



The Alaska Affordable Energy Strategy Program Fact Sheet and Status Update (February 26, 2016)

Program Background: In 2014, the Alaska Legislature passed a provision in the AKLNG legislation that directed the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) to prepare a plan and recommendations to the Legislature on infrastructure needed to deliver affordable energy to areas of the state that will not have direct access to a North Slope natural gas pipeline. This effort is referred to as the Alaska Affordable Energy Strategy (AkaES) and it, and any associated recommendations for legislation, are due to the Legislature by Jan. 1, 2017.

Program Progress since February 12:

- Met telephonically on multiple occasions with GINA-led (Geographic Information Network of Alaska at UAF) team responsible for programming the data and community energy infrastructure project evaluation model to provide guidance and explanations for their effort. Updated community non-residential building inventory—now with more than 6,000 identified buildings in the AkaES region. Improved models for the community residential and non-residential energy consumption estimates.
- The Alaska Center for Energy and Power (ACEP) conducted four expert panels on transmission, heat pumps, biomass, and energy storage. Five more expert panels are scheduled over the next two weeks on diesel technologies, solar, wind, hydropower, and ORCs. The purpose of the panels is to ensure that AEA has the best available data for determining where different technologies will be most likely to be able to bring cost-effective reductions in energy costs and also determine if there might be research needs for the various technologies to reduce costs or improve performance in the future.
- Continued internal projects on data collection, program evaluations, project risks and barriers, and utility rates.
- Met telephonically with Vermont Energy Investment Corporation (VEIC), the contractor in charge of the energy efficiency investigation project, to discuss recent work and planning for final deliverables due in April.
- Continued to coordinate with data collection efforts through the AEA-led regional energy plans
- Started to plan the AkaES website, where interested parties will be able to get information about the program and links to the fortnightly updates,

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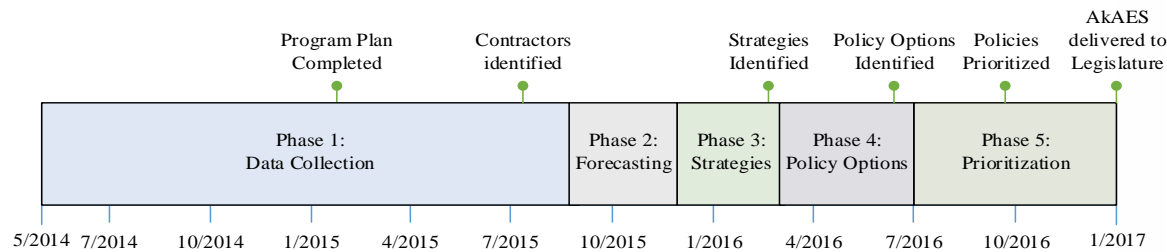
presentations, and deliverables. We will also include a way for the public to provide feedback, likely through email and potentially a survey.

- Held Advisory Group meeting on February 18th. The meeting focused on potential definitions of “affordable” and the potential consequences of those definitions.

Expected Progress during the Next Two Weeks:

- Continue coordinating with AEA’s regional energy planning contractors on data collection and economic analysis.
- Continue to coordinate internal AEA work on the AkaES.
- The current community consumption model will be finalized with updated data and be available for the entire AkaES region. Financial modules for individual project types will go through quality checks. Other potential energy project modules will be started.
- Delivery of total cost of electricity and bulk fuel estimates
- Schedule next Advisory Committee and Technical Advisory Committee meetings for March
- Receive peer-reviewed draft of the barriers to private investment in rural Alaska.
- Receive updated population forecasts based on the Institute for Social and Economic Research’s (ISER’s) Alaska Economic and Demographic Model.
- Meet with a representative of the First Alaskans Institute

Schedule



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