



The Alaska Affordable Energy Strategy Program Fact Sheet and Status Update (March 25, 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 March 11:

- Communicated 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. Continued QA/QC process for the estimates for residential, non-residential, and water/wastewater consumption and efficiency opportunities for the AkaES communities.
- Northern Economics, the contractor investigating the feasibility of using LNG as an alternate fuel in AkaES communities has been investigating the costs and benefits of LNG in ten test communities.
- Continued internal projects on data collection, program evaluations, project risks and barriers, and utility rates.
- Met telephonically with ACEP to provide feedback on the ACEP-led project investigating the barriers to private investment in rural energy projects.
- Developed an analysis and presentation on the drivers for consumer energy costs—the subject for the next Advisory Group meeting on April 4th.

Expected Progress during the Next Two Weeks:

- The next Advisory Group meeting will be held on Monday, April 4th. The meeting will focus on the drivers for consumer energy costs
- Meet with ACEP to discuss the ACEP-led project investigating the barriers to private investment in rural energy projects.

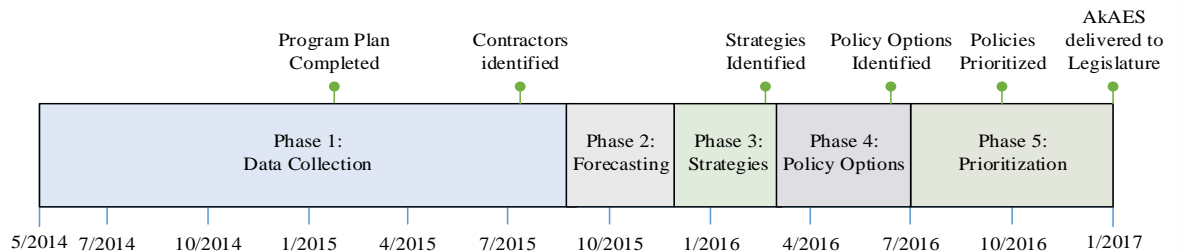
813 W Northern Lights Blvd
Anchorage, AK 99503
(907) 771-3000

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- 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.
- Have reliable electricity and heating consumption figures for all sectors within all communities in the AkaES program region—based on the GINA-led programming effort.
- Receive updated population forecasts based on the Institute for Social and Economic Research’s (ISER’s) Alaska Economic and Demographic Model.
- Continue 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 listserv (<http://list.state.ak.us/soalists/aea.affordable.energy.strategy/il.htm>) has been created to assist in disseminating information about the AkaES.
- Continue work on online survey to assess public preferences about issues that may assist AEA in prioritizing possible strategies and policy options.

Schedule



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