

COMMERCIAL CUSTOMER News

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FROM CHUGACH ELECTRIC

Commercial Energy Efficiency Education

Submitted by Alaska Housing Finance Corporation

Alaska Housing Finance Corporation's (AHFC) involvement in the commercial building world was expanded in 2010 when the Alaska Legislature passed SB220. The law allowed AHFC to establish up to a \$250M revolving loan fund for public facility energy efficiency retrofits. Eligible borrowers include Regional Education Attendance Areas, The University of Alaska, the State of Alaska including political subdivisions, and municipalities in the state which include City and Borough School Districts. AHFC's responding programs, Retrofit Energy Assessment for Loans (REAL) and Alaska Energy Efficiency Retrofit Loan Program (AEERLP), offer a standard methodology for project development and a loan program for performing financing energy efficiency retrofits.

In support of AHFC's REAL and AEERLP, AHFC has developed a series of ten, two-hour energy efficiency curriculums targeted towards the commercial building industry including designers, engineers, contractors, developers and policy makers. Policy makers include building owners and others who determine the management or development of commercial building structures and projects. Courses are free of charge and will be offered throughout the state at various trade meetings, conferences, technical centers and other events from early summer 2014 through spring of 2015. Groups of seven or more may request classes at times and locations of their choosing, with instruction dependent upon AHFC staff and/or contractor availability.

Below are the course names, instructional level and associated target audiences. Target audience designations are not exclusive but provide an idea of the general anticipated audience. Abbreviations are D – Designers, E-Engineers, C- Contractors, DV-Developers and PM – Policy Makers.

100 Level- Introduction and History to Green Building and Environmental Issues: D, E, C, DV, PM.

200 Level- Understanding Building Energy use/Building Behavior: D, E, C, DV, PM.

100 Level- The Economics of Energy Efficiency – Financial Costs and Benefits: D, E, C, DV, PM.

200 Level- Policy and Codes that Support Efficiency: D, E, PM.

100 Level- High Performance Envelope Design.: D & E.

200 Level- Climate Responsive Design in Cold Climates: D & E.

300 Level- Energy Modeling as a Design Tool: D & E.

100 Level- Building for Efficiency: The Role of AK Contractors and Trades: D, E and C.

100 Level- Energy Efficient Retrofits of Existing Buildings: D, E, C, DV.

200 Level- Commissioning and Retro-Commissioning: D, E, C, DV.

For additional information contact Scott Waterman at AHFC; 330-8195 or swaterma@ahfc.us.



Building Owners awarded funding for Commercial Energy Audits

Submitted by Alaska Energy Authority

The Alaska Energy Authority's Commercial Building Energy Audit (CBEA) program aims to help reduce energy use in privately-owned commercial buildings by providing funding to pay for up to the full cost of a commercial energy audit. Getting an energy audit is the first step in reducing your energy costs by assessing energy use and identifying energy savings measures. Commercial buildings

consume more than half of the building energy use in Alaska, and the majority of these buildings are privately owned. Awards for the CBEA program are made through a competitive grant application process that evaluates, among other things, per unit cost of energy where building is located and building's energy use intensity.

The intent of the CBEA program

is to provide high quality energy audits to private commercial building owners to help them identify and value possible energy efficiency measures that could be implemented specific to their building. The maximum reimbursement is set by the building size and complexity and ranges from \$1,800 for buildings up to 2,500 square feet up to \$7,000 for buildings more than 50,000 square feet. In January,

2014 the third round of CBEA funding was awarded to 131 building owners around Alaska; 38 of those awards were made to buildings in Anchorage.

Results of past year program participants indicate average potential energy savings of roughly 1/3 resulting from the implementation of cost effective efficiency measures with average

See Audit, page 2

CHUGACH
POWERING ALASKA'S FUTURE



Increased rates due to HEA leaving system

After decades of wholesale power purchases, Homer Electric Association, Inc. (HEA) left the Chugach system when its contract terminated at the end of 2013. Losing HEA as a customer means fixed costs were distributed across fewer kilowatt-hours of sales. As a result, both retail and wholesale customers of Chugach experienced increased rates in January 2014.

Prior sales to HEA helped pay for generation and transmission assets used to meet the combined requirements of Chugach's retail and wholesale customers. Matanuska Electric Association, Inc. (MEA) and the City of Seward remain wholesale customers of Chugach, though MEA will also be leaving the system when its contract expires at the end of 2014.

The impact of HEA leaving Chugach's system was lessened

when Chugach sold the Bernice Lake Power Plant in 2011 to HEA. Also, an agreement to use HEA's Nikiski generating unit terminated with the expiration of the wholesale contract. That reduced maintenance, gas and related purchased power costs, while shifting the remaining load to more efficient units – including the Southcentral Power Project. Consequently, the loss of HEA as a wholesale customer reduced the fuel and purchased power costs paid by the remaining customers.

While base rate increases

affected all customer classes, they were offset slightly by a decrease in fuel and purchased power rates for retail members. For the average Chugach Small General Service member the net effect amounted to an increase of approximately 5 percent on their total monthly bill. Average Large General Service – Secondary members saw an increase of approximately 6 percent on a total bill basis. Chugach's board of directors and management have taken every reasonable step identified to minimize the latest rate increase.

We'd like to hear from YOU!

Do you have an energy efficiency success story that you'd like to share? Do you have questions you'd like us to answer in the next newsletter? Please contact Kate Ayers at kate_ayers@chugachelectric.com.

Chugach Annual Meeting and Election

Chugach's annual membership meeting will be held on Thursday, May 22, 2014 at the Dena'ina Civic & Convention Center.

Three directors will be elected to the Chugach board in the upcoming 2014 election. In 2013, members passed a bylaw changing board members' terms from three years to four. As part of that transition, two directors will be elected to 4-year terms and one director to a 3-year term in 2014.

The board set April 3, 2014, as the record date for voting in this year's election and at the annual meeting. Ballot packets will be sent to members of record on April 22. Member's also have the ability to vote electronically and new this year- by telephone.

In-person voting will be allowed at the annual meeting. Registration opens at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. Results of the election will be announced at the meeting.

Audit, (cont'd from page 1)

simple paybacks of just over six years. Some of these results can be viewed on the Alaska Energy Efficiency Map at www.akenergyefficiency.com. The Alaska Energy Authority initiated

this program in 2011 as one of many efforts to achieve the 15% by 2020 energy efficiency goal set by the Governor and Legislature in 2010.

If you would like to be notified of future funding opportunities for this and other programs available through the Alaska Energy Authority please contact energyaudit@aidea.org



Dan Reicher



Denis Hayes

2014 Business of Clean Energy in Alaska conference

MAY 1-2 | DENA'INA CONVENTION CENTER | ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

Submitted by Renewable Energy Alaska Project (REAP)

Alaska is home to vast energy supplies, yet Alaskans pay some of the highest energy prices in the country. The 2014 Business of Clean Energy in Alaska conference connects business, civic and government leaders with top national energy experts to identify the economic opportunities, benefits and challenges related to developing renewable energy and energy efficiency in our state. This 6th

annual event will provide updates on clean energy projects and programs in Alaska, and opportunities for audience participation in conference discussions. Keynote speakers will include Dan Reicher, Executive Director of the Steyer-Taylor Center for Energy Policy & Finance at Stanford University and Denis Hayes, CEO of the Bullitt Center.

- Featured topics will include:
- Renewable Energy Policy
 - Clean Energy Finance
 - Arctic Development opportunities
 - World Interest in Alaska
 - Alaska Supply & Demand Breakout Discussions

Online registration ends Friday, April 25th. For more information go to www.BCEAconference.com or call (907) 929-7770.