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FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT

Denali Commission Emerging Energy Technology Grant

Outline

In its continuing efforts to support the development and implementation of alternative and renewable energy projects in Alaska, the Denali Commission (Commission) is releasing up to \$4 million towards alternative and renewable emerging energy technology and demonstration projects.

Timeline

First Round Applications are due Friday, August 7th, 2009 – 5:00 p.m. AKDT.

A selection committee will review all applications by August 19th, and create a short list of applicants eligible for second round consideration, which entails a more detailed application due by Sept. 16th and a 15-minute power point presentation to be made during the week of Sept. 28th. Final selections will be made by Oct. 9th, 2009.

Overall solicitation timeline: July 13th, 2009 to October 9th, 2009.

Solicitation funding will expire on December 31st, 2011, regardless of individual project progress.

Funding Use

The Emerging Energy Technology Grant (EETG) will target (1) research, development, or demonstration projects designed to (a) test new energy technologies or methods of conserving energy or (b) improve an existing energy technology; and (2) applied research projects that employ energy technology with a reasonable expectation that the technology will be commercially viable in Alaska in not more than five years.

The EETG seeks to develop emerging alternative and renewable energy technology that has the potential of widespread deployment in Alaska, and that has the potential to reduce energy costs for Alaskans. Attention will be given to “lessons learned” for each project, with resulting information being made available to the general public.

Eligibility

Applicants must meet Commission due diligence and reporting criteria, and follow Commission policies. Eligible projects must primarily focus on alternative or renewable energy and meet the intended funding use.

Eligible applicants include: an electric utility holding a certificate of public convenience and necessity under AS 42.05; an independent power producer; a local government, quasi-governmental entity, or other governmental entity, including a tribal council or housing authority; a business holding an Alaska business license; or a nonprofit organization.

For eligibility frequently asked questions (FAQ), please see posting on announcement website.

DEFINITIONS:

"Energy Technology" means technology that promotes, enhances, or expands the diversity of available energy supply sources or means of transmission, increases energy efficiency, or reduces negative energy-related environmental effects. **"Energy Technology"** includes technology related to renewable sources of energy, conservation of energy, enabling technologies, efficient and effective use of hydrocarbons, and integrated energy systems.

"Renewable Energy" means energy derived from wind, solar, geothermal, hydrothermal, wave, tidal, river in-stream, or hydropower; low-emission nontoxic biomass based on solid or liquid organic fuels from wood, forest and field residues, or animal or fish products; dedicated energy crops available on a renewable basis; or landfill gas and digester gas.

"Alternative Energy" refers to (1) energy derived from nontraditional sources or the utilization of traditional sources in a new or unconventional manner; (2) the supplementation, integration, or alteration of an energy system with a new or unconventional process that is not typically reliant on traditional fossil fuels.

DUE DILIGENCE REQUIREMENTS:

All applicants are required to comply with the Denali Commission's due diligence requirements. The purpose of the review is to ensure the entity is capable of receiving and administering public funds in a legal, accountable and responsible manner. Applicants must provide the following information to demonstrate compliance with these requirements for consideration of the grant application:

- 1) Authorization to Request Federal Tax Information
- 2) Verification of the current business license (if applicable)
- 3) Verification of insurance (if applicable)
- 4) Verification of worker's compensation or occupational health and safety

Applications will not be considered for funding if they do not meet the due diligence requirements.

DENALI COMMISSION POLICIES:

Since its inception in 1998 the Commission has developed a number of policies intended to guide federal funds investment in the most efficient, effective and prudent manner possible, while at the same time maximizing the benefit to Alaskan communities and residents in the areas of infrastructure development, economic development and training and workforce development. These policies have been adopted through various methods including: passage via resolution or motion. To-date the Commission has adopted the following policies, which appear in more detailed in *Attachment "A", Denali Commission Policies*:

- Investment Guidance
- Sustainability
- Community Planning
- Open Door
- Private Enterprise
- Competitive Bid
- Cost Containment

Applicants will not be considered for funding if they do not comply with Commission policies.

REPORTING:

The Commission requires quarterly financial and project reporting on its online reporting system for all award recipients.

In addition, the Alaska Center for Energy and Power (ACEP) will assist the Commission with managing projects under the EETG, providing an independent third party assessment of projects. Specifically, ACEP will:

- 1) Work with grant recipients to develop a data collection and reporting plan to be implemented as part of the award.
- 2) Compile and analyze the data on behalf of the Denali Commission, providing easy-to-digest and streamlined reports on project performance, reliability, efficiency, operating costs, repairs, and any areas of concern.
- 3) Provide recommendations for go/no-go decision making points at critical, pre-defined intervals during each project.
- 4) Provide a final report packaging all data from the project and providing a recommendation on future use of the technology in Alaska at the end of the demonstration project phase, available for public dissemination.

Eligible applicants must have the capacity to meet Commission reporting requirements.

Selection Process

Project applications will enter a competitive two-round selection process. A selection committee will review projects, and make selection recommendations to the Commission.

In the first round, applicants will submit an abbreviated four-page application. The selection committee will review applications, and create a short list of applicants for second round consideration.

In the second round, selected applicants will submit a more robust project application. Applicants will also be required to give a 15 minute presentation, and be subject to a question-and-answer period by the selection committee. Final project selections will be made after the second round.

All applicants must submit a first round application. Only selected projects will be eligible for a second round review. Final funding decisions are not made in the first round. If projects are not selected for second round consideration, they are no longer eligible for this solicitation.

The selection committee will be comprised of staff, management, and members from the following organizations: the Denali Commission Energy Program, the Denali Commission Energy Advisory Committee (EAC), the Alaska Power Association (APA), the Alaska Center for Energy and Power (ACEP), the Department of Energy (DOE) through both the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) and the National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL), and the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA).

FUNDING AND SELECTION CRITERIA:

All applicants will be subject to the following general prioritizations:

- Consistency with the intent of the solicitation.
- Relevance of potential “lessons learned” from project.
- Alignment with Denali Commission Policies (*Attachment “A”*).
- Support of established Denali Commission mission, initiatives, and goals.
- Capacity of applicant to implement project and fulfill reporting requirements.
- Overall project feasibility.
- Project readiness and timeline.
- Demonstrated planning for proposed project scope.

- Development stage of proposed technology.
- Identified match funding (cash, grants, loans, or in-kind).

Match funding (cash, loans, grants, or in-kind) is not a requirement but highly recommended given limited funding amounts and overall Commission objectives.

Application

The following must be submitted by all applicants:

- 1) First Round Application Packet (*Attachment "B"*)

Second round application material and presentation requirements will be distributed upon first round selection decisions.

Hard copy, fax, or email submissions will be accepted. Deadline is August 7th, 2009, 5:00 p.m. AKDT to the following:

Hard Copy:	Attn: EETG First Round Application Denali Commission 510 L Street, Suite 410 Anchorage, Alaska 99501
Fax:	(907) 271-1415 Cover Letter: EETG First Round Application
Email:	jmeyer@denali.gov Subject: EETG First Round Application

Application must be received by the date and time listed above.

Staff Contacts

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Attachments

The following attachments to this document include:

- A. Denali Commission Policies
- B. Denali Commission Application Packet – EETG First Round
- C. Authorization to Request Federal Tax Information