



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AEA and AHFC selected for \$62.5 Million EPA Solar for All Grant

Program will enable low-income and disadvantaged households to benefit from solar energy

(Anchorage) — The Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) and its partner, the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC), announced today that they have been selected for a \$62.5 million grant from the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) [Solar for All](#) program.

The Solar for All program is a \$7 billion competitive grant program through EPA's Greenhouse Gas Fund authorized by the Inflation Reduction Act. It is designed to deploy residential rooftop and residential-serving community solar projects benefiting low-income and disadvantaged households. The EPA's program does not require a cost match from the grantees.

"Alaskans face some of the highest energy costs in the nation," **said AEA Executive Director Curtis W. Thayer.** "The Solar for All program helps to level the playing field by making solar energy solutions more accessible."

"AHFC and AEA have a long history of working together to assist Alaskans with their energy efficiency needs and this is the next chapter in our relationship," **said AHFC CEO/Executive Director Bryan Butcher.** "Today's announcement reflects a spirit of collaboration that will lead to access and advancement of emerging alternative energy technologies."

In October 2023, AEA and AHFC submitted a coalition application to be shared evenly between the organizations. This will fund a two-pronged Solar for All program for Alaska, supporting community solar installations and residential rooftop solar for low-income and disadvantaged households.

With funding, AEA will administer a grant program to develop community solar arrays, including battery energy storage systems (BESS) that benefit customers in disadvantaged communities. BESS will fortify electrical distribution in rural Alaska communities, delivering resilience and reliability for the foreseeable future.

AHFC will administer a statewide residential program that provides subsidized rooftop solar installations for utility grid connected low-income in disadvantaged households where net metering applies.

With the final award, Alaska's Solar for All program is anticipated to last five years, with the first year set aside for planning.

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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 akenergyauthority.org.

About the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation

Alaska Housing Finance Corporation is a public corporation with a long history of providing Alaskans access to safe, quality, and affordable housing through home financing programs, energy efficiency, public housing and more. Since 1986, AHFC has contributed more than \$2.1 billion to the State of Alaska's General Fund. To learn more, visit ahfc.us.



Solar for All Program Fact Sheet

The Solar for All program is a \$7 billion competitive grant program through the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Greenhouse Gas Fund authorized by the Inflation Reduction Act designed to award grants to states, territories, tribal governments, municipalities, and nonprofits to deploy residential rooftop and residential-serving community solar projects benefiting low-income and disadvantaged communities.

In October 2023, the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) and the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) submitted a coalition application for funding to be shared between the organizations, to fund a two-pronged Solar for All program for Alaska.

On April 22, 2024, the EPA announced award selections for the Solar for All competition. AEA was selected to receive an award of \$62,450,000. Selection for an award does not guarantee a final award. A final award is contingent on compliance with all applicable statutes, regulations, and policies and agreement with the terms and conditions of the award agreement. EPA anticipates making the awards no later than September 30, 2024. The EPA's program does not require a cost match from the grantees.

With funding, AEA will administer a grant program to develop community solar arrays, including storage, that benefit customers in disadvantaged communities where modeling shows high potential for both the solar resource and ability for microgrid integration; and, AHFC will administer a statewide residential program that provides subsidized rooftop solar installations for utility grid-connected low-income households in disadvantaged communities where net metering applies. AEA will model its financial assistance on its Renewable Energy Fund program, which has successfully awarded 15 rounds of grants to communities statewide.

Alaska's Solar for All program is anticipated to last five years, with the first year set aside for planning. The Solar for All program offers an opportunity to reduce entry barriers for underserved Alaskans, enabling them to enjoy the advantages of residential rooftop, and community-based solar in disadvantaged communities in rural Alaska.

The collaborative approach between AEA and AHFC will result in lower energy costs for disadvantaged Alaskans and provide access to critical resilience assets in rural Alaska.