

SECURING OUR ENERGY FUTURE:

PERSPECTIVES FROM ALASKANS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF FEDERAL CLEAN ENERGY INCENTIVES

MARCH 2025 | VERSION 1



PREPARED BY
NEW ENERGY ALASKA

**NEW
ENERGY
ALASKA**

March 2025



Dear Alaskans,

Alaska is an energy state. Throughout my career, including my 16 years serving in the Alaska Legislature, I have championed development of our world-class energy resources. We jumpstarted our oil and gas economy in the 1970s, providing revenues to build schools and infrastructure across our young state. Fifty years later, it is time to jumpstart our clean energy economy—and provide reliable, affordable energy for our own needs in perpetuity.

Renewables have proven themselves in Alaska: the technologies have improved dramatically in recent years, bringing down costs and increasing effectiveness. From Kodiak to Alaska's Northwest, renewables are bringing Alaskans cheaper energy and stabilizing price and supply.

It is time to scale up. Strategic investments now in renewables and transmission will ensure Alaska's energy security, create jobs, and unlock our full potential as a U.S. energy powerhouse.

New Energy Alaska is a bipartisan coalition of Alaskans who have come together with a shared purpose: to advance clean energy for the benefit of Alaska's future. Just as our past energy policy efforts were shaped by listening to Alaskans, this project has followed that same path. It is grounded in conversations with utilities, independent power producers, regulators, and local energy experts, as well as the Tribes, communities, co-operatives, and consortia across the state that have been awarded federal funding.

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act are already having transformative impact. This document reflects what we've heard matters most to Alaskans about these opportunities—a step towards ensuring we continue listening and working together to secure Alaska's energy future.

Thank you for helping champion this vision for Alaska and our nation. The time is now to build a legacy we can be proud of.

Lesil McGuire

Senior Advisor, New Energy Alaska

THE CASE FOR INCENTIVES IN ALASKA

Alaska has long been a power player in energy production. Our globally significant oil and gas resources have driven Alaska's economy for several generations. Oil export—and potentially natural gas export—will continue to play a major role in the state's economy.

At the same time, despite decades of leadership in oil export, Alaska faces stubborn, long-standing energy challenges within the state. Through our conversations with communities and energy leaders across Alaska, we've heard consistent themes:

- ⇒ There is an **imminent energy crisis in our population center in Southcentral Alaska and ongoing energy poverty in our rural communities**. Communities such as Fairbanks have gone decades without adequate energy solutions, and we are now faced with the need to import LNG to meet our most basic needs.
- ⇒ Alaskans in rural communities pay **among the highest costs for electricity in the nation**, and **cost disparities between communities are greater than anywhere else in the U.S.** Aging diesel power infrastructure is failing and threatening community health.
- ⇒ **Our main electric grid along the Railbelt is fragmented, inefficient and outdated**. Its condition prevents the reliable uptake and dispatch of lower-cost energy throughout the system.
- ⇒ **Secure, locally generated energy is essential to service Alaska's military** bases and uphold Alaska's unique and growing role in national security and strategic defense.

We have also heard that while a natural gas pipeline has potential to address some of these issues, it cannot solve them all.

Alaskans also recognize that our state is blessed with abundant renewable and clean energy resources, resources on a scale that rivals—and possibly exceeds—our oil and gas wealth. Aggressive development of these resources, coupled with our oil and gas resources, presents an extraordinary

82% OF ALASKANS SUPPORT BUILDING RENEWABLE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE TO DIVERSIFY AND STRENGTHEN THE ECONOMY.

81% OF ALASKANS SUPPORT THE GENERAL USE OF PUBLIC FUNDING TO HELP DEVELOP RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS.

opportunity for Alaska to address our in-state energy poverty, grow our economy and cement our leadership in world energy markets.

This is why so many Alaskans say they support an “all-of-the-above” approach to energy development. Across the state, Alaskans see the momentum; from the addition of significant renewables projects on the Railbelt, to the drive by Tribes and other Alaska Native entities to reduce reliance on diesel generation, to co-op utilities pursuing stable renewables-based local generation. **Alaskans increasingly view clean energy as the foundation for energy security, affordable rates, and economic strength in their communities.**

The clean energy provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), paired with infrastructure investments from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), are beginning to unlock a new era in energy project development and grid modernization in Alaska.

The potential these programs have unlocked is real—and it is transformative.

But what we’ve learned during our conversations is that the greater possibilities for Alaska have only just begun to be unleashed and **will only be realized if the incentives are safeguarded.**

While major grants totaling hundreds of millions of dollars have been awarded to Alaska, some of the most impactful tools within the legislation—particularly direct-pay tax credits and newly expanded investment and production tax credits (ITCs and PTCs)—have only recently become available. Without these powerful incentives, communities say the costs of projects will be significantly higher, or even unattainable, with direct impacts on rate payers and energy security at a time when Americans across the board are concerned about inflation and the cost of energy.

From utility operators to Tribes to energy developers, Alaskans in the energy field have invested significant time and resources to understand and learn how to apply the provisions of these new energy incentives. They have integrated them into business planning and are poised now to deploy them. In conversations with Alaskans around the state over the last several months, we heard repeatedly that **the federal incentives have changed the playing field for clean energy. They have shifted what Alaskans believe is possible** for energy independence, security and long-term affordability. Preserving them is key to continuing that progress.

THE CURRENT MOMENT

In 2021 (BIL) and 2022 (IRA), Congress approved historic investments in the nation’s energy infrastructure to create jobs, enhance energy independence, and drive innovation and security for generations.

These broad-reaching legislative measures included provisions to strengthen and diversify clean energy production and modernize energy infrastructure. They aim to **ensure generation and transmission can evolve rapidly, withstand surging demand, and integrate smarter technologies into the grid.** Across the country, clean energy is expanding, costs are falling, and renewable power is being deployed at scales ranging from households to industrial installations, positioning America for an energy revolution.

Alaskans are watching these trends closely and learning from successes at home: communities that have already transitioned to primarily renewables report rate stability that is absent in communities that are more dependent on petroleum fuels.

Since 2023, Americans—including many Alaskan institutions and communities—have begun seeing **significant funding awards, financing tools, and tax incentives to support long-planned clean energy projects and transmission infrastructure.** But from our conversations and our own work, we know that the pace of implementation under the Biden Administration was slow and cumbersome. As a result, many Alaska communities have yet to fully realize the benefits of these historic investments.

Still, we are hearing that the impact is real, and growing. The approach to energy generation and transmission is beginning to shift, along with an awareness of the positive potential impact on ratepayer economics. Developers and community leaders alike have started to rethink what is possible, and how these federal tools can be used to build more resilient, more reliable and more affordable energy systems.

Even with the slow pace of implementation, we have already heard and seen clear indicators of progress:

- Hundreds of millions of dollars in awards have been announced for Alaska utilities, Tribes and Tribal consortia, Alaska Native Corporations, state government, and regional entities, all intended for the **buildout of renewable energy transmission, generation**

Find the full federal laws here:

[Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#)
(Public Law 117-58—Nov. 15, 2021 135 Stat. 429)

[Inflation Reduction Act](#)
(Public Law 117-169—Aug. 16, 2022 136 Stat. 1818)

“Alaska workers have the skills and are ready to go to work modernizing our transmission and building out our clean energy infrastructure. These are good-paying jobs that can help keep our young people in Alaska.”

- Joelle Hall, President, Alaska AFO-CIO

and storage. This translates to significant near-term economic activity, long-term energy price stability, and energy independence.

- We are at a **moment of transition in how Alaska energy developers**—both traditional and emerging—**think about planning and investment in Alaska.** As one utility leader described, the incentives spurred discussion and re-evaluations of the approach to Alaska’s energy mix, particularly on the Railbelt.
- We have heard optimism from utilities and the private sector about the potential to use Alaska’s abundant energy resources to strengthen our **energy independence, our technological innovation, and our resilience** in the face of global shocks.

But we have also heard concerns: that stepping back now would delay or even cancel promising advancements in clean energy in Alaska, leaving our approach to energy security as “business as usual” or dependent on decades-long development processes for major fossil fuel projects. At the same time, we would cede ground to global competitors who are moving quickly to build dominance in renewables technology and deployment. If the U.S.—and Alaska—do not lead in energy innovation, others will.

The federal incentives are essential for Railbelt utilities. To clear the benefit-cost hurdles, these tax credits are critical. We are small utilities, and while these improvements promise long-term benefits, they would be financially out of reach without these incentives. Programs like GRIP, 40101(d), ITC, and PTC have enabled us to take a step forward that would otherwise have been unattainable. The value is undeniable—but even with state assistance, our balance sheets alone aren’t large enough to support these investments. These incentives have allowed us to unlock that value for the Railbelt, delivering economic benefits to its utilities for decades to come.

- Brian Hickey, General Manager, Seward Electric System

In Alaska, the 2025 construction season was primed to advance significant clean energy projects across the state. From Angoon to Kongiganak, Anchorage to Kodiak Island, and Fairbanks to the Northwest Arctic Borough. Utilities, Tribes, communities, and private power producers were preparing to deploy projects that, if supported, would revolutionize the state’s energy generation and transmission landscape.

Today, as Congress reassesses federal spending and funding priorities, **Alaskans are urging clarity and continuity.** Through this brief, we share the provisions of the legislation that Alaskans have told us are most critical to protect. These are the elements of the IRA that communities and energy leaders/stakeholders have consistently expressed the greatest concern about retaining. In summary, we must:

- **Protect the Alaska awards that have already been made through the IRA.** These total at least \$708M in energy-related projects alone and are driving new projects at competitive rates.

- **Preserve the direct pay provisions of the investment tax credit (ITC) and production tax credit (PTC).**

In Alaska's unique energy landscape, where the majority of generation and transmission is owned and operated by not-for-profit entities, these provisions can catalyze previously unattainable investments and bring a whole new set of energy actors and innovations into the landscape in Alaska.

THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF THE FEDERAL INCENTIVES FOR ALASKA

In interviews and conversations with Alaskans, the importance of BIL and the IRA was clear. All interviewees felt it was essential to retain the awards already made—but not yet implemented—for Alaskan projects. In addition, the risk of rescission of programmatic funding and certain provisions of the IRA loomed large. The following focuses on those aspects of the IRA that hold import for Alaska and Alaska energy products.

INVESTMENT TAX CREDITS, PRODUCTION TAX CREDITS, DIRECT PAY PROVISIONS

Program: Internal Revenue Service, Incentives for Clean Electricity and Clean Transportation
Statutory reference: Public Law 117-169 (Inflation Reduction Act), Secs. 13701, 13702
Total program funding: unknown (depends on tax filings)

The Investment Tax Credit (ITC) and Production Tax Credit (PTC) are key federal incentives driving clean energy development in Alaska. Historically used for wind and solar projects in the Lower 48, these credits now cover a broader range of clean energy investments, including battery storage and grid improvements. Unlike grants, which require competitive applications and congressional appropriations, these tax credits are available to all eligible entities through IRS filings.

Under the Inflation Reduction Act, ITC and PTC can reduce capital costs for renewable energy projects by 30% to 70%. Their full impact in Alaska will depend on the scale of

projects deployed and the total credits claimed.

“Repealing energy tax credits like the solar and storage Investment Tax Credit (ITC) directly threatens CleanCapital’s ability to invest in new projects in Alaska, such as the 45MW Puppy Dog Lake Solar Farm and our other solar and storage projects across the U.S. These are cost-competitive, utility-scale projects that help suppress energy costs and build our energy security.”

- Jon Powers, President, CleanCapital LLC

A major expansion in the legislation includes direct pay provisions, enabling tax-exempt entities—such as municipal and state governments, rural electric cooperatives, Alaska Native

corporations, and tribal governments—to benefit directly. In conversations with energy developers around the state, we identified at least \$100 million in direct pay incentives to Alaska’s member-owned utility cooperatives and other eligible developers that had already been penciled into financial projections for projects around the state. This is

particularly significant for Alaska, where many energy providers are nonprofits. Traditionally, tax credits only benefited for-profit developers, but direct pay allows eligible entities to receive payments from the Treasury, expanding capital access and lowering project costs, energy rates, or both.

The direct pay impact in Alaska is already substantial. For instance, the estimated direct pay value for two long-term battery storage projects on the Railbelt (Fairbanks and Southcentral) exceeds \$70 million.

The direct pay feature is a crucial component of the IRA. Between 20 and 30% of the nation's power is generated by not-for-profit companies, and prior to the introduction of direct pay, that sector had been excluded from any incentives to drive change.

- Brian Hickey, General Manager, Seward Electric System

The legislation also provides additional incentives for projects on Tribal lands (including those of Alaska Native Corporations) and in energy communities—criteria that apply to over 40 million

acres in Alaska. Additionally, the IRS approved Alaska's first direct pay credit [in late 2024] for Tanana Chiefs Conference's ~1MW solar project.

POWERING AFFORDABLE CLEAN ENERGY (PACE)

Program: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE)
Statutory reference: Public Law 117-169 (Inflation Reduction Act), Sec. 22001
Total program funding: \$1 billion

The USDA's Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) program is part of the Inflation Reduction Act. With \$1 billion in funding, PACE is meant to make clean, affordable, and reliable energy accessible in rural communities. Under PACE, USDA Rural Development's Rural Utilities Service (RUS) will forgive up to 60% of loans for renewable energy projects that use wind, solar, hydropower, geothermal, or biomass, as well as for renewable energy storage projects.

Two Alaska electric cooperatives received awards under PACE:

- Alaska Electric and Energy Cooperative Inc., a subsidiary of Homer Electric Association, received notice of a \$100 million loan. The loan will be used to install a 45-megawatt, four-hour battery energy storage system near the co-op's Soldotna substation.

- Golden Valley Electric Cooperative, serving Fairbanks and surrounding Interior communities, received notice of a \$100 million loan. The loan will help GVEA build new transmission lines, add and upgrade substations, and construct a battery energy storage system; these improvements will enable GVEA to effectively incorporate new renewable energy generation to reduce costs and bolster reliability.

"A more robust build-out of the transmission grid makes it possible for utilities on the Railbelt to connect to new generation projects, and for power to be transmitted up and down the system. The federal investment is helping put possibilities on the table."

- Daniel Heckman, Golden Valley Electric Association

Through a partnership with Doyon Ltd., a regional Alaska Native Corporation, \$60 million of GVEA's loan will be forgivable. "This is an exciting project for Doyon as it directly benefits our shareholder families and homes," said Tanya Kaquatosh, Doyon Senior Vice President of Administration said in a press release, citing "the value this project will bring to its ratepayers by creating jobs and training opportunities, reducing the cost of electricity and improving long-term infrastructure for Interior Alaska."

Homer Electric Association's subsidiary also qualified for loan forgiveness of 60%. In addition, HEA plans to use the direct-pay option for federal tax incentives to seek up to 40% in investment tax credits for the roughly \$112 million project.

Without support from the PACE program, "there's no way our members could afford [this project]," said HEA General Manager Brad Janorschke.

EMPOWERING RURAL AMERICA ("NEW ERA")

Program: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Empowering Rural America (New ERA)

Statutory reference: Public Law 117-169 (Inflation Reduction Act), Sec. 22002

Total program funding: \$9.7 billion

The USDA's Empowering Rural America (New ERA) program provides grants and forgivable loans to rural electric cooperatives for clean energy. In January 2025, USDA announced over \$5.4 billion to 28 projects nationwide, including two major awards in Alaska:

- Golden Valley Electric Association (Interior Alaska): GVEA, the Fairbanks-based rural electric cooperative, was awarded \$206 million (0% interest loans). This funding will support three projects, notably a 46 MW/92 MWh battery energy

storage system in Fairbanks and up to 150 MW of new wind generation with grid upgrades. These projects will increase renewable power on GVEA's grid, improving reliability. The investment is expected to create about 300 jobs and stabilize electricity rates for Interior communities.

- Inside Passage Electric Cooperative (Southeast Alaska): IPEC will use a \$7.4 million grant to build a 0.35 MW run-of-river hydroelectric facility near Hoonah. This project will supply roughly 543 homes with clean power, offsetting 95% of diesel use in the remote Tlingit community of Hoonah. It is expected to create about 25 jobs. (Hoonah's project is co-funded by the State of Alaska and local stakeholders.)

The New ERA program is the federal government's largest investment in rural electrification since 1936. Additional Alaska co-ops may receive funding in future rounds. (For example, the Alaska Village Electric Cooperative and others could leverage New ERA for wind or solar in dozens of off-road villages in coming years.)

CLIMATE POLLUTION REDUCTION GRANTS

Program: Environmental Protection Agency, Climate Pollution Reduction Grants

Statutory reference: Public Law 117-169 (Inflation Reduction Act), Sec. 60114

Total program funding: \$4.3 billion

The Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) provide funding to states, local governments, Tribes, and territories to develop and implement plans for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Awarded through a competitive process, these grants are set to bring more than \$100 million to Alaska priorities and have no matching requirements for recipients.

Southeast Conference received \$38.6 million for a large-scale residential heat pump deployment project across coastal Alaska—a region where heat pump transitions typically mean moving home heating systems from imported diesel to local hydropower. The project is projected to install heat pumps in residential buildings, providing savings of 25%-50% on home heating bills.

By helping Alaskans transition their homes to heat pumps, we are taking advantage of our abundant and secure energy. Many of the utilities in the coastal communities have hydropower generation, which enables residents to heat their homes with local natural resources, directly replacing high-cost delivered fuels and keeping energy dollars in local economies.

- Andy Romanoff, Alaska Heat Smart

The award to Southeast Conference (and its partner Alaska Heat Smart) will support heat pump installs for 6,000 families along Alaska's coastline from Ketchikan to Kodiak. The anticipated savings to household heating bills are estimated at \$1500/year, translating to \$7-10 million annual savings to residential ratepayers across the impacted region. The project is estimated to generate about \$50 million in installation activity, supporting local workforces, building a new generation of skilled professionals, and stimulating local economic activity.

In addition, Alaska awards include \$62 million to five [tribal recipients](#):

- Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (\$24 million) for wind and battery storage in Toksook Bay grid
- Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (\$15 million) for composting and recycling infrastructure in four tribal communities and the city of Juneau
- Aleut Community of Saint Paul Island (\$15 million) to install and upgrade wind turbines and battery storage
- Native Village of Eyak (\$5 million) to expand the Humpback Creek Hydroelectric project to offset diesel use in the Native Village of Eyak and community of Cordova
- Village of Solomon (\$2.3 million) will conduct energy audits and efficiency upgrades and install solar plus battery storage

The CPRG program also funded [planning work](#) for 188 Alaska tribes and the State of Alaska to create plans that reduce greenhouse gas emissions while providing community benefits. Such benefits typically include more affordable energy, more resilient energy systems, jobs, and improved quality of life (for example, through reduced noise and air pollution in diesel-dependent communities).

GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION FUND

Program: Environmental Protection Agency, Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund

Statutory reference: Public Law 117-169 (Inflation Reduction Act), Sec. 60103

Total program funding: \$27 billion

The Inflation Reduction Act created the \$27 billion Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. Programs supported by the fund include Solar for All, with a \$7 billion allocation. Funds are awarded through a competitive process with no cost matching required.

Solar for All provides funds to develop long-lasting solar programs that enable low-income and disadvantaged communities to deploy and benefit from distributed residential solar, lowering energy costs for families and creating good-quality jobs in communities that have been left behind.

Alaska was notified in June 2024 of two major awards to make the benefits of solar energy broadly accessible to Alaskans:

- \$62.5 million for Alaska Energy Authority
- \$62.5 million for Tanana Chiefs Conference in partnership with the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

Whether a Tribal member owns a house with sufficient capacity to manage distributed generation, or a Tribal member lives in a community that operates a tiny isolated microgrid where rooftop solar isn't feasible — all Tribal residents of Alaska will have the opportunity to benefit from this project.

- *Tanana Chiefs Conference on benefits of its Solar for All program*

Both awardees plan to partner with the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation.

AEA's program is expected to generate [household cost savings](#) of 40% from the community program and 42% from the residential program.

EPA CLEAN PORTS PROGRAM

Program: Environmental Protection Agency, Clean Ports Program

Statutory reference: Public Law 117-169 (Inflation Reduction Act), Sec. 60102

Total program funding: \$3 billion

EPA's Clean Ports Program supports zero-emission energy technology and infrastructure at ports, aiming to reduce diesel air pollution and foster economic growth. Two Alaska ports have been selected for funding through this program:

- Port of Seward was awarded \$45.7 million to develop vessel shore power facilities, a battery energy storage system, and electrical infrastructure upgrades. These enhancements will allow docked cruise ships to switch off their diesel engines and connect to electric power, reducing fuel consumption and emissions.
- Don Young Port of Alaska (Anchorage) was awarded \$1.9 million to complete a baseline emissions inventory, assess clean energy alternatives, develop an Energy Transition Plan, evaluate technology deployment scenarios, and conduct safety analyses for hydrogen equipment and workforce planning.

Seward is home to Alaska’s only ice-free deep-water port that is connected by road, rail, and air to the state’s interior, and is a major hub for fishing, freight, and tourism. Seward City Manager Kat Sorensen called the EPA grant a game-changer: “It allows the city to implement shore power technology that will drastically reduce emissions from cruise ships in our coastal Alaska community.”

The grant will also help create good-paying local jobs; it includes funds for the Seward-based Alaska Vocational Technical Center (AVTEC) to train Alaskans to operate and maintain the shore power system.

The EPA grant will cover 90% of the project cost; the remainder will be provided via funding and design work by The Seward Company. The Alaska Railroad is also supporting the initiative through land access and in-kind support.

Seward follows the example of Juneau, which developed the world’s [first shore power program](#) in partnership with Princess Cruise Lines more than 20 years ago. Among other benefits, [the capital city’s program](#) has generated \$9 million in direct savings to local ratepayers.

The maritime industry increasingly values the ability to connect to shore power is [increasingly valued](#) in the maritime industry. China leads globally, with 84% of specialized berths in the country’s 21 coastal ports providing access to

It’s been a win-win-win-win. The Princess [cruise] ships have no visible emissions, the vessels can reduce their carbon footprint, Princess gets cheaper power for ships while in dock, and AEL&P [the local electric utility] gets extra revenue which is then passed on to local rate payers. If there’s any other ports, or cruise and utility partners, thinking about doing this out there I’d say, quite simply, ‘do it!’ Work closely with good partners, as we’ve done, and you won’t regret it.

- Mayor Beth Weldon, City and Borough of Juneau

onshore power supplies as of 2022. The Port of Miami, the world’s biggest cruise port by passenger volume, celebrated the debut of shore power in 2024.

TRIBAL ELECTRIFICATION PROGRAM

Program: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Tribal Electrification Program

Statutory reference: Public Law 117–169 (Inflation Reduction Act), Sec. 80003

Total program funding: \$150 million

The Tribal Electrification Program brings zero-emissions electricity to homes lacking electricity and helps shift electrified homes to zero-emissions electricity.

Four Alaska tribal entities received award notifications under the program: Levelock (\$3.6 million), Chickaloon Native Village (\$7.8 million), Tanana Chiefs Conference (\$9.9 million), and Kootznoowoo, Inc. (\$6.5 million).

Levelock’s award will help the community upgrade its aging energy infrastructure and integrate wind, solar, and a battery storage system to significantly reduce its diesel dependence, increase its energy independence, and reduce costs.

The Chickaloon award will enable the village to design and construct 2.35 Megawatts of grid-tied solar photovoltaic panels (PV) to offset 100% of household residential electricity use, provide real economic development opportunities for the community, reduce carbon emissions, and establish CNV as an Independent Power Producer, enabling the Tribe to own and control its energy infrastructure.

Tanana Chiefs Conference plans to construct high-penetration solar photovoltaic and battery energy storage systems in partnership with federally recognized Tribes in Circle, Fort Yukon, and Tanana. This initiative aims to provide a 100% offset of residential electricity use, generate financial benefits for households, and improve air quality.

The award to Kootznoowoo, Inc. (the ANCSA village corporation for the village of Angoon) complements a \$26.5 million grant from the Department of Energy’s Office of Clean Energy Development to develop the Thayer Lake Hydroelectric project. Along with funding from the Denali Commission and the Alaska Energy Authority, the Tribal Electrification Program dollars bring the long-awaited project to full funding.

The 850-kilowatt run-of-the-river project will replace diesel as the community’s electricity source, reducing the high cost of energy and improving energy resilience.

By providing excess clean local energy, the project is also intended to create opportunities to expand local economic activity in an economically depressed area that has access to rich fisheries and unique tourism opportunities.

There’s enough generation [anticipated from Thayer Creek hydro] to meet all of the needs plus, during most of the year, there’s going to be one to two times excess electricity. So they can install heat pumps and displace heating oil boilers with heat pumps and electrify all of the heating needs. That’s another 100,000 gallons of heating oil that could be displaced. And there’s economic development opportunities. You could easily put in a sawmill or do some small manufacturing with inexpensive excess hydro.

- Devany Plentovich, project engineer,
Thayer Creek Hydroelectric

IRA CLEAN ENERGY FUNDING IN ALASKA

Community/ Organization	IRA Program	Funding Amount	Project Description	Statutory Reference
Angoon (Kootznoowoo Inc.)	BIA Tribal Electrification Program	\$6,498,319	Thayer Creek Hydroelectric Project to replace diesel power	IRA Sec. 80003
Levelock Village	BIA Tribal Electrification Program	\$3,647,792	Electrification of homes in remote village	IRA Sec. 80003
Chickaloon Native Village	BIA Tribal Electrification Program	\$7,767,520	Renewable energy deployment and home electrification	IRA Sec. 80003
Tanana Chiefs Conference	BIA Tribal Electrification Program	\$9,922,060	Electrification and retrofitting homes across multiple remote villages	IRA Sec. 80003
Toksook Bay (ANTHC)	EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG)	\$24,232,383	Wind turbines and battery storage to reduce diesel reliance	IRA Sec. 60114
Aleut Community of Saint Paul Island	EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG)	\$14,820,331	Wind generation and energy storage expansion	IRA Sec. 60114
Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida (Juneau & SE Tribal communities)	EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG)	\$14,999,999	Composting and recycling infrastructure	IRA Sec. 60114
Cordova (Native Village of Eyak)	EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG)	\$4,942,841	Enhancement of Humpback Creek hydroelectric system	IRA Sec. 60114
Solomon (Native Village of Solomon)	EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG)	\$2,339,537	Energy efficiency and solar panel installation	IRA Sec. 60114
Southeast Conference (with Alaska Heat Smart)	EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG)	\$38,600,000	Installation of heat pumps in homes across coastal SE Alaska to cut emissions and lower energy costs	IRA Sec. 60114
Alaska Energy Authority (AEA)	EPA Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (Solar for All)	\$62,450,000	Statewide 'Solar for All' program deploying residential solar photovoltaics	IRA Sec. 60103

Tanana Chiefs Conference (ANTHC)	EPA Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (Solar for All)	\$62,450,000	Alaska Tribal Solar Program for tribal community solar access	IRA Sec. 60103
Don Young Port of Alaska (Anchorage)	EPA Clean Ports Program	\$1,934,206	Clean energy assessment and technology planning at Port of Anchorage	IRA Sec. 60102
Port of Seward	EPA Clean Ports Program	\$45,732,040	Shore power development, battery storage, and infrastructure upgrades at Port of Seward	IRA Sec. 60102
Alaska Electric and Energy Cooperative Inc. (AEEC)	USDA Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) Program	\$100,000,000 (Loan with up to 60% Forgiveness)	Installation of a 45-MW, four-hour battery energy storage system adjacent to the Soldotna Substation	IRA Sec. 22001
Golden Valley Electric Association (GVEA)	USDA Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) Program	\$100,000,000 (Loan with \$60M Loan Forgiveness)	Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) 46 MW/92 MWh, substation upgrades, distribution circuit installation	IRA Sec. 22001
Golden Valley Electric Association (GVEA)	USDA Empowering Rural America (New ERA) Program	\$206,000,000 (Loan and Grant Package)	Battery energy storage and wind generation expansion in Fairbanks region	IRA Sec. 22004
Inside Passage Electric Cooperative (IPEC)	USDA Empowering Rural America (New ERA) Program	\$7,400,000	Run-of-river hydroelectric facility near Hoonah for 543 homes	IRA Sec. 22004
Alaska Energy Authority & Alaska Housing Finance Corporation	IRA Home Energy Rebates (HOMES & HEEHRA)	\$74,500,000	Statewide energy efficiency and electrification rebates for homeowners	IRA Sec. 50121 & 50122

**Note: This table includes projects in Alaska that were direct recipients of federal clean energy funding through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). It does not include IRA-funded projects related to climate resilience or other non-energy categories. Additionally, some national or out-of-state entities received IRA clean energy funding and may have sub-awarded or regranted funds to Alaska-based partners; those indirect investments are not reflected here.*