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Rural Energy Leaders to Gather in Fairbanks for 2016 Rural Energy Conference

Annual Conference to be held at Fairbanks Westmark Hotel from April 26 to 28

Anchorage/Fairbanks- Roughly 400 rural energy leaders will gather in Fairbanks for the annual Alaska Rural Energy Conference from April 26 to 28. The event is co-organized by the Alaska Energy Authority and Alaska Center for Energy and Power.

This event serves as a forum for energy stakeholders to share ideas and information with the goal of promoting economic development, environmental sustainability and energy security for Alaskans. There are three tracks of presentations: The Business of the Rural Power System, Operations and Maintenance, and Technology. There will also be policy-related plenary sessions throughout the conference. The conference agenda is available at AkRuralEnergy.org.

“The Rural Energy Conference is an opportunity for multiple energy partners to gather with community representatives from across the state to learn from each other and discuss critical energy issues impacting Alaskans,” said Sara Fisher-Goad, Alaska Energy Authority executive director.

“Finding solutions for rural Alaska’s high energy costs is our mission and this conference is a cornerstone in delivering technical and community assistance to the communities we serve,” continued Fisher-Goad.

Several special announcements will be made during the opening day of the conference, Tuesday, April 26, including the U.S. Department of Energy releasing the names of the communities selected for the [Rural Alaska Communities Energy Efficiency competition](#) technical assistance.

In addition to the three-day conference, the U.S. Department of Energy is offering a full-day of tribal workshop to help maximize federal opportunities on April 25. The federal opportunity workshop is open to Rural Energy Conference attendees.

The 2014 conference, also held in Fairbanks, attracted energy leaders from 75 villages and communities throughout Alaska, the U.S. and Canada. The U.S. Department of Energy, Alaska Energy Authority and Alaska Center for Energy and Power are presenting sponsors.

The Alaska Energy Authority is a public corporation of the state with a mission to reduce the cost of energy in Alaska. This mission is achieved by investing in Alaska’s infrastructure, diversifying Alaska’s energy portfolio, energy planning and policy, and training and technical assistance. AkEnergyAuthority.org

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