The concept of the Denali Commission

The Denali Commission Act of 1998

- Coordinate, convene
- Bring infrastructure of rural Alaska up to American standards
The concept of the Denali Commission

For 14 years, the Commission has invested hundreds of millions of federal funds – matched with local, State, philanthropic and other federal funds – into rural Alaska

- Bulk Fuel Tank Farms
- Rural Power System Upgrades
- Clinics
- Behavioral Health Centers
- Roads
- Docks and Mooring Points
The concept of the Denali Commission

And millions of dollars were matched with other funders to train rural Alaskans to work in trades and careers related to Denali Commission infrastructure:

– Construction
– Building maintenance
– Wind energy
– Allied health
– Municipal clerks
Listening Sessions

True to the spirit of the intent to convene, Denali Commission held six Listening Sessions across the state. The overwhelming themes we heard about the future focus of the Commission were:

- Energy
- Housing
- Health
- Economic Development
Energy Program

- Bulk-Fuel Storage
- Community Power Generation and Rural Power System Upgrades
- Energy Cost Reduction Projects
- Renewable and Alternative Energy
- Power Line Interties
Technical Assistance

- Existing model for “horizontal” infrastructure is Pre-Development Program
- Strategic Technical Assistance Response Team (START) in partnership with U.S. Department of Energy –
  - Arctic Village, Kake, Kongiganak, Koyukuk, Minto, Quinhagak, Shishmaref, Teller, Venetie, Yakutat
  - Designed to look holistically at the community energy demands/needs
  - Activities include energy efficiency workshops, training, technical assistance, and hands on project support