Alaska Energy Authority - Alaska Grid Resilience and Reliability - Formula

FY2023 Request: $15,743,681
Reference No: AMD 64553

AP/AL: Appropriation
Category: Development
Location: Statewide
Impact House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2022 - 06/30/2027

Project Type: Energy
House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)
Contact: Curtis Thayer
Contact Phone: (907)771-3000

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:
The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), Section 40101 “Preventing Outages and Enhancing the Resilience of the Electric Grid”, provides a Formula Based State and Tribal Grant Program that shall be utilized for grid resiliency and reliability initiatives. Funds are intended to increase grid resiliency, reliability initiatives, activities, technologies, and equipment to reduce the likelihood and consequences of disruptive events. Formula-based funding requires a 15% state match and a 33% sub-grantee match.

Funding:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding</th>
<th>FY2023</th>
<th>FY2024</th>
<th>FY2025</th>
<th>FY2026</th>
<th>FY2027</th>
<th>FY2028</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
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☑ State Match Required     ☐ One-Time Project     ☐ Phased - new     ☐ Phased - underway     ☐ Ongoing
15% = Minimum State Match % Required     ☑ Amendment     ☐ Mental Health Bill

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

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<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Development:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ongoing Operating:</td>
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<td>Totals:</td>
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Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

Project Description/Justification:
The unexpended and unobligated balance, not to exceed $3,633,158 of the estimated balance of $4,395,564, of the appropriation made in sec. 78(c), ch. 1, SSSLA 2002, as amended by sec. 69, ch. 29, SLA 2008, as amended by sec. 7(b), ch. 5, SLA 2012 (Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, Alaska Energy Authority, upgrade and extend Anchorage to Fairbanks power transmission intertie to Teeland substation), is reappropriated to the Alaska Energy Authority for electric grid resilience and reliability for fiscal years 2023 and 2024.

AEA is the eligible recipient of this formula funded program. The goal of this financial assistance is to:

(1) Demonstrate measurable improvements in energy resilience in the United States and mitigate...
climate-related risk,

(2) Invest in modernized grid infrastructure that can enable consumer access to lower-cost energy and accommodate increased electrification, increased penetrations of variable renewable electricity and distributed energy resources, and other evolving system needs over the coming decades.

(3) Invest in clean energy and de-carbonization solutions to achieve a carbon-free power sector by 2035 and net-zero greenhouse gas emissions economy-wide by 2050, and

(4) Create good-paying jobs with the free and fair choice to join a union.

The formula grant program will provide $459 million annually over a period of five years to State and Indian Tribes. The Tribes may further allocate funds to “eligible entities” such as Alaskan utilities. Eligible entities for sub-award will go through an application and ranking process for sub-award. States and Indian Tribes will be required to submit applications each year conveying their approach for determining resilience investments and for allocating funds to eligible entities which may include:

(1) An electric grid operator
(2) An electricity storage operator
(3) An electricity generator
(4) A transmission owner or operator
(5) A distribution provider
(6) A fuel supplier, and
(7) Any other relevant entity as determined by the Secretary (i.e. by DOE)

Section 40101 identifies the types of resilience investments permitted under this program:

a) Utility pole management
b) Weatherization technologies and equipment
c) Hardening of power lines, facilities, substations, or other systems
d) The undergrounding of electrical equipment
e) The replacement of old overhead conductors and underground cables
f) The relocation of power lines or the re-conductoring of power lines with low sag, advanced conductors
g) Vegetation and fuel-load management.
h) Weatherization technologies and equipment
i) Fire-resistant technologies and equipment
j) Monitoring and control technologies
k) The use of construction of distributed energy resources for enhancing system adaptive capacity during disruptive events, including:
   a. Microgrids
   b. Battery-storage subcomponents
l) Adaptive protection technologies
m) Advances modeling technologies

Funding may also be used for the training, recruitment, retention, and reskilling of skilled and properly credentialed workers in order to perform the work required for the particular resilience measures listed above and described by the State in their program narrative.

Of the amounts made available to an AEA or Indian Tribe under Section 40101(d) Formula Grant Program, a State or Indian Tribe may not use more than 5% annually for:
(1) Providing technical assistance and facilitating the distribution and sharing of information to reduce the likelihood and consequences of disruptive events.

(2) Administrative expenses associated with the program.

Each State and Indian Tribe shall be required to match 15% of the amount of each grant provided to that Tribe. Any eligible entity that receives a sub-grant under this program shall be required to match one-third (33%) of the amount of the sub-grant.
FY2023 Capital Budget Amendment (HB 283 / SB 164)

This reappropriation language provides the first two years of state match for the associated IIJA federal funds.

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), Section 40101 “Preventing Outages and Enhancing the Resilience of the Electric Grid”, provides a Formula Based State and Tribal Grant Program that shall be utilized for grid resiliency and reliability initiatives. Funds are intended to increase grid resiliency, reliability initiatives, activities, technologies, and equipment to reduce the likelihood and consequences of disruptive events. Formula-based funding requires a 15% state match and a 33% sub-grantee match.

*Sec. xx. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY, and ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. The unexpended and unobligated balance, not to exceed $3,633,158 of the estimated balance of $4,395,564, of the appropriation made in sec. 78(c), ch. 1, SSSL 2002, page 132, lines 2 – 5, as amended by sec. 69, ch. 29, SLA 2008, page 225, lines 24 – 29, as amended by sec. 7(b), ch. 5, SLA 2012, page 13, lines 7-17, is appropriated to the Alaska Energy Authority for Statewide Grid Resilience and Reliability for fiscal years 2023 and 2024.
Health Information Exchange

AP/AL: Appropriation  Project Type: Information Technology / Systems / Communication

Category: Health/Human Services  House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)
Location: Statewide  Contact: Amy Burke
Impact House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)  Contact Phone: (907)465-1624
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2022 - 06/30/2027

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:
This was originally submitted as part of a $30 million Coronavirus Capital Project Fund project. The department has since determined that project does not fit the requirements of the funding and is seeking General Funds to support this effort.

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Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

Project Description/Justification:
The Health Information Exchange (HIE) is transitioning from Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) funding to Medicaid Management Information System/Medicaid Enterprise Systems (MMIS/MES) funding. Without the funding, the HIE cannot be successfully transitioned to operations, and the underlying infrastructure will not be supported. Additionally, the HIE has been approved to receive 90% federal with 10% state match funding for the development of a Request for Proposal (RFP) competitive bid. The RFP will maximize the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) decade-long investment in HIE infrastructure. The Alaska HIE is essential and allows for the ability to exchange health care data and patient records between relevant stakeholders in a safe, efficient, effective, equitable and patient-centered care environment. The objective of this capital appropriation request is to ensure a smooth transition of the HIE, and all HIT administrative duties and ensure the stability of the HIE.