

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AEA Opens Round 19 Renewable Energy Fund Application Period

Program provides competitive funding for renewable energy projects across Alaska

ANCHORAGE, Alaska—The Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) is accepting applications for Round 19 of its Renewable Energy Fund (REF) grant program. Applications are due by **4 p.m. AKDT on Friday, Sept. 11, 2026.**

The REF was established in 2008 by the Alaska State Legislature to provide grant funding for competitively selected renewable energy projects. Since then, the program has awarded more than 340 grants representing approximately \$348 million in state funding. More than 110 projects funded through the program are operational and offset an estimated 13.6 million gallons of diesel annually.

The Fiscal Year 2027 capital budget includes \$14.6 million for the REF. These funds support the nine-highest ranking Round 18 project recommendations.

Through the REF, AEA provides competitive grant funding for renewable energy technologies and projects across Alaska. Eligible activities include reconnaissance studies, feasibility analysis, engineering and design work, and construction.

The maximum grant request is \$2 million for communities with lower energy costs and \$4 million for those communities with higher energy costs. Applications submitted by the deadline undergo a four-stage evaluation process that assesses project eligibility, applicant capacity, economic and technical feasibility, financial considerations, matching funds, and local support.

After the evaluation process concludes and the Renewable Energy Fund Advisory Committee (REFAC) approves its recommendations, AEA will submit the REFAC's recommended projects to the Legislature for consideration. The REFAC is a nine-member advisory body established under Alaska Statute 42.45.045. Funding decisions rest with the Governor and the Legislature. A recommendation from REFAC does not guarantee funding.

Information on eligibility requirements and application instructions is available on AEA's website at akenergyauthority.org/ref. Questions about the current Request for Applications may be directed to the REF program manager by email at ref@akenergyauthority.org or by phone at (907) 771-3097.

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About the Alaska Energy Authority

The Alaska Energy Authority is a public corporation of the state. Its mission is advancing affordable, reliable energy in Alaska. AEA leads the development of critical energy infrastructure, strengthens resilience, reliability, and redundancy across Alaska's energy systems, and supports statewide economic growth by enabling secure, long-term energy solutions for communities, utilities, and industry. To learn more, visit akenergyauthority.org.