 20001 · 202/682-1700 · www.hydro.org

Media Contact: Matthew Nocella 202/682-1700 ex. 21 · matt@hydro.org

For Immediate Release

Murkowski calls for further development of hydropower in energy blueprint

Statement of NHA Executive Director Linda Church Ciocci

Washington, D.C. (February 4, 2013) – The following is a statement from Linda Church Ciocci, Executive Director of the National Hydropower Association, on the release of Energy and Natural Resources Committee Ranking Member Lisa Murkowski's "Energy 20/20: A Vision for America's Energy Future":

"The National Hydropower Association appreciates Senator Murkowski's continued role as a champion of hydropower in the United States Senate. Her blueprint proposes many common sense solutions promoting expanded utilization of hydropower, which will play a key role in our nation's energy future.

"Many of these hydropower policy changes were included in Sen. Murkowski's *Hydropower Improvement Act* and have long been supported by both industry and the environmental community."

"Research indicates hydropower is currently under developed in the U.S. Upgrading and expanding existing infrastructure, adding power to non-powered dams, small hydropower, pumped storage, and new technologies could add 60,000 MW by 2025, according to a report by Navigant Consulting. Developing that potential could create 1.4 million cumulative American jobs."

"Tapping that potential will require strong policy support and Sen. Murkowski clearly understands that. We look forward to working with her and Energy Chairman Ron Wyden to expand Americans' access to available, reliable, affordable, and sustainable hydropower."

###