

Energy challenges and solutions in rural Alaska

Presented by Eric Hanssen, P.E., CEM, LEED AP



Abstract: The Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) is working with rural communities across Alaska on ways to increase sustainability of public sanitation through innovative solutions that make rural sanitation infrastructure more affordable as well as more resilient to the effects of a changing climate. This presentation will showcase ANTHC's approach to reducing sanitation operating costs through a comprehensive approach that includes energy audits, energy efficiency retrofits, operator training, and deployment of renewable energy solutions. The presentation will provide case study examples of specific renewable energy technologies being designed and constructed by ANTHC, including Biomass

Heating systems that utilize local wood resources and Wind-to-Heat systems that recover unused power from local wind turbines to serve sanitation system heating needs. Finally, the presentation will highlight several innovative efforts ANTHC is currently working on to provide more resilient sanitation infrastructure in the face of climate change impacts to community infrastructure in the Arctic

Presenter Bio: Eric Hanssen is Program Manager for the Rural Energy Initiative at the ANTHC. In this role, he oversees project development, design and construction of energy efficiency and renewable energy projects for remote communities across Alaska to enhance the sustainability of rural sanitation and other public infrastructure. Eric has been with ANTHC since 2007, where he has also held positions as a Sanitation Facilities Project Manager and as a Senior Health Facilities Engineer. Prior to joining ANTHC, Eric served seven years as a civil engineer officer for the US Air Force in Alaska, Washington DC, Florida and Iraq. He holds a Bachelor degree in Environmental Engineering from the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado and a Masters in Environmental Policy and Economics from the University of Maryland, College Park.

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