



The Tribal Office building in Akiachak. Image by N. George/ANC.

Akiachak Native Community

Notice of Substantial Completion—Energy Retrofit Project

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Indian Energy is pleased to announce that the Akiachak Native Community has substantially completed an energy retrofit project focusing on the Tribal Office building. This initiative aimed to improve energy affordability and reliability. The project, funded in part by a grant from the Office of Indian Energy, is expected to reduce energy use at the building by approximately 25%.

Project Description:

This project stemmed from energy audits conducted in 2017 which revealed opportunities for cost savings. The retrofits included high-impact improvements such as:

- Heating system upgrades, including the installation of isolation valves, replacement of an expansion tank and auto vents, refilling of service fluid, replacement of circulator pump with variable speed pump, replacement of boiler and zone controls with a delta direct digital controller, and cleaning and tuning the boiler, all of which are part of a hydronic heating system.
- Lighting and other upgrades, including reworking existing lights with LED retrofit kits, replacing exterior wall packs with LED fixtures, and installing occupancy sensors and humidity sensors for restroom exhaust fans and lights.

Following the retrofits, significant reductions in energy use were observed even when accounting for seasonal variations.

Project Overview

Awardee: Akiachak Native Community

Location: Akiachak, Alaska

Project Title: Akiachak Energy Retrofit Project

DOE Grant Number: DE-IE0000141

Projected Impacts:

- **Energy Affordability:** Approximately 25% reduction in energy use at the building
- **Energy Reliability:** Decreased dependence on outside shipments of fuel oil

Project Amounts:

- **DOE Office of Indian Energy:** \$123,220
- **Awardee cost-share:** \$16,044
- **Total:** \$139,264

Start: May 2022

End: September 2025

About the Akiachak Native Community

The Akiachak Native Community is a federally recognized Yup'ik Alaska Native Village located 18 miles northeast of Bethel, on the west bank of the Kuskokwim River, in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta. The Community, like many remote Alaskan Villages, faces unique energy challenges due to its isolation and climate, often relying on expensive diesel and heating oil deliveries for power and heat. The Community is accessible year-round by small plane, receives supplies each summer via barge delivery, and is accessible by hovercraft in the winter when the river freezes over.

The Native Village's project was competitively selected under the Office of Indian Energy's energy deployment funding opportunity (DE-FOA-0002317) which was fully supported by annual appropriations.

About the Office of Indian Energy

Established by the Energy Policy Act of 2005, the Office of Indian Energy aims to promote Indian Tribal energy development, efficiency, and use; reduce or stabilize energy costs; enhance and strengthen Tribal energy and economic infrastructure related to natural resource development and electrification; and extend electrical power and service to Indian lands and Tribal members' homes (42 U.S.C. § 7144e).

Connect with us at:



indianenergy@hq.doe.gov



240-562-1352



energy.gov/indianenergy

Follow us on social media:



Subscribe to our newsletter:



U.S. DEPARTMENT
of **ENERGY**

Office of Indian Energy
Policy and Programs

For more information, visit: energy.gov/indianenergy

DOE/GO-102026-7101 • May 2026