

# Akiachak Activity Report

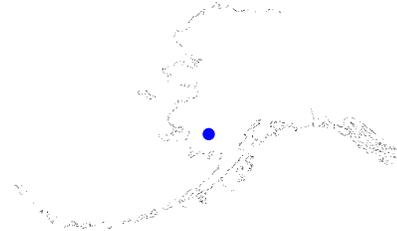
## Community Overview

Lead RUBA Staff: Mike Black, RO Manager

2001 Population: 585

Region: Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta

Local Governments: Village Council



The Village Council operates the washeteria, watering points and water haul system as well as the honeybucket haul. The Village Council is the policy making body for the utility.

Construction of a piped water and gravity sewer system is underway. A new well, water tank, water treatment plant and a road to the new lagoon have been completed. Construction will continue through 2005 to plumb and connect 62 homes on the west side. Currently 12 facilities, the school and teacher's housing are served by a piped system; most residents haul water from the washeteria. 25 households have honeybuckets hauled by the City; the others haul their own honeybuckets or use septic tanks. The village would like to purchase an incinerator and use the waste heat for public buildings.



## General Information

The Akiachak Native Community (ANC) continues to struggle with improving its ability to take on the responsibilities of running a sewer and water utility service within the community. A CPA firm was hired to analyze the utility financial system and recommend actions to improve their financial record keeping and management systems. The Council and the CEO will need to make changes that are unlikely to be popular with the some of the community and with current employees. The pressure to avoid painful improvements may be too much.

## Observations and Recommendations

Finances — The accounting office has seen staff changes that are considered improvements. The turnover of qualified staff remains a problem, however. The debt situation is improving but remains a problem.

Accounting Systems — The community is being converted to QuickBooks Pro. Training on the new accounting system has been satisfactory.

Tax Problems — Tax problems are being addressed.

Personnel System — The primary focus for improvement has been the financial record keeping system. Improvements in the personnel management system remain to be addressed.

Organizational Management — A full time manager was hired. He is Edward George. This should make disciplining and making organizational changes easier.

Operation of Utility — A new water plant stands idle until the management and finance issues can be addressed. Other services continue to operate but not at an optimal level.

Category	Inadequate	Meets Minimum Requirements	Exceeds Minimum Requirements
Finances	X		
Accounting Systems	X		
Payroll Taxes	X		
Personnel System	X		
Organizational Management	X		
Operation of Utility	X		

## Anticipated Activity

The Akiachak Native Community will continue to implement the improvement plan recommended by the CPA. We will see whether the Council can keep with the difficult decisions that must be made.