Program Fact Sheet: The Alaska Affordable Energy Strategy (AkAES)

Current Status: Initial project design for implementation. AEA is working internally and with our regional energy planning partners on design of a process to achieve the AkAES goal. Preliminary research has been done to catalogue previous state energy planning and the various components of energy costs throughout the state. The AkAES project manager is coordinating with the AEA Regional Energy Planning team to ensure the programs dovetail effectively.

Program Background:
The Alaska Affordable Energy Strategy is a requirement of the 2014 AKLNG legislation and directs AEA to prepare a plan to develop infrastructure that will deliver affordable energy to communities that will not have direct access to a North Slope natural gas pipeline. AEA is tasked with identifying the most cost effective means of generating, delivering, receiving, and storing energy for the targeted communities. In doing so, AEA must consider existing state energy policy (AS 44.99.115 and sec. 1, ch. 82, SLA 2010) and provide recommendations for funding, and or, financing energy options. The plan and any associated recommendations for legislation are due to the Legislature by January 1, 2017.

Program Progress:
A program plan and budget is being developed to comprehensively investigate potential pathways—both infrastructure and non-infrastructure solutions—to long-term energy affordability. As a preliminary exercise to determine research needs, existing sources of data have been identified, some data has been compiled and analyzed, and missing data has been identified. A techno-economic model is being developed, for use in conjunction with the ongoing regional planning effort, which will help prioritize potential generation, storage and transmission construction, or energy efficiency action.