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Department of Commerce,  
Community & Economic Development



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### **Alaska Suited for Growth in Renewable Energy Sector**

April 18, 2018 JUNEAU – The Alaska Division of Economic Development, in partnership with the University of Alaska Center for Economic Development, released the second in a series of reports examining emerging economic sectors in Alaska. This report focuses on Alaska’s renewable energy sector.

“Alaskans’ resiliency and innovative spirit in the face of high fuel costs and lack of electrical grid infrastructure have grown the renewable energy industry to over 100 companies strong in Alaska,” said Britteny Cioni-Haywood, director of the Division of Economic Development. “With national and international demand for renewables growing, the unique expertise cultivated in our state can make Alaska a leader in this space.”

The report, available on the [Division of Economic Development website](#), explores the market and economic trends associated with the renewable energy sector in Alaska, highlights entrepreneurs and businesses, and identifies potential strategies to support growth in the sector.

“As we conducted the study, what impressed me most was the depth of expertise we have in Alaska regarding energy and especially renewables,” said Nolan Klouda, executive director for the University of Alaska Center for Economic Development. “Right now, the way society produces and uses energy is changing rapidly, and Alaska firms and entrepreneurs are positioning themselves for growth.”

The report will also be shared at the [VOLT49 Cohort Showcase](#), an event that is free and open to the public, on April 20 at Anchorage Community Works. The [VOLT49 renewable energy innovation sprint](#), facilitated by the University of Alaska Center for Economic Development, brought together 25 participants from around the state to focus on challenges in the renewable energy sector in Alaska. Over four weeks, the participants developed creative solutions and prototypes.

The five-part *Emerging Sectors Series* is being produced by the University of Alaska Center for Economic Development with sponsorship from the Division of Economic Development. The reports are being released periodically throughout 2018 and 2019. Subscribe to the [economic report mailing list](#) to receive the emerging sectors series and other related reports delivered to your email inbox.

Housed within Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development (DCCED), the Division of Economic Development supports the growth and diversification of Alaska's economy through policy, promotion, financing, and business assistance. For additional information about the division, please visit [commerce.alaska.gov/web/DED](http://commerce.alaska.gov/web/DED). To learn more about DCCED and its other agencies, please visit [commerce.alaska.gov](http://commerce.alaska.gov).

The University of Alaska Center for Economic Development (CED) is a university based partnership promoting economic diversity through entrepreneurship, community building, and action oriented strategy. CED is a program of the University of Alaska Anchorage Business Enterprise Institute and is one of 52 University Centers designated by the U.S. Economic Development Administration. To learn more about CED, please visit <https://ua-ced.org/>.

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