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A Public Service Announcement from the Alaska Energy Authority

PSA from AEA

Final regulations will help home-based industries, alternative energy

Juneau: On February 23, 2005 the Lieutenant Governor filed regulations from the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) regarding adoption of changes in Title 3 of the Alaska Administrative Code (AAC), with an effective date of March 25, 2005. Two important outcomes are:

- Clarification of the process by which AEA provides assistance for bulk fuel storage facility upgrades, power system upgrades, circuit rider maintenance, electrical emergencies, and alternative energy and energy efficiency assistance.
- Clarification that rural residents with home-based businesses are eligible for PCE assistance.

The proposed regulation changes are in many cases clarification of policy and streamlining processes and are not expected to require an increased appropriation. Changes were made to improve administrative provisions and AEA's loan and grant programs. A new chapter was added to deal with a multitude of issues concerning financial and technical assistance for energy systems, facilities, and equipment. Changes include the following:

1. Existing chapter 3 AAC 105 was amended by adding a new section addressing AEA's administration of assistance from other agencies and other sources.
2. Existing provisions in chapter 3 AAC 106 dealing with loans from the power project fund and from the bulk fuel revolving loan fund were amended to be consistent with chapter 36 SLA 2004.
3. Existing provisions in chapter 3 AAC 107 dealing with the power cost equalization program were amended by adding a definition of "residential customer."
4. The new chapter 108 added to 3 AAC included provisions addressing bulk fuel facility and power system upgrade assistance provided by AEA; eligibility for and AEA prioritization of such assistance; conditions to receiving such assistance; phased approach to such assistance; the purpose of AEA's circuit rider and electrical emergencies programs; circuit rider

assistance provided by AEA; eligibility and selection for circuit rider assistance; electrical emergencies assistance provided by AEA; conditions to receiving such assistance; alternative energy and energy efficiency assistance provided by AEA; alternative energy and energy efficiency assistance plan; conditions to receiving such assistance; and general provisions on notice of availability of assistance and status of AEA's financial and technical assistance programs and definitions.

After a Department of Law review, AEA requested deferring a small section of this new chapter (3 AAC 108.410 - Protest and appeals), so that further minor revisions can be made, which will require Board approval.

The regulations will be posted on the Alaska Online Public Notice System and on AEA's website at www.aidea.org/aea.htm. A copy can be obtained by calling 907-269-3000 or toll free in Alaska 1-888-300-9534, or stop by AIDEA offices at 813 W. Northern Lights in Anchorage. A notice will be published in Register 173, April 2005.

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