

October 4, 2022

To All Interested Alaskans:

The Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) is seeking applications for Round 15 funding through the Renewable Energy Fund (REF). The deadline for submitting applications to AEA is 4 p.m. on Monday, December 5, 2022. For eligibility requirements and instructions on how to apply, please visit AEA's website here.

REF was established in 2008 by the Alaska State Legislature. To date, 271 REF grants totaling \$300 million have been awarded. With REF contributions, more than 100 operating projects have been developed.

REF is a unique and robust competitive grant program, which provides critical financial assistance for statewide renewable energy projects, across a variety of project phases. A key objective of the program is to bring to market economically and technically viable renewable energy projects, which have the added benefit of decreasing reliance on fossil fuels.

The program continues to provide financial assistance for preliminary project phases, encourage applications for construction projects, mitigate financial constraints, and broaden the types of projects considered for funding. For Round 15, the maximum grant request has been increased to \$2 million and \$4 million for communities with low and high-energy costs, respectively.

After the evaluation process concludes, a report summarizing all applications and recommending funding priorities will be presented to the Alaska State Legislature during the legislative session, following consultation with the REF Advisory Committee, which is anticipated to occur in March 2023 (Alaska Statute 42.45.045, et seq.). Funding decisions are made at the discretion of the Governor and the Legislature.

AEA values those forward-looking communities who apply for this funding. The study, deployment, and integration of renewable energy technologies into Alaska's energy portfolio will catalyze the state's transition to a clean energy economy.

Our team looks forward to receiving innovative applications for Round 15.

Sincerely,

Curtis W. Thayer Executive Director