Reapprop for Alaska Energy Authority - Electrical Emergencies Program - NTE $330,000

FY2018 Request: $0
Reference No: 32950

AP/AL: Appropriation
Category: Development
Location: Statewide
Impact House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)
Estimated Project Dates: 06/30/2017 - 06/30/2021

House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)
Contact: Michael Lamb
Contact Phone: (907)771-3000

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:
The Electrical Emergencies program provides technical support when an electric utility has lost, or will lose the ability to generate or transmit power to its customers and the condition is a threat to life, health, and/or property. The ability to respond to loss of power in communities is essential to their health and safety. This program contributes to the department's mission of promoting a healthy economy and strong communities as electricity is considered essential for both community development and economic growth.

Funding:

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<th>FY2017</th>
<th>FY2018</th>
<th>FY2019</th>
<th>FY2020</th>
<th>FY2021</th>
<th>FY2022</th>
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<tr>
<td>1213 AHCC Rcpts</td>
<td>$0</td>
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Prior Funding History / Additional Information:
Sec27 Ch38 SLA2015 P27 L16 SB26 $330,000
Sec1 Ch18 SLA2014 P3 L6 SB119 $330,000
Sec1 Ch17 SLA2012 P6 L11 SB160 $330,000
Sec4 Ch5 SLA2011 P127 L19 SB46 $330,000
Sec7 Ch43 SLA2010 P19 L13 SB230 $330,400

The unexpended and unobligated balance, not to exceed $330,000, of the appropriation made in sec. 1, ch. 18, SLA 2014, page 50, lines 25 – 27 (Department of Education and Early Development, State Library, Archives and Museum Facility Construction Funding - $37,500,000) is reappropriated to the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, Alaska Energy Authority, for electrical emergencies.

Project Description/Justification:
The Electrical Emergencies Program is often a life or safety issue and the last resort for communities with electric needs. This program provides technical support when an electric utility has lost, or will lose the ability to generate or transmit power to its customers and the condition is a threat to life, health, and/or property, including freezers full of invaluable subsistence foods. Funding provides the current level of technical support through the Electrical Emergencies Program.
Electrical emergencies can result in the loss of communications, lights, refrigeration systems, washeterias, water and sewer systems, and the use of other basic infrastructure and equipment.

Extended power outages during the winter months can be expensive and compromise public safety:
- Water and sewer systems are subject to freezing and bursting
- Fire hazards increase
- Medical clinics and other public facilities may close

Electrical emergencies may involve power plant failures and/or distribution system failures.

If the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) is unable to respond, the response to loss of power emergencies will be redirected to the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC).