PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AEA opens application for \$22.1 million in grid resilience sub-awards

(Anchorage) — Today, the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) announced the release of a Request for Applications (RFA) for \$22.1 million in grant funds to improve electric grid infrastructure resilience against disruptive events. The RFA solicitation period for the Grid Resilience Formula Grant Program will be open through Friday, February 16, 2024, at 4 p.m. Alaska time.

AEA will administer the program funds allocated to Alaska by the United States Department of Energy (DOE), as authorized under Section 40101(d) of the Infrastructure and Investment Jobs Act. The program provides \$2.5 billion in formula grants to states and tribes to improve electric grid resilience. Under this DOE program, Alaska is estimated to receive approximately \$60 million in formula funding for sub-awards over the five-year program period.

The program is part of a broader federal effort to accelerate the deployment of transformative electrical infrastructure projects, to ensure the enhanced reliability of such critical utility-scale systems against disruptive events. Funding under this program encompasses an array of eligible resilience activities, including but not limited to transmission infrastructure hardening; vegetation management, power line relocation, replacement, and undergrounding; and monitoring and control technologies. For this RFA, projects proposed that focus on transmission assets of 69-kilovolt and above will be considered to have a greater impact on future grid resiliency.

Eligible sub-grantees may include, but are not limited to electric grid operators; electricity storage operators; electricity generators; transmission owner or operators; fuel supplies; and other relevant entities, as determined by the Secretary (of DOE).

Prospective applicants can learn more about the Grid Resilience Formula Grant Program and current the RFA by visiting https://www.akenergyauthority.org/grid-resilience-formula-grant-program.

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About the Alaska Energy Authority

The Alaska Energy Authority is a public corporation of the state. Its mission is to reduce the cost of energy in Alaska. To achieve this mission, AEA strives to diversify Alaska's energy portfolio increasing resiliency, reliability, and redundancy. To learn more, visit <u>akenergyauthority.org</u>.