Detailed Description:

Program Background: AEA’s energy efficiency programs have an average simple payback of less than four years on implemented efficiency measures. AEA’s Energy Efficiency and Conservation (EE&C) program is committed to achieving the State’s 15 percent by 2020 energy efficiency goal through a variety of means. Current initiatives include the Village Energy Efficiency Program, Commercial Building Energy Audit program, industrial audit toolkit, statewide public education and outreach campaign, and technical assistance with regional and community level energy efficiency planning and implementation.

Program Fact Sheet: Energy Efficiency and Conservation Program

Current Status:
AEA continues to manage the State Energy Program (SEP) federal funds for Alaska, sharing revenue 50/50 with the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC).

Six of the Village Energy Efficiency Program (VEEP) communities have approved work-plans. Naknek has received an extension of the work-plan deadline to allow the Bristol Bay borough to seek bond financing approval through a local election in mid-May. Yakutat will likely be the first community to complete their VEEP projects which focus on the school. Work is planned for over the upcoming holiday break.

Commercial Building Energy Audit (CBEA) program is on-going. The 136 commercial building owners selected for the program have until December 31st to submit audit reports and requests for reimbursements. New CBEA building energy-use data is being successfully loaded into the Alaska Retrofit Information System (ARIS) managed by AHFC, greatly increasing the body of data from which to do analysis and improve understanding of commercial building energy end-use.

AEA is managing audits and assisting with retrofit funds distribution to 17 non-profit entities serving Alaska Mental Health Trust beneficiaries. Funds are provided through a reimbursable services agreement from the Dept. of Health & Social Services (DHSS). Audits will be complete by June 2015 and AEA staff will assist DHSS with developing criteria to distribute the additional $850,000 available to implement.

Private Commercial Buildings
The private commercial sector represents nearly ¾ of all non-residential buildings and a large underserved market for energy efficiency programs in Alaska. The CBEA program will pay for up to 100 percent of the cost of an energy audit for privately owned commercial property. Energy audits not only provide a clear path to energy savings, they also provide energy education and incentivize private investment in efficiency improvements. EE&C staff also continue to work with energy service companies, private engineering firms, and the private commercial lending market to create opportunities for efficiency work in this market.

Community Assistance
EE&C outreach and education staff are working closely with community assistance staff and with regional planning contractors to provide information and technical assistance to communities and regions interested in efficiency. Efficiency is emerging as a high priority in most of the regional plans and with limited grant funds, communities and regions are looking for help in developing creative ways to realize the benefits offered by investment in efficiency improvements.
EE&C staff continue to work with Strategic Technical Assistance Response Team (START) Program communities, following up on planning and efficiency initiatives developed during this summer’s site visits. To date, three of the five START communities are moving forward with efficiency opportunities identified through AEA participation in those site visits.

**Data collection and analysis**

EE&C staff continue to work with AHFC to ensure that data collection across programs and agencies are consistent to allow for future analysis, program evaluation and continuous quality improvement. EE&C staff facilitated a training on building benchmarking lead by AHFC staff for regional planners and other interested parties at the Rural Energy Conference.

AEA has a shared use agreement with AHFC to utilize the Alaska Retrofit Information System (ARIS) database for building energy use data storage, analysis and reporting. Both AEA and AHFC program information is displayed on the energy efficiency map [www.akenergyefficiencymap.org](http://www.akenergyefficiencymap.org).

**Outreach, education and stakeholder engagement**

The Energy Hog came to Alaska again this October and visited elementary schools in southeast, interior and southcentral communities through Alaska Energy Efficiency Partners and AEA staff.

Stakeholder engagement is managed through the Alaska Energy Efficiency Partnership. The Partnership has more than 40 member organizations and creates opportunity for collaboration and synergy among statewide stakeholders. On behalf of the Partnership AEA built and maintains a central hub of energy efficiency information, [www.akenergyefficiency.org](http://www.akenergyefficiency.org). Outreach and education within EE&C includes a strong public education campaign that uses top-down, media driven marketing and bottom-up, stakeholder-led local initiatives that redistribute the same messages.