

AP/AL: Appropriation

Project Type: Energy

Category: Development

Location: Statewide

House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)

Impact House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)

Contact: Sara Fisher-Goad

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2014 - 06/30/2019

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Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

The Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) works with regional organizations to define and gather information, and create a regional energy plan. The intent is for each region have a completed energy plan that they can use and update as appropriate. This project is required to continue work on the regional energy plans and to evaluate the transmission and propane potential in rural Alaska.

Funding:	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	Total
Gen Fund	\$500,000	\$500,000					\$1,000,000
Total:	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000,000

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

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	Amount	Staff
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	0
Totals:	0	0

Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

Sec1 Ch17 SLA2012 P5 L32 SB160 \$1,000,000
 Sec4 Ch5 SLA2011 P127 L15 SB46 \$1,000,000
 Sec7 Ch43 SLA2010 P20 L33 SB230 \$2,000,000

Project Description/Justification:

The Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) is working with regional organizations to initiate specific resource assessments and project development plans. Funding in FY2015 is to complete the regional energy plans and provide each region a completed energy plan they can use and update as appropriate.

There are six regions that are under contract with AEA for their regional energy plans. Previous efforts with the Railbelt Integrated Resource Plan (RIRP) and part of the Southeast Integrated Resource Plan (SEIRP) were led by AEA staff, whereas the current plans are contracted out to a lead entity in each region. The regional plans are intended to take the previous work of AEA's *The Energy Pathway* and provide a prioritized project list on a regional level. These plans are also an opportunity to identify communities in a region that can be linked by transmission lines and provide economies of scale for needed energy infrastructure. Some of this work is currently being done inefficiently on a project by project basis; however, developing a regional approach authored by regional leaders will assist AEA and the state in prioritizing energy project investments.

Regional planners meet on a quarterly basis to share ideas and network with their colleagues from other regions on their regional energy plan. AEA staff facilitates the meetings and provides updates on statewide energy data, mapping resources, and technical assistance during these sessions.

This project will continue the current contracts into Phase II, and anticipates including other regions, such as Kodiak, Chugach, and Arctic Slope, in the regional energy planning process. The contracts are divided into two phases:

- Phase I – preliminary planning, resource inventory assessment, and data collection;
- Phase II – drafting, soliciting comments, and finalizing the plan.

The current contracts are for Phase I activities. The tasks include identifying a stakeholder advisory group and stakeholders at large. Resource inventory and data analysis for the region to include identifying past reports, studies, and summary of efforts, are part of this activity. Through data analysis, the contractor must determine, if any, areas or projects that require further analysis (identifying the gaps) and establish assumptions for evaluating project feasibility and costs.

Phase II tasks include preparing alternatives for communities, sub-regions, and the region as a whole and identifying and ranking the preferred alternatives.

The completion of the following activities and work tasks are required for each of the regional plans:

- Determination of fuel usage by community for electricity, space heating and transportation.
- Determination of locally available energy sources.
- Evaluation of existing technology.
- Evaluation of energy delivery systems.
- Evaluation and rank of energy sources.
- Organization of public workshops to assist in the communication of the plan by gathering feedback and providing periodic updates.

Other statewide needs will also be addressed through the energy plan process. These include:

- The utilization of propane and Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) in rural Alaska,
- Where can and do regional transmission lines make sense, and

Data collection and evaluation of existing programs.