



**Notice of Opportunity for Technical Assistance
for Remote Alaska Communities Energy
Efficiency Competition**

AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov

NOTA Webinar-Phase 2

DE-FOA-0001479

February 25, 2016

Speaker Introductions

Steve Palmeri, Project Officer,
U.S. Department of Energy
Golden Field Office, Colorado

Douglas C. MacCourt, Senior Policy Advisor
U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs

Pam Bloch Mendelson, RACEE Competition Lead
U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Katie Conway, Assistant Program Manager
Alaska Energy Authority
Energy Efficiency & Conservation Program

Agenda

- 1) INTRODUCTIONS
- 2) SUMMARY INFORMATION
- 3) UPDATE ON PHASE 1 OF NOTA
- 4) DESCRIPTION OF NOTA AMENDMENT
- 5) INFORMATION AND ELIGIBILITY
- 6) APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION
- 7) APPLICATION SUBMISSION
- 8) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING EXCHANGE
- 9) ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION
- 10) Q&A

Notice

All applicants are strongly encouraged to carefully read the Amended Announcement for this Notice of Technical Assistance (DE-FOA-0001479) (“**NOTA**”) and adhere to the stated submission requirements. The NOTA can be accessed at:

<https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/#Foald0910a5e2-771f-47f9-a113-f94f10649767>

This presentation summarizes the contents of the NOTA. If there are any inconsistencies between the NOTA and this presentation or statements from DOE personnel, the NOTA is the controlling document and applicants should rely on the NOTA language and seek clarification from EERE.

If you believe there is an inconsistency, please contact AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov

RACEE Description

- **RACEE Purpose**

The RACEE Competition will empower Alaskan communities and native Alaskan villages to develop effective tools to advance the use of reliable, affordable, and energy efficient solutions that are replicable throughout Alaska and other Arctic regions.

- **Notice of Technical Assistance (NOTA) RACEE Phase 1**

Phase 1 designated qualified Alaskan communities that pledge to reduce energy use as “Community Efficiency Champions”. These “Champions” gain access to a peer network and are now qualified to apply for Phase 2.

Peer Exchange: Community Efficiency Champions will be expected to actively share information, best practices and lessons learned with peers

- **NOTA RACEE Phase 2**

Up to 20 communities will compete for Technical Assistance to gather baseline energy data and develop plans to implement energy efficiency improvements.

Technical Assistance deliverables for each plan include:

project scope, energy baseline, cost estimate, project business plan, design team, financing plan, and permitting strategy.

- **Funding Opportunity Announcement**

3-5 Implementation Grants (\$3.1M total)

Applications in June

Summary Information

Means of Submission	<p>Applications for both Phases will be accepted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • online through the online application portal; EERE Exchange at https://eere-exchange.energy.gov, • via email at AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov • via fax at 240-562-1640
Total Value of Technical Assistance to be Provided	<p>Up to \$600,000</p>
Value of Technical Assistance Provided Per Project	<p>DOE anticipates providing approximately \$5,000 to \$100,000 per selected project in the form of Technical Assistance provided by Technical Assistance teams.</p>
Period of Performance	<p>For Phase 1: The pledge designation and Community Efficiency Champion peer network will be active for up to 48 months.</p> <p>For Phase 2: Technical Assistance period of performance will be for up to 36 months.</p>
Eligible Entities	<p>For Phase 1: Alaskan communities with no more than 8,000 residents</p> <p>For Phase 2: Entities designated as Community Efficiency Champions under Phase 1</p> <p>For detailed Eligibility Qualifications refer to the eligibility section of the NOTA</p>
Cost Share Requirement	<p>There is no Cost Share Requirement for either Phase under this Notice</p>
Submission of Multiple Applications	<p>Applications may request Technical Assistance for multiple projects. Only one application may be submitted per community. Though an organization may apply on behalf of multiple communities, only one application may be submitted per community.</p>
Additional Information	<p>Additional information can be found at http://energy.gov/remote-alaskan-communities-energy-efficiency-competition</p>

DE-FOA-0001479: Notice of Technical Assistance (NOTA) for Remote Alaska Communities Energy Efficiency Competition

Anticipated Schedule:

NOTA Issue Date:	December 18, 2015
NOTA- Phase 2 Informational Webinar:	February 25, 2016
Submission Deadline for Applications:	Phase 2: Applications for Energy Efficiency Technical Assistance may be submitted beginning March 1, 2016 until 5p.m. ET on March 31, 2016.
Expected Date for EERE Selection Notifications:	For Phase 2: April 27, 2016

Protocol for questions during this Webinar

- All questions asked during this presentation will be recorded and then posted and answered on EERE eXCHANGE
- Questions can also be emailed to AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov and answers will be posted on EERE Exchange under the NOTA
- In addition, all information provided during this Webinar, including this presentation, will be posted on EERE eXCHANGE

Benefits of Designation as Community Efficiency Champions

- **Access to a Community Efficiency Champion peer network**
 - This network is intended to empower communities with the information and tools needed to make more informed, strategic decisions regarding their energy future. Participation will allow communities facing similar problems and similar contexts to learn from each other. More information about the network will be provided soon.
- **Access to existing Federal Technical Assistance programs.**
 - Details forthcoming about available TA Programs and how to access them
- **Eligibility to compete for Phase 2, targeted Technical Assistance (TA)**
 - Champions will be eligible to compete for TA by submitting a full application under Phase 2 of the NOTA. Applications for TA will be accepted between 3/1/2016 and 5pm ET 3/31/2016 as outlined in the NOTA.

Eligibility for Phase 2- Technical Assistance (TA)

- Only those Communities designated as Community Efficiency Champions under Phase 1 of this Notice are eligible to apply for Technical Assistance under Phase 2 of this Notice.
- Applicants that do not meet these requirements will be deemed ineligible and their applications will not be reviewed or considered for Phase 2 TA.

Phase 2: Notice Of Technical Assistance

- Phase 2 of the NOTA will provide up to 20 communities with Technical Assistance to gather baseline energy data and develop plans to implement energy efficiency improvements.
- The goal of the Phase 2 Technical Assistance is to accelerate community energy planning, from current status to a point where they are ready to apply for implementation funding, either via a grant or loan.
- Technical Assistance deliverables for each plan may include:
 - project scope,
 - energy baseline,
 - cost estimate,
 - project business plan,
 - management team with community and Tribal village
 - financing plan, and
 - permitting strategy.
- The Community Efficiency Champions network will provide peer exchange on energy related education and training activities to ensure that any participating communities regardless of limited human capital or other resources, are not functionally excluded from implementing energy efficiency.

Technical Assistance-NOT Financial Assistance

- The Community Efficiency Champions selected under Phase 2 of this Notice will receive Technical Assistance provided through DOE by entities organized as Technical Assistance teams by DOE.
- It is anticipated that Technical Assistance under this NOTA will be provided via Technical Assistance agreements between (1) a Technical Assistance Provider and (2) Selected Community Efficiency Champions.
- DOE will provide the funding for the selected Technical Assistance project directly to the Technical Assistance Provider.
- With DOE's approval, the Technical Assistance Providers can use the funds to support the selected Community Efficiency Champions on their Technical Assistance projects.
- In limited circumstances, the use of a Work for Others Agreement, a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA), or a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) may be used instead of a Technical Assistance agreement.
- Communities selected under Phase 2 will become eligible to apply for a future FOA for funding to implement energy projects.

NOTE: There is no direct funding to the applicant under this Notice of Technical Assistance. Selected Applicants under Phase 2 will receive Technical Assistance, not funding.

Amendment to NOTA: Two Topic Areas

- The purpose of this amendment is to divide Phase 2 of the NOTA into two topic areas.
- DOE modified 3 sections of the NOTA to divide Phase 2 into 2 topic areas:
 - “Phase Areas and Scope of Activities”
 - “Content and Form of the Application” and the
 - “Review Criteria”
- Additional language was added to clarify allowable TA for integrated renewable energy.
- Modifications to the NOTA have been highlighted in yellow. All other parts of the NOTA remain unchanged.
- Applications for Phase 2 must indicate which Topic Area they are applying under and provide a short rationale for the choice.
- Applicants can only apply to 1 Topic Area.

Topic Area 1

- Topic Area 1 is intended for communities that are in early planning stages and may have limited or no energy use data.
- Under this Topic area, technical assistance is likely to start with activities such as the collection of energy use data (i.e. benchmarking), conducting energy audits on buildings, and/or developing a long-term community energy strategy, or conducting an energy options analysis to identify potential future energy projects.
- The intent is that this Technical Assistance is to determine energy options and develop energy projects to a point necessary to apply for project funding. Project funding or financing may include grants associated with the RACEE Competition, or other grants or loans.
- **For example:** If you have *not* had energy audits or tracked building energy use, you could apply under this Topic Area to have audits done, assistance in measuring energy use and help prioritizing which energy efficiency project to tackle first.

Topic Area 1 Cont.

Topic 1 Communities characteristics might include:

- Have little to no detailed energy use data (For example: electricity and heating fuel information per-building and/or community-wide).
- Have completed limited or no strategic energy planning
- Have general ideas about energy use, but could use expert help in evaluating the most cost effective improvement plan
- Have not received technical assistance related to energy use or energy efficiency in the last five years

Typical Topic 1 starting Technical Assistance activities

- Walk through (Level 1) Energy Audits
- Comprehensive Building inventory of all non-residential buildings
- Electricity and fuel use data collected for as many buildings as feasible
- Evaluation of Powerhouse efficiency opportunities
- Evaluation of Water / Sewer efficiency opportunities
- Community Kick-off Meeting and Community Energy Planning
- Energy use and project cash flow analysis

Topic Area 2

- Topic Area 2 is intended for communities that already have baseline energy data and who may have identified potential energy efficiency and renewable energy integration projects.
- They may have begun to develop energy strategies or energy efficiency projects, and who would benefit from more targeted project-related technical assistance.
- Targeted technical assistance could include supplementing existing energy data, assistance with updating energy plans, or help in developing plans, scope of work and design for specific projects, etc.
- The intent is that this Technical Assistance is to determine energy options and develop energy projects to a point necessary to apply for project funding. Project funding or financing may include grants associated with the RACEE Competition, or other grants or loans.
- **For example:** If you have had building energy audits in the past eight years, have measured energy use and/or prioritized energy efficiency projects, you may request assistance under this Topic Area to update that information or receive advice on those project plans before submitting an application under RACEE or for other funding or loan opportunities.

Topic Area 2 Cont.

Topic 2 Communities characteristics

- Have some building/facility energy use data
- Have some energy audit information, from within the last 8 years
- Have strategic energy planning, prioritized energy efficiency projects
- Have identified targeted areas for improvement (e.g., specific buildings, projects)

Typical Topic 2 Technical Assistance activities

- Engineering and design
- Policy and regulatory planning
- Project development assistance

Eligible Uses of Technical Assistance

- The Technical Assistance is intended to support projects that reduce energy use in ways that are relevant to each community, and can also likely be replicated in other Alaskan or Arctic communities.
- Successful applications will focus on energy efficiency improvements and renewable energy integration.
- Key areas of interest are in heating and weatherization, addressing community infrastructure with high energy usage/costs
 - (such as, but not limited to water treatment and distribution systems, washeterias, and schools), and
- Key areas of interest are in electrical efficiency improvements, with a priority on first, end-use energy efficiency measures, and second, supply-side energy efficiency measures.
 - This includes proposals to integrate renewable generation that replaces existing inefficient capacity and equipment.

Proposals to add electrical generation capacity will be considered non-responsive.

Eligible Uses of Technical Assistance cont.

- Examples of projects that could be developed under Phase 2 include but are not limited to:
 - Weatherization and retrofitting
 - Developing and implementing improved long-term maintenance programs
 - Heat pumps
 - Solar and biomass fueled integrated systems (heat and water)
 - Heat recovery systems
 - Remote monitoring systems
 - Digital control systems
 - Upgrades to generators and power controls
 - Water treatment system operations improvements
 - LED lighting and outdoor lighting upgrades
 - More efficient boilers
 - Combined heat and Power (CHP);
 - Thermally activated technologies
 - Electric distribution demand response

Eligible Uses of Technical Assistance cont.

- Eligible Technical Assistance will include
 - Baseline data collection
 - Monitoring and analysis
 - Community training and education activities
 - Feasibility planning
 - Policy and regulatory planning
 - Tools, modeling, engineering and design assistance, and other project development assistance.
- Applicants may request Technical Assistance that is complementary to that provided by other Federal agencies supporting the RACEE Competition.
However, applications that request Technical Assistance that has already been received by that community and/or is duplicative of that provided by other Federal agencies will not be considered under this Notice.

Evaluation Process

- **For Phase 2**, applications may be submitted beginning March 1, 2016, but no later than 5:00 PM ET on **March 31, 2016**
- Phase 2 of the RACEE Competition is intended to accelerate the Community Efficiency Champion's efforts and the period of performance must be completed within 36 months.
- Applicants will be expected to meet certain baseline requirements to receive Technical Assistance, as described below.

Evaluation Criteria Phase 2:

- Applications will be evaluated and selections will be made based on the following criteria:
 - **Topic Area 1:** Communities that are in early planning stages and may have limited or no energy use data.
 - Technical Merit (40%)
 - Innovation and replicability (20%)
 - Impact (40%)
 - **Topic Area 2:** communities that already have baseline energy data and who may have identified potential energy efficiency and renewable energy integration projects.
 - Technical Merit (40%)
 - Innovation and replicability (20%)
 - Impact (40%)

Evaluation Criteria Details for Topic Area 1

Technical Merit (40%)

- Content of the plan to achieve the energy usage reductions. Content of the pledge and the plan refers to the completeness of the Project Summary and the community's plan to address energy usage.
- Applicant's ability to manage the project including commitment of community members.
- The extent to which the proposed work is clear, realistic and appropriate to the Community Efficiency Champion, including described energy usage profile and community economic considerations.
- Use of partnerships to leverage resources and knowledge.

Innovation and replicability (20%)

- Replicability of proposed project to other remote communities in other Alaska or Arctic regions.
- Transformative and innovative aspects of the project for which Technical Assistance is sought.

Evaluation Criteria Details for Topic Area 1 Cont.

Impact (40%)

- Level of expected energy saved for the building, project, and/or for the community as a whole.
- Level of impact to the local community, including a consideration of demonstrated needs (for example, economic need, high energy costs, need for maintenance and/or retrofits).
- Sustainability of project impacts beyond the period of Technical Assistance performance

Evaluation Criteria Details for Topic Area 2

Technical Merit (40%)

- Completeness of the Project Summary and the plan to achieve the energy usage reductions.
- Applicant's ability to manage the project including commitment of community members. The extent to which the proposed work is clear, realistic and appropriate to the Community Efficiency Champion, including the described energy usage profile and community economic considerations.
- Use of partnerships to leverage resources and knowledge

Innovation and replicability (20%)

- Replicability of proposed project to other remote communities in other Alaska or Arctic regions.
- Sustainability (i.e. lasting for multiple years) of project for which Technical Assistance is sought;
- Transformative and innovative aspects of the project for which Technical Assistance is sought.

Evaluation Criteria Details for Topic Area 2 Cont.

Impact (40%)

- Level of expected energy and cost savings for the building, project, and/or for the community as a whole.
- Level of impact to the local community, including a consideration of demonstrated needs (for example, economic need, high energy costs, need for maintenance and/or retrofits).
- Sustainability of project impacts beyond the period of Technical Assistance performance.

Application Submission

Applications for Phase 2 will be accepted through:

- The EERE online application portal; EERE Exchange at <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov>
- Email at AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov or
- Via fax at 240-562-1640
- When faxing please include a cover page with the following information:
 - To: DOE RACEE NOTA Applications
 - From: Applicant Name and Contact information
 - ATTN: Steven Palmeri
 - # of Pages

PLEASE SUBMIT APPLICATIONS VIA ONE METHOD ONLY.

The Applicant's Principal Investigator (PI) should receive acknowledgement of receipt of the application within 24 hours. Please contact AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov if a receipt is not received.

Content and Form of the Application-Phase 2:

For Phase 2, the applicant must provide the following:

1. A completed, signed **Application for Federal Assistance (Form SF-424)** in PDF format
 - a. Form is available in EERE Exchange under the NOTA “Full Application Attachments” section
 - b. Form is available by email request to AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov
 - c. Or by phone request to U. S. Dept. of Energy, Golden Field Office, 720-356-1764
 - d. Complete all required fields in accordance with the instructions on the form. The list of certifications and assurances in Field 21 can be found at <http://energy.gov/management/office-management/operational-management/financial-assistance/financial-assistance-forms> , under Certifications and Assurances.

2. A **Project Summary file**

Project Summary File (a-c)

A **Project Summary file (not to exceed 10 pages)** should have the following information and / or answers to the following questions:

- a) Provide the Community Efficiency Champion name (name of Community) or name of Organization (if applying on behalf of one or more communities)
- b) Identify the Primary Point of Contact (Champion or organization applying on behalf of Champion)
 - 1) Name:
 - 2) Email:
 - 3) Phone Number:
- c) Identify the Topic Area; Topic Area 1 or Topic Area 2:
Please provide a brief summary of why your Community's Application qualifies for the selected Topic Area.

Project Summary File Cont. (d 1-2)

d) Provide the following Community and Energy Use Information:

- 1) What are your current methods to measure or track energy use in the community? For example, do you consistently maintain a ledger for fuel deliveries and/or bills? Do you have a system for tracking extraction from the main fuel tank in town? Have you ever used the ARIS benchmark form?
- 2) Provide a current estimate of your community's energy use (such as how many kWhs of electricity, gallons of fuel oil, and gallons of diesel the community has used over the last month, year, or several years) and identify the source of the estimate. This can include energy used for electricity, heat and transportation. (Note: you may use PCE information as a source of electricity used).

Project Summary File Cont. (d 3-5)

- 3) What is the economic burden of energy in your community? Please provide the most recent retail price for electricity (per kilowatt-hour, pre-PCE) and heating oil (per gallon)
- 4) What, if any, other major issues related to energy affect your community (e.g., transportation costs, inefficient diesel generators, etc.)?
- 5) Please describe any buildings or projects you are targeting for this Technical Assistance application. For any buildings listed, please identify who owns the building, the use and size. For projects, please provide as much specifics as possible.

Project Summary File Cont. (e)

e) Does your community have needs in the following areas? List all that apply:

1. Energy Project planning & project development
2. Energy use tracking (electric and / or heat)
3. Energy use measurement
4. Building/facility energy audits
5. Power house audit
6. Heat recovery feasibility
7. Water/sewer energy audit
8. Assessing project finance options
9. Analysis of energy use
10. Maintenance needs for energy efficiency improvements
11. Residential weatherization (# of homes)
12. Community building/facility efficiency improvements (# of buildings, by building name and owner)
13. Outdoor lighting upgrades
14. Water/sewer efficiency improvements
15. Power house upgrade
16. Renewable energy integration
17. Electric transmission and/or distribution upgrade
18. Transportation efficiency (please describe)

Project Summary File Cont. (f – i)

- f) Describe any other needs not addressed under the above categories
- g) Briefly describe needed assistance related to the categories selected above:
- h) Energy use measurement. Please describe how you measure or propose to measure changes in energy usage for this technical assistance project
- i) Describe how you will ensure this project will have the support of all major leadership bodies within your community (e.g. city government, tribal government, village corporation, etc.).

Project Summary File Cont. (j, k)

- j) Describe any Technical Assistance received related to community energy strategies or energy efficiency projects. Identify the provider, amount of assistance received in terms of equivalent dollar amounts if known, and the timeframe. Also identify if and when any of the following were developed:
 - i. An efficiency project plan;
 - ii. An energy usage baseline, including a description of any savings and methodology;
 - iii. Building/facility audits;
 - iv. Estimation of project costs(Include a description of the specific project);
 - v. Engineering studies(please be specific);
 - vi. Identification of management and design team;
 - vii. Permitting strategy
- k) Please provide any success stories of energy projects in your community

Project Summary File Cont. (I)

- I) Describe your strategy to reach the 15% reduction in per capita energy use across your community by answering the following questions.
 - i. What is your strategy in meeting your energy pledge goals? For example, identify specific targets (heating oil use reduction in x number of community buildings, reduce total energy used by the water treatment plant, etc.). As appropriate include both energy reduction goals and other goals, such as cost savings, improved livability of buildings, etc.
 - ii. How will this Technical Assistance help your community achieve your energy saving goals? Please describe and be as specific as possible.
 - iii. Please describe your community-wide plan to achieve the energy reductions under your pledge and include a general timeline for meeting it, if possible. For Topic 2, please specify expected energy savings in quantifiable terms (e.g., kWhs of electricity saved per month, percentage reduction in fuel use).
 - iv. What has prevented you from undertaking energy projects in the past? How can the RACEE competition help you overcome those barriers?

Project Summary File Cont. (I)

- v. Have you identified any providers (consultants/contractors/vendors) to assist you in developing or implementing your project plans? If so, please identify.
- vi. Please provide a list of existing energy-related and/or community partnerships that may be used to leverage resources and knowledge in implementing your energy efficiency strategy:
- vii. What are the anticipated impacts of the proposed work on the community (economic, quality of life, social, health, etc.)?
- viii. Can the results of the Technical Assistance you've requested be applied in other Remote Arctic Communities? Can you name other remote Alaskan communities or regions that would be interested in or need similar work?
- ix. How will the project impacts be able to continue beyond the period of Technical Assistance performance?

Multiple Applications

Applications may request Technical Assistance for multiple projects. However Applicants can only apply under ONE Topic Area.

Only one application may be submitted per community. Though an organization may apply on behalf of multiple communities, only one application may be submitted per community.

Applicant Points-of-Contact

- Applicants must designate primary and backup points-of-contact in their applications with whom DOE will communicate to conduct negotiations

Means of Submission

Applications for both Phases will be accepted:

- online through the online application portal; EERE Exchange at <https://eere-Exchange.energy.gov>,
- via email at AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov
- via fax at 240-562-1640

Please only submit one copy of your application by one method above

Using EERE Exchange to apply for Phase 2 TA Awards

Champions that would like to apply using EERE Exchange need to follow these steps:

1. Email Steven Palmeri at steve.palmeri@ee.doe.gov for your community's EERE Exchange Username and Password (DOE has created user accounts for each Pledgee in EERE Exchange)
2. Log in to EERE Exchange at <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/login.aspx>
3. Click on the "My Submissions" link on the left side of the menu
4. Click on "view" in the box under the "My Submissions" tab
5. Click on "Create a full application for this FOA"
6. Follow the instructions to upload your application

NOTE: Pledgees are not required to use EERE Exchange

AEA - Next Steps for Communities

- This Week: Contact your regular regional providers to discuss your ideas.
- Next Week: AEA to send out and DOE to post a Menu of TA Resources as a guide to many of your TA options for the RACEE Competition.
- In the TA Menu, you can read project descriptions TA providers and specific projects or activities.
- **The goal of your TA application is to present the very best ideas for TA that could help your community reduce energy use through efficiency, not sacrifice**
- Submit your TA applications no later than MARCH 31.

Questions

- Questions about this NOTA? Email AlaskaCompetition@hq.doe.gov
- EERE will attempt to respond to a question within 3 business days,
 - Problems logging into EERE Exchange or uploading and submitting application documents with EERE Exchange? Email EERE-ExchangeSupport@hq.doe.gov
 - Include NOTA name and number in subject line
- All questions asked during this presentation will be posted on EERE Exchange