



The Alaska Affordable Energy Strategy Program Fact Sheet and Status Update (September 11, 2015)

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 August 28:

- Met with GINA-led team responsible for programming the data and community energy infrastructure project evaluation model to provide guidance and explanations for their effort
- Received the first monthly update from Northern Economics, the contractor investigating the feasibility of using LNG as a way to reduce energy costs in the AkaES study region
- Worked to finalize contract with Vermont Energy Investment Corporation (VEIC), who is using CCHRC as a subcontractor for the study, to investigate the gaps and barriers to energy efficiency in the AkaES study region, perform program evaluations on existing energy efficiency programs, and develop innovative policy recommendations for project financing and program structure.
- Continued internal projects on data collection, program evaluations, O&M, and utility rates.
- Received a project update on ACEP-led project to investigate barriers to private investment in rural energy infrastructure. Met with representatives from Nuvista Electric to discuss a potential coordinating project
- Worked to finalize US Army Corps of Engineers the Planning Assistance to States agreement between AEA and USACE.
- Participated in Alaska Energy Efficiency Partnership meeting

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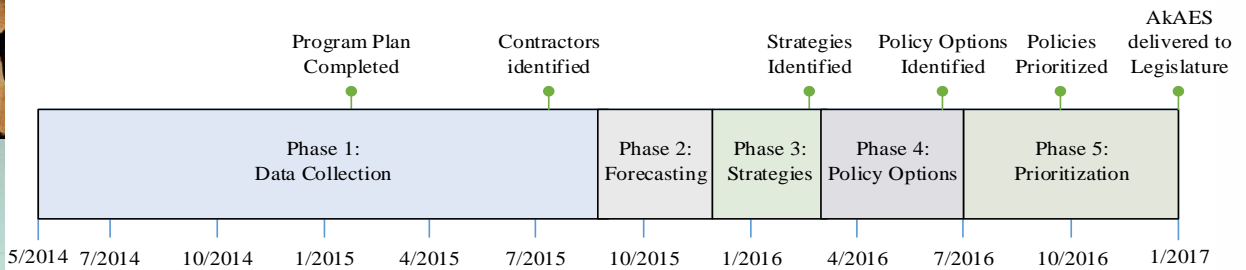
- Met with ISER personnel to discuss finalized RSA to forecast community populations and economic impacts of AkaES recommendations
- Met with representatives from ISER to discuss updates to the Alaska Energy Data Gateway, the database that will be used as the common data source for all AkaES projects

Expected Progress during the Next Two Weeks:

- Receive comments from stakeholders on a first draft of an RFP to investigate the transportation and storage barriers to biomass pellets in the AkaES study region.
- Continue coordinating with AEA’s regional energy planning contractors on data collection and economic analysis.
- Continue coordinating with the contractors leading the LNG study
- Hold kick-off meeting with VEIC and CCHRC to investigate the gaps and barriers to energy efficiency in the AkaES study region.
- Begin RSA process with ISER and DOL&WD to investigate 1) the impact of energy costs on migration patterns in rural Alaska and 2) the length of tenure of powerplant operators, bulk fuel operators, and utility clerks which receive training through AEA programs
- Begin work on the projects with ISER.
- Finalize contract with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for studying the potential of building new, strategically located regional fuel depots to decrease the delivered cost of fuel to communities.
- Continue to coordinate internal AEA work on the AkaES.
- Hold a AkaES Advisory Group meeting



Schedule



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