

Monitoring of Dust Control Technologies in Rural Alaska**FY2009 Request:****\$224,107****Reference No:****45210****AP/AL:** Appropriation**Project Type:** Health and Safety**Category:** Health/Human Services**Location:** Northwest Arctic Borough**Contact:** Tom Chapple**House District:** Arctic (HD 40)**Contact Phone:** (907)269-7634**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2008 - 09/30/2010**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

This request will enable DEC to work with a very select number of rural communities on developing and implementing demonstration projects for dust control and to conduct air monitoring to determine the effectiveness of various alternative dust control technologies and practices. The ultimate goal is to develop a suite of successful dust control measures that could be implemented on a broad scale in rural Alaska. Failure to address rural dust impacts will result in continued levels of coarse particulate matter exceeding the air quality health standards and impair public health.

Funding:	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	Total
Gen Fund	\$224,107						\$224,107
Total:	\$224,107	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$224,107

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input type="checkbox"/> On-Going
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill	

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
<u>One-Time Startup:</u>	<u>224,107</u>	
Totals:	224,107	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

None, this is the first year of the project.

Project Description/Justification:

Air quality measurements conducted by tribes and DEC in several communities have shown that concentrations of airborne particulate matter pollution (dust) commonly exceed the health standard during the non-winter season. While actual field measurement studies have been conducted in several Northwest Arctic Borough communities and the Bethel/Saint Mary's areas, complaints have been recorded for more than a decade from every region of the state. DEC estimates that the majority of Alaska's rural communities are faced with episodes of dusty days, when coarse particulate matter levels exceed the health standard by 2 to 4 times the health based exposure limits.

Continuing to violate these health standards not only jeopardizes the health of residents, but if left unattended, will jeopardize federal highway funds coming to Alaska since the pollution typically originates from local unpaved roads. A proactive state initiative to address the pollution problem is preferable to allowing the state to be declared in non-attainment of state and federal air quality standards and face the potential outcome of sanctioning of highways funds. This proposal for DEC field monitoring and planning staff should be viewed jointly with a DOT/PF proposal for field trial demonstrations of alternative dust control methods.

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dust control technologies and practices. The ultimate goal is to develop a suite of successful dust control measures that could be implemented on a broader scale in rural Alaska. Any suite of dust control techniques can only be successful if community leaders support the projects through leadership, local ordinances and/or local funding and use of local employees.