

Village Safe Water New Technology Approaches

FY2013 Request: \$1,000,000

Reference No: 54473

AP/AL: Appropriation

Project Type: Water / Sewer / Solid Waste

Category: Development

Location: Statewide

House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)

Impact House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)

Contact: Bill Griffith

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2012 - 06/30/2017

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Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

The Department requests \$1 million to investigate and test new technological approaches to reduce state costs associated with the Village Safe Water program. Annual funding for Village Safe Water projects has declined from nearly \$100 million to less than \$35 million over the last ten years. Given this steep decline and the rapidly increasing magnitude of rural sanitation needs, it is clear that the State needs to adopt an austere and strategic approach to investing in water and wastewater infrastructure in rural Alaska over the next 20 years.

Funding:	<u>FY2013</u>	<u>FY2014</u>	<u>FY2015</u>	<u>FY2016</u>	<u>FY2017</u>	<u>FY2018</u>	<u>Total</u>
Gen Fund	\$1,000,000						\$1,000,000
Total:	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input checked="" 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
One-Time Startup:	0	0
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

This is a new project.

Project Description/Justification:

The Department of Environmental Conservation will investigate and test new technological approaches to resolve rural sanitation needs since it is becoming more and more challenging to feasibly employ the same type of systems used in urban areas and larger rural communities. The technology is too capital intensive and operation/maintenance costs place an increasingly unrealistic burden on rural residents. There are numerous newly developed technologies that have not been tried in Alaska. Researching, field testing, and adapting these technologies could save the State millions of dollars in capital expenses and decrease community operations costs.

This funding will be used to encourage and accelerate private-sector research and development of technologies that show promise for significantly reducing capital and operational costs of existing approaches. Once field testing has been completed, existing funding sources will be used for further implementation.

This project contributes to the Department's End Result A - Citizens are Protected. Drinking water and sewer projects constructed with grant funds protect residents from unsafe sanitary conditions.