

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AEA Opens Application Period for Renewable Energy Fund Round 15

Grants provide financial assistance for renewable energy projects statewide

(Anchorage) – The Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) is accepting applications for Renewable Energy Fund (REF) grants to help diversify Alaska's energy portfolio by supporting the advancement of renewable energy projects. Applications are due by 4 p.m. on Monday, December 5, 2022.

"High energy costs are a burden on communities across Alaska. The REF aims to lower the cost of energy by developing renewable energy projects," **said AEA Executive Director Curtis W. Thayer**. "The Governor and the Legislature funded Round 14 at \$15 million, the largest capitalization since Fiscal Year 2014. With this Round 15 announcement, we aim to build upon that success."

Following the deadline, AEA will evaluate all applications received and consult with the REF Advisory Committee before making final recommendations to the Legislature. AEA will submit a report summarizing each application and make recommendations for the Fiscal Year 2024 funding. Funding decisions are made at the discretion of the Governor and the Legislature.

REF was established in 2008 by the Alaska State Legislature to provide grant funding for the development of qualifying and competitively selected renewable energy projects. To date, 271 REF grants totaling \$300 million have been awarded. With REF contributions, more than 100 operating projects have been developed.

In consideration of program feedback provided to AEA and to assist in funding viable renewable energy projects, the REF per-project funding limits for Round 15 have been increased to \$2 million and \$4 million, respectively, for low and high-energy-cost communities.

For more information on REF and to apply for a Round 15 grant, click on <u>2022 REF Application</u>. If you need assistance, please contact the AEA Grants Coordinator by email at <u>grants@akenergyauthority.org</u> or by phone at (907) 771-3081.

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

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