

State of Alaska
Department of Commerce,
Community & Economic Development



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

No. 18-037

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Alaska communities on track with winter fuel supplies

92% of entities that cannot receive fuel delivery via the road system have received their winter supplies of fuel

October 30, 2018 JUNEAU – To prepare for winter fuel needs each year, the Division on Community and Regional Affairs (DCRA) works throughout the summer and fall with the nearly 250 entities (e.g., cities, village councils, corporations, business, and schools) that cannot receive fuel delivery via the road system. Because these entities must stockpile large amounts of fuel for winter use, it is important to identify and mitigate in advance any issues that might cause emergency fuel situations.

“While there are still a number of entities that have not yet received their winter fuel supply, the fall delivery season is not quite completed,” said Commissioner Mike Navarre. “DCRA will continue to work with the entities and fuel providers to ensure Alaskans have the fuel they need this winter.”

DCRA has made 580 attempts to contact the 236 entities to determine fuel inventory for the coming winter months confirming that:

- 216 entities have already received their winter supply of fuel or are in their normal cyclic delivery schedule with either a source internal or external to the community.
- 5 entities reported they do not need fuel this year.
- 15 entities in 12 communities have not yet received their winter fuel supply.

While fuel vendors have completed the majority of their fall deliveries, distribution to several coastal communities will take place in the next couple weeks. The remaining few communities are anticipating later deliveries by barge in areas that remain ice free or by air.

DCRA will continue to monitor those entities that have not yet received an adequate fuel supply for the winter. Staff will also maintain open lines of communication with fuel providers to monitor any urgent fuel situations that may arise.

Since June 1, DCRA has also assisted 71 communities with applying for and receiving bulk fuel loans totaling over \$14.1 million. Loans are made to assist communities, utilities, and fuel retailers in purchasing bulk fuel (including the costs of shipping fuel to the community) to generate power or supply the public with fuel for use in rural communities.

As mandated in Article 10, Section 14 of the Alaska Constitution, DCRA advises and assists local governments to maintain vital services through training, grant management, and technical and fiscal support. The division is housed within the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, which is tasked with promoting a healthy economy, supporting strong communities, and protecting consumers in Alaska. For information about the Division of Community and Regional Affairs, visit commerce.alaska.gov/web/dcra. For information about DCCED and its other agencies, visit commerce.alaska.gov.

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