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Article 7A. Emerging Energy Technology Fund.

Sec. 42.45.375. Emerging energy technology fund. (a) In order to promote the expansion of energy sources available to Alaskans, the emerging energy technology fund is established. The fund consists of

- (1) money appropriated to the fund by the legislature to provide grants for energy projects; and
- (2) gifts, bequests, contributions from other sources, and federal money appropriated to the fund.

(b) The fund is not a dedicated fund.

(c) The fund shall be administered by the authority, but the authority may contract for the investment of money appropriated to the fund but not disbursed for a grant. The authority, in consultation with the advisory committee established under (f) of this section, may make grants from the fund to eligible applicants for demonstration projects of technologies that have a reasonable expectation to be commercially viable within five years and that are designed to

- (1) test emerging energy technologies or methods of conserving energy;
- (2) improve an existing energy technology; or
- (3) deploy an existing technology that has not previously been demonstrated in the state.

(d) In making grants under this section, the authority, in consultation with the advisory committee established under (f) of this section, shall give priority to

- (1) Alaska residents, associations, organizations, or institutions;
- (2) projects that demonstrate partnership with the University of Alaska or another Alaska postsecondary institution;
- (3) projects supported by matching funds or in-kind partnerships; and

16 (4) projects with potential for widespread deployment in the state.

17 (e) In administering the fund, the authority may enter into a contract or
18 agreement with the University of Alaska to provide technical and economic review
19 and analysis for the advisory committee established under (f) of this section and data
20 acquisition and analysis of the projects awarded grants.

21 (f) An advisory committee is established and consists of seven members. Each
22 member of the committee shall have a degree in science or engineering, or equivalent
23 professional experience, and at least two years of experience working in the state.
24 Members of the committee shall be appointed by the governor to staggered three-year
25 terms. The committee consists of one representative of each of the following groups:

- 26 (1) a business or organization engaged in the renewable energy sector;
- 27 (2) a business or organization engaged in the fossil fuel energy sector;
- 28 (3) the Alaska Power Association or an Alaska electric utility;
- 29 (4) the Denali Commission established under P.L. 105-277 and
30 mentioned in a note at 42 U.S.C. 3121;
- 31 (5) the National Renewable Energy Laboratory;
- 1 (6) the Arctic Energy Office of the National Energy Technology
2 Laboratory;
- 3 (7) the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority.

4 (g) A member of the advisory committee appointed under (f) of this section
5 serves without compensation but is entitled to per diem and travel expenses as
6 provided in AS 39.20.180.

7 (h) If a member of the advisory committee appointed under (f)(4), (5), or (6)
8 of this section is not available to serve as a member of the committee, the governor
9 shall appoint a representative from a federal agency or department with a comparable
10 mission or purpose to the agency listed in (f)(4), (5), or (6) of this section to fill the

11 position on the committee. If a representative from a federal agency or department is
12 not available to fill the position, the governor may appoint a member from a state
13 agency or department.

14 (i) A business or organization represented by a member of the advisory
15 committee under (f) of this section is not eligible to receive a grant from the fund.

16 (j) In this section,

17 (1) "eligible applicant" means

18 (A) an electric utility holding a certificate of public
19 convenience and necessity under AS 42.05;

20 (B) an independent power producer;

21 (C) a local government, quasi-governmental entity, or other
22 governmental entity, including a tribal council or housing authority;

23 (D) a business holding an Alaska business license; or

24 (E) a nonprofit organization;

25 (2) "energy technology" means technology that promotes, enhances, or
26 expands the diversity of available energy supply sources or means of transmission,
27 increases energy efficiency, or reduces negative energy-related environmental effects;

28 "energy technology" includes technology related to renewable sources of energy,
29 conservation of energy, enabling technologies, efficient and effective use of
30 hydrocarbons, and integrated energy systems;

31 (3) "fund" means the emerging energy technology fund.

* **Sec. 37.** AS 42.45.375, enacted by sec. 14 of this Act, is repealed January 1, 2015.