Biomass and Small Tree Utilization

Government Assistance:
Mike Harper, Aidea/AEA
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AEAs’s mission is to reduce the cost of energy in Alaska.
Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) is a public corporation of the State of Alaska

- Organized under the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development

- Oversight by AIDEA
AEA programs work with Alaska communities to:

- Achieve the lowest reasonable consumer power costs.
- Assist in developing safe, reliable, and efficient energy systems.
- Build sustainable and environmentally-sound power systems throughout Alaska.
AEA’s Programs

• Bulk Fuel Upgrade Program
• Rural Power System Upgrade Program
• Circuit Rider/Emergency Assistance
• Alternative Energy Program
• Power Cost Equalization
• Loans
• Training
Power Cost Equalization (PCE)

✓ Provides financial assistance to rural utilities with kilowatt-hour rates greater than 12 cents.

✓ Residential customers are eligible for PCE credit up to 500 kwh/month/customer.

✓ Community facilities, as a group, can receive PCE credit for up to 70 kwh/month multiplied by the number of residents in a community.
1. **Bulk Fuel Revolving Loan Fund**
A short-term, low interest loan program that allows rural communities with a population of less than 2,000 to make their bulk fuel purchase in a cost effective manner.

2. **Power Project Fund**
Provides loans to local utilities, local governments or independent power producers for the development or upgrade of electric power facilities, including conservation, bulk fuel storage, waste energy conservation or potable water supply projects.
Circuit rider and emergency response program

Assists village electric utilities with:

- preventative maintenance
- on-site operator training
- consultation
- technical assistance
- emergency response
Training programs

- Bulk Fuel Operator
- Itinerant Bulk Fuel Operator
- Spill Response Training
- Powerplant Operator
- Advanced Powerplant Operator
- Utility Clerk
- Small Hydroelectric Operator
How can villages become pro-active?

Rural communities can (and should) become more active in developing their energy and community needs. Some suggestions include the following:

- Develop (or update) a Comprehensive Community Plan.
- Ensure that all reporting requirements are submitted in a timely fashion (to RCA, PCE).
- Keep “Certificate of Convenience” license current.
- Continue to seek funds from other sources.
- Network with other agencies and villages on like or upcoming projects.
- Continue to demonstrate “administrative capacity.” Leadership is important.
- Eliminate any outstanding debts (IRS, loans).
- Close-out incomplete grants to maintain your eligibility.
- Train local personnel on the Operations, Maintenance, and Management of the facilities. This includes both the primary and alternate personnel.
- Keep communications open with AEA.
Partial List of Grant Programs Available

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG)
- Denali Commission
- US Dep. Of Agriculture; Rural Development
- Economic Development Administration
Community Development Block Grant

- HUD Funds, Run by DCCED
- Public Facilities & Planning
- Health & Safety
- Ways to reduce Costs of essential Services
- Grants up to $500,000: Apps due Dec.
  - Examples: Small Hydro
Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG)

- HUD Funds and Admin. By HUD (ONAP)
- For Tribal Entities Recognized By Fed. Govt.
- Planning, Economic Development, Community Development
- Up to $500k
- Competitive Grants require leveraging
Denali Commission-Federal Funded; Created by Sen. Stevens 1998; to build Infrastructure in Rural Alaska

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<tr>
<th>Primarily doing Energy and Health Projects-through Partners (AEA, AVEC, ANTHC)</th>
<th>Extended to Washeterias, Teacher Housing, Elder Housing, Multi-Use Facilities, Training, Domestic Violence</th>
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<td>Funding Level-Very Fluid Now; $67MM in with Earmarks of $51MM</td>
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1. Small Business- 9006 Energy Project
   - Might be used PW-Sawmill Project- Boiler space heat
     Possible for Electric # 9006
2. If Business- might do guarantee loan
3. High Cost Grant– Greater than 23 cents kWh
   (Geothermal example -Chena Application)

Utility Co-op- 1. possible long term, low interest loan
USDOE-Funding in Newsletter" Solicitations”

- Inventions & Innovations
- Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR)
- Rural Community Development Initiative

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Alaska Energy Authority (AEA)

Visit us on the web at

www.aidea.org/aea.htm

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