

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Homer Hockey Association, Inc.****Federal Tax ID: 920143117****Project Title:****Project Type: Remodel, Reconstruction and Upgrades**

# Homer Hockey Association, Inc. - Natural Gas Conversion

**State Funding Requested: \$12,468****House District: Kenai Areawide (28-30)**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

Hook up and conversion of appliances to natural gas from propane and oil.

**Funding Plan:**

Total Project Cost:	\$13,968
Funding Already Secured:	(\$1,500)
FY2015 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$12,468)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

*Funding Details:*

\$1,500 donation toward hookup from Enstar

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

The project entails applying with Enstar for the natural gas line and hookup, purchasing conversion parts for 2 boilers and a dehumidifier, and contracting a plumber to install the interior gas lines and complete the conversion of the boilers and dehumidifier.

**Cost Breakdown:**

Enstar Hookup - \$3,258

Dehumidifier conversion parts - \$2,110

Boiler conversion parts (2) - \$3,400 (total)

Labor for interior line installation and hook up - estimate from Orca Specialties - \$3,900

10% Contingency - \$1,300

Total Cost: \$13,968

The Kevin Bell Arena provides residents of the southern Kenai Peninsula with an indoor ice facility and programs and activities including but not limited to Learn to Skate through Hockey, youth and adult hockey programs as well as figure skating, broomball, public skating, teen skating events and other community events. The Kevin Bell Arena attracts hundreds of families from all over the state annually, creating an economic engine for the Homer area businesses in an otherwise slow part of the year. The Homer Hockey Association was the recipient of the 2012 Alaska Recreation & Parks Association (ARPA) Outstanding Organization Award for its ability to own, operate and maintain the Kevin Bell Arena together with all of the programs and community benefits that it provides.

Converting these appliances to natural gas from oil and propane will result in an estimated utility cost savings of over \$21,000 annually, based on current fuel costs, our average annual fuel consumption, and figures extracted from a fuel comparison calculator available online. Our return on investment is roughly 6 months during operation.

**Project Timeline:**

We are submitting the application to Enstar to get on their hookup list now with construction anticipated in spring/summer, 2014. Once the exterior line/meter have been installed and funds have been raised, installation and appliance conversion will occur shortly thereafter, preferably prior to re-opening for the 2014 season in mid September, 2014.

**Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:**

Homer Hockey Association, Inc.

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

Name: Shelly Laukitis  
Title: Vice President  
Address: PO Box 2703  
Homer, Alaska 99603  
Phone Number: (907)235-1091  
Email: shelly.laukitis@gmail.com

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority?  Yes  No

*For use by Co-chair Staff Only:*

11:57 AM 5/13/2014



P.O. Box 2703 Homer, Alaska 99603

(907) 235-2647

[www.homerhockey.org](http://www.homerhockey.org)

Senator Kelly

March 24, 2014

Finance Committee Chair

Dear Senator Kelly,

Homer Hockey Association would like to convert our ice rink to natural gas. We have been spending approximately \$800-\$1,000 dollars a week to heat our hot water and run the boiler and dehumidifier systems. We are member owned and operated and the substantial savings the conversion would provide would help us out tremendously.

On behalf of HHA, I am asking for your **support to help us** convert to natural gas and save on the high cost of fuel oil in our area. You will find our \$12,468 funding request on the Kachemak City CIP list. Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Tim Stage, President



**To:** Senate Finance Committee

**From:** Kachemak Selo School

**Re:** Support of Kevin Bell Arena

**Date:** March 20, 2014

The Kevin Bell Arena has offered itself as a recreational outlet for many of our students through the years. Many of our parents volunteer their time, money and fuel for the purpose of providing their children athletic opportunities. Additionally, parents and students not only from our village, but Voznesenka and Razdolna have formed tight bonds with parents of the Homer area schools. It has been truly amazing to see the blend of families cheering for each other's children as members of Homer Hockey Coop. I can think of no other activity that brings community together from each of the six communities on the lower Kenai Peninsula.

Please help our cause by finding a way to provide natural gas to the Kevin Bell Arena, so that a reduction in fees be passed on to the Homer Hockey Association Coop.

Sincerely,

A. Rothenberger, Principal

**To:** Senate Finance Committee

**From:** WeSKATE/Learn to Skate program

**Re:** Support of Kevin Bell Arena

**Date:** March 21, 2014

The Kevin Bell Arena has offered itself as a recreational outlet for a diverse group of skaters this year. Our coaches, manager and parents volunteer their time and money for the purpose of providing their skaters opportunities to enjoy recreational and competitive skating. The WeSKATE program offered skating lessons to people of all ages and all abilities. This year the rink provided lessons to dozens of people ages 2 – 72, beginners to competitors, from Nikolaevsk to McNeil Canyon. There are few activities that cross this age range and bring an equal amount of enjoyment to all involved.

Please help our program and community rink by finding a way to provide natural gas conversion funding to the Kevin Bell Arena, so that wholesome winter recreation can be offered for the long term.

Sincerely,

Andrea Stineff

WeSKATE Manager

## Letter of Support

To: Heather Beggs

From: Mike Wojciak, Voznesenka School Principal

Re: Natural Gas Conversion of the Kevin Bell Arena

Date: 3-22-14

Please accept this letter indicating my support of the natural gas conversion of the Kevin Bell Arena. It is evident that energy cost are continually rising, which makes supporting this proposal an easy decision. Several students in our school have been committed members of the Homer Hockey Team and in the coming years many more are sure to follow. As with any activity, the cost of participation in a major inhibiting factor for many students. Any opportunity that allows more students to be involved in activities is worthy of consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Wojciak".

Michael Wojciak



*Without the generosity of volunteers,  
individual and corporate sponsors,  
your community rink would not exist.*

*Thank you to the past, present and  
future team of supporters of the  
Kevin Bell Arena.*



Kevin Bell Arena

Homer Hockey Association  
PO Box 2703  
Homer, AK 99603  
Rink Office (907) 235-2647  
Ice Schedule (907) 235-8ICE

[www.homerhockey.org](http://www.homerhockey.org)

# It Takes A Team



*Operated and Maintained by*



**Homer Hockey Association  
Recipient of the 2012 Alaska  
Recreation & Parks Association  
Outstanding Organization Award**



# Teamwork makes the dream work....

**Homer Hockey Association**, dba, the Kevin Bell Arena incorporated as a non-profit 501 (c )(3) entity in 1996. The KBA exists to provide wholesome recreation and competition for all ages. It fosters sportsmanship, fair play and community through on ice activities. The Kevin Bell Arena is about people helping people.

## We are :

- **The 2012 Alaska Recreation & Parks Assoc. Outstanding Organization**
- The only non-profit run rink in the state of Alaska and one of only four in the United States
- Home ice to the culturally diverse Mariner Co-Op high school hockey team

We rely on volunteers to facilitate our rink programs and events.

We receive 800 weekly visits from skaters and broomball players.

We provide all residents of the Southern Kenai Peninsula a safe and well maintained indoor facility for winter recreation.

## Arena Programs

- Broomball
- Figure Skating
- Youth Hockey League
- Adult and Co-Ed Hockey Leagues
- Hockey Camps and Clinics
- Ice Skating Institute's weSkate Program
- Mariner Co-Op High School Hockey Team
- MicroBells-Learn to Skate through Hockey
- Public Skating
- Sponsored School and Youth Skating Times

## Annual Events

- |                             |          |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Co-Ed Jamboree Tourney      | October  |
| End of the Road High School | November |
| Diva's Winter Jamboree      | January  |
| Broomball Bonanza           | March    |
| Men's Ash Cup Tourney       | March    |

## Be part of the team.

### How you can help:

#### Advertise

- purchase a rink dasher or banner

#### Donate

- to our youth scholarship fund
- to any rink related fundraiser
- any amount, any time

#### Sponsor

- a youth or adult hockey team or broomball team
- a public school or other non-profit youth organization skate

#### Volunteer

You have talents we need. Consider becoming a coach, manager, board or committee member, or volunteer to help with rink maintenance projects.

### Partnership Contributions

To ensure financial sustainability, Homer Hockey Association seeks major contributing partners who share our vision of wholesome recreation and healthy communities.

Schedule and Rink Info: [www.homerhockey.org](http://www.homerhockey.org)

HHA is a 501(c )(3) entity, donations are tax deductible



## Kevin Bell Arena – Natural Gas Conversion

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**Amount Requested: \$12,468**

### Project Description:

The Homer Hockey Association, Inc. (HHA), as owner of the ice rink facility known as the Kevin Bell Arena, is requesting capital improvement funds for the purpose converting the existing boilers and dehumidifier to natural gas.

Conversion:

The project entails applying with Enstar for the hookup, conversion parts for 2 boilers and a dehumidifier and installation of the interior gas lines.

Estimated Cost Breakdown:

Enstar Hookup	\$3,258
Dehumidifier conversion parts	\$2,110
Boiler conversion parts (2)	\$3,400
Labor for interior line installation and hook up – Orca Plumbing estimate	\$3,900
Contingency 10%	\$1,300
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$13,968</b>

### Funding Plan:

Enstar in kind donation	\$1,500
State Funding	\$13,968
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>\$12,468</b>

### Justification:

The Kevin Bell Arena provides residents of the southern Kenai Peninsula with an indoor ice facility and programs and activities including but not limited to Learn to Skate through Hockey, youth and adult hockey programs as well as figure skating, broomball, public skating, teen skating events and other community events. The Kevin Bell Arena attracts hundreds of families from all over the state annually, creating an economic engine for Homer in an otherwise slow part of the year.

Based on figures extracted from the fuel comparison calculator, <http://nepacrossroads.com/fuel-comparison-calculator.php>, converting these appliances to natural gas from oil and propane, we calculate our annual savings at approximately \$21,922. Specific calculations have been documented and are available for review. Return on Investment is roughly 6 months.

### Timeline:

We are submitting the application to Enstar to get on their hookup list. Construction should begin in March, 2014.

The timeline for this project is for the shoulder season 2014. The arena closes down for the summer mid April and re-opens mid September. It is our goal to have the conversion completed prior to re-opening in mid September, 2014.

**Responsible entity for operation and maintenance:**

Homer Hockey Association, Inc. will be responsible the installation, construction, operation and future maintenance.