



## The Alaska Affordable Energy Strategy Program Fact Sheet and Status Update (March 11, 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 26:

- 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. Finalized community consumption model for residential, non-residential, and water/wastewater sectors. Produced estimates and forecasts for heating oil thermal loads and diesel for power generation. Began QA/QC process for the estimates for efficiency opportunities for the AkaES communities.
- Met with Northern Economics, the contractor investigating the feasibility of using LNG as an alternate fuel in AkaES communities. After ensuring that the model outputs for community-level consumption were logically consistent and supported by the available data, Northern Economics has started the next stage of the LNG study investigating the costs and benefits of LNG in ten test communities.
- The Alaska Center for Energy and Power (ACEP) conducted six expert panels on diesel technologies, solar, wind, hydropower, integration and organic Rankine cycle power plants (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. More than 40 individuals from AEA, ACEP, utilities, engineering firms, and other stakeholders participated in the panels.
- Continued internal projects on data collection, program evaluations, project risks and barriers, and utility rates.

813 W Northern Lights Blvd  
Anchorage, AK 99503  
(907) 771-3000

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TO REDUCE THE COST  
OF ENERGY IN ALASKA**  
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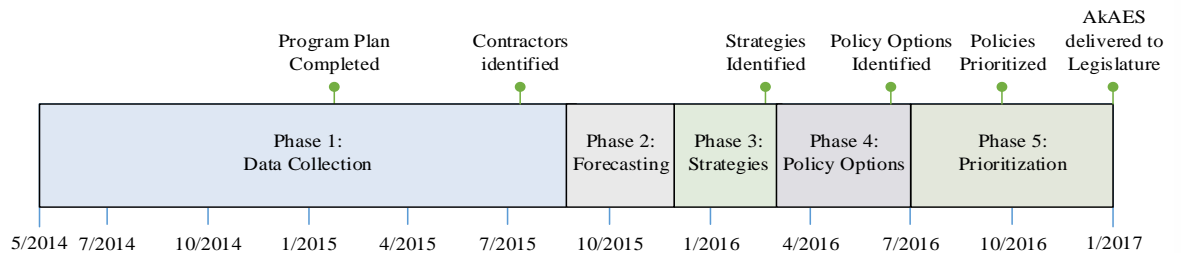


- Continued to plan the AkaES website, where interested parties will be able to get information about the program and links to the fortnightly updates, presentations, and deliverables. A listserve (<http://list.state.ak.us/soalists/aea.affordable.energy.strategy/jl.htm>) has been created to assist in disseminating information about the AkaES.
- An online survey is being developed to assess public preferences about issues that may assist AEA in prioritizing possible strategies and policy options.
- Scheduled the next Advisory Group meeting for Monday, April 4th. The meeting will focus on the drivers for consumer energy costs
- Provided feedback on the ACEP-led project investigating the barriers to private investment in rural energy projects.
- Met with representatives from the Alaska Gasline Development Corporation to discuss the coordination of our respective programs. Provided heating oil and diesel generation estimates for targeted communities.

**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.
- Financial modules for energy efficiency (residential, non-residential, water/sewer) will be completed and verified. The ability to aggregate data by AEA energy region will be added. Other potential energy project modules will be started. Additional functionality and visualization will be accomplished.
- Delivery of total cost of electricity and bulk fuel estimates
- 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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