

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AEA Announces Renewable Energy Fund Round 14 Recommendations

(Anchorage) – As of the January 18, 2022 deadline for Round 14 Renewable Energy Fund (REF) grant applications, the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) received 39 applications. Upon conclusion of the REF application review and evaluation period, 27 applications were presented to the Renewable Energy Fund Advisory Committee (REFAC) on April 15, 2022 as required by statute.

Governor Mike Dunleavy has included in the proposed capital budget for the fiscal year (FY) 2023, an allocation of \$15 million for funding REF Round 14 recommended projects, the largest capitalization of the REF program since FY 2014. This \$15 million allocation is anticipated to be paid for via a portion of the excess earnings from the Power Cost Equalization Endowment Fund. Funding for REF recommended projects is subject to Legislative approval and appropriation. Having received the REFAC's unanimous endorsement of the following 27 projects, AEA has advanced these projects to the Alaska State Legislature for FY 2023 funding consideration; a total capital request of \$15 million (see the recommended project list on next page). If the Legislature approves, this funding will be effective on July 1, 2022, for inclusion in FY 2023 budget.

The REF is a competitive grant program that was established by the Alaska State Legislature in 2008 and is now in its fourteenth funding cycle (e.g. Round). The program helps to fund cost-effective renewable energy projects throughout the state, which assist communities in reducing their dependence on fossil fuels to stabilize their costs of both heat and electricity. The REF also creates jobs, utilizes local energy resources, promotes statewide technology transfer, keeps money in local economies, and fosters economic development. As of December 31, 2021, the Legislature has appropriated \$284 million since the program's inception. To date, 244 REF grants have been awarded, with over 100 operating projects constructed with REF contributions, collectively saving more than 30 million gallons of diesel each year.

AEA manages the REF program in consultation with a nine-member REFAC. Five members are appointed to service by the Governor with the remaining four members being Legislators. REFAC members offer valuable guidance and policy suggestions regarding the application and evaluation process, and final funding recommendations for submission to the Legislature.

The Alaska Energy Authority is a public corporation of the state. Its mission is to reduce the cost of energy in Alaska.

AEA REF Round 14 Recommended Projects*

Community	Applicant Name	Project Name	Recommended Funding
Akiachak	Akiachak Native Community	Akiachak Wind Feasibility	\$ 371,000.00
Ambler; Kiana; Noorvik; Selawik	Northwest Arctic Borough	Design and Permitting for Solar PV and Battery Storage for Ambler, Kiana, Noorvik, and Selawik	\$ 590,000.00
Dillingham	Nushagak Electric & Telephone Cooperative	Nuyakuk River Hydroelectric Project	\$ 1,000,000.00
Fairbanks; Delta Junction; Fort Greely; Fox	Golden Valley Electric Association	Interior Alaska Wind Energy Resource Assessment	\$ 855,000.00
False Pass	City of False Pass	UNGA Man Creek Hydroelectric Project	\$ 321,000.00
Galena	City of Galena	Galena Community Scale Solar PV and Battery Project	\$ 2,000,000.00
Holy Cross	Alaska Village Electric Cooperative	Holy Cross Solar Energy & Battery Storage Feasibility Study Project	\$ 135,000.00
Homer	City of Homer, Department of Public Works	Homer Energy Recovery Project	\$ 79,500.00
Kake	Inside Passage Electric Cooperative	Jenny Creek Hydro Reconnaissance - Kake IPEC	\$ 62,368.00
Kongiganak	Puvurnaq Power Company	Kongiganak Wind Upgrade with Airfoil Blades for Turbines	\$ 278,716.00
Kotzebue	Kotzebue Electric Association, Inc.	Kotzebue Wind to PV Transition Utilizing Existing Wind Infrastructure	\$ 1,900,000.00
Kotzebue	City of Kotzebue	Kotzebue Wind to Heat System	\$ 702,435.00
Kwigillingok	Kwig Power Company	Kwigillingok Wind Turbine Upgrade	\$ 278,716.00
Moose Pass	Alaska Electric & Energy Cooperative, Inc.	AEEC Summit Lake Wind	\$ 232,000.00
Native Village of Eklutna	Native Village of Eklutna	Eklutna Village Solar Energy Project - Feasibility Study	\$ 22,500.00
Nenana	City of Nenana	Nenana Biomass District Heat System	\$ 676,121.00
Nikiski	Alaska Electric & Energy Cooperative, Inc.	AEEC East Foreland/Nikiski Wind	\$ 200,000.00
Ninilchik	Alaska Electric & Energy Cooperative, Inc.	AEEC Ninilchik Wind	\$ 192,000.00
Ninilchik/Fox River	Alaska Electric & Energy Cooperative, Inc.	AEEC Caribou Hills Wind	\$ 209,600.00
Nome	Nome Joint Utility System	Nome Battery Energy Storage System	\$ 2,000,000.00
Ouzinkie	City of Ouzinkie	Ouzinkie Wind Energy Feasibility and Conceptual Design Project	\$ 172,600.00
Pilot Point	City of Pilot Point	Pilot Point Comprehensive Community Wind/Solar/Storage & Heat Project	\$ 423,500.00
Pilot Station	Alaska Village Electric Cooperative	Pilot Station Wind Energy Feasibility Study & Conceptual Design Project	\$ 229,500.00
Point Mackenzie	Point MacKenzie Solar	Point MacKenzie Solar	\$ 75,000.00
Quinhagak	Native Village of Kwinhagak	Kwinhagak Reconnaissance Study	\$ 81,000.00
Railbelt	Chugach Electric Association, Inc. On behalf of the Bradley Lake Management Committee (BPMC)	Dixon Diversion Feasibility Project	\$ 1,000,000.00
Soldotna	Alaska Electric & Energy Cooperative, Inc.	AEEC/KPB CPL Landfill Gas CHP Project	\$ 884,986.00
TOTAL			\$ 14,972,542.00

*If the Legislature approves, this funding will be effective on July 1, 2022, for inclusion in FY 2023 budget.

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