

Aniak High School White Alice Communication System Site Clean-up **FY2015 Request: \$9,700,000**
Reference No: 50905

AP/AL: Appropriation **Project Type:** Life / Health / Safety
Category: Transportation **House District:** Dillingham/Illiamna (HD 36)
Location: Aniak **Contact:** Pat Kemp
Impact House District: Dillingham/Illiamna (HD 36) **Contact Phone:** (907)465-3900
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2014 - 06/30/2019

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

This project will provide environmental cleanup at the Aniak High School, located on a former White Alice Communications System site that lies on Aniak Airport property owned by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities. This is a new FY2015 capital project due to the timing of the agreements for remediation allocations.

Funding:	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	Total
CIP Rcpts	\$903,000						\$903,000
Fed Rcpts	\$6,299,500						\$6,299,500
Gen Fund	\$2,497,500						\$2,497,500
Total:	\$9,700,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9,700,000

<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

Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

No prior funding history.

Project Description/Justification:

The former White Alice Communications System site was developed and operated by the United States Air Force (USAF) in the mid 1950's through the 1970's. The land was transferred to the state in 1965, under the Statehood Act, with the provision that the USAF be allowed to operate it as long as necessary. In 1979, the USAF issued a license to the Kuspuk School District to renovate the building for use as a school. Polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) contamination resulted from USAF operations and school district building renovation activities. The PCB contamination was discovered in 1981 when the USAF was completing relinquishment of its interest in the property. Initial cleanup work was conducted between 1981 and 1983, but in 1997 the cleanup was determined to be incomplete as PCBs were discovered in the soil around the building.

The subject building is currently used for the secondary school shop and home science classes, maintenance and administrative offices, and temporary lodging for school district related activities. A separate secondary school building on the same site is used for other classrooms, gymnasium, and offices. Two on-site drinking water wells provide water to the school buildings. The Alaska

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Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) used oil and hazardous substance response funds to conduct site characterization and partial cleanup, focused on PCB contamination.

Cost share negotiations between USAF, the state of Alaska (Department of Transportation and Public Facilities and the Department of Education and Early Development), the Kuspuks School District, and contractor parties (Lockheed Martin Corporation, AT&T Alascom, and Exelis-Arctic Services, Inc.) occurred for over 2 years and the proposed settlement percentages are the result of an agreed upon judicial mediation that is pending finalization when the parties agree on who is going to take the lead on the cleanup contracts. In January, when the Corps of Engineers (as the representative of the federal government) and the largest of the responsible parties refused to take the lead, the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities stepped in and will coordinate the cleanup of the PCB contamination. The agreed upon financial responsibility percentages for the PCB cleanup work done to date and future PCB cleanup is the State of Alaska at 16.25%, the federal government at 73.25%, and the contractor parties at 10.5%.

ADEC is due reimbursement of \$900,000 for the state's portion of prior clean-up costs (approximately \$5,500,000, of which the state is responsible for 16.25%). The estimate for additional cleanup work is \$8,600,000, which will be apportioned according to the agreed upon percentages above.

New data collected during 2008 and 2009 documented trichloroethylene (TCE) contaminated soil and groundwater and TCE vapors migrating into the school building above the target risk-based screening level. School district staff, parents, and community members are concerned over potential health risks caused by current and past exposure. The extent of the TCE contamination is unknown. The parties agreed that before TCE cleanup responsibility and funding costs can be allocated, further testing needs to be completed and analyzed. Non-binding percentage allocations were assigned to the parties for the purpose of entering into a contract, estimated to cost \$2 million, to determine the extent of contamination, make recommendations for remediation and produce a record of decision. The financial responsibility percentages for the cost of the study is the State of Alaska at 10.0%, the federal government at 45.0%, and the contractor parties at 45.0%.

The contractor parties will provide contract administration for the TCE investigation. The state and the USAF will participate in contractor selection decisions, be provided all data and test results and will have the opportunity to review and comment on all deliverables prior to final publishing. The state share for this study is \$200,000 and is included in this request.

	ADEC Reimbursement	PCB cleanup	TCE Study	Total Request
State	900,000	1,397,500	200,000	2,497,500
Federal	0	6,299,500	0	6,299,500
Contractors	0	903,000	0	903,000
Total	900,000	8,600,000	200,000	9,700,000