



Bulk Fuel Upgrade Program

Quick Facts

111 bulk fuel projects completed since 2000 (AEA and AVEC total)

20 projects currently in design or construction

Approximately 48 Bulk Fuel Upgrade projects remaining

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:

David Lockard P.E.
Lead Engineer
Rural Energy Group

DLOCKARD@AIDEA.ORG
(907) 771-3062

Current Status

AEA has eight Bulk Fuel Upgrade projects in construction or pre-construction:

- The **City of Edna Bay** is constructing a bulk fuel facility with a pass-through grant from AEA. The pad is built and construction will continue through the summer.
- AEA has contracted for construction of a tank farm for the **City of Kake** as part of a village energy project that includes a new powerhouse. The project is in construction with commissioning and closeout planned for the fall/winter of 2017.
- The **City of Kasaan** is designing a small bulk fuel facility with AEA funding.
- AEA has contracted for construction of a bulk fuel facility for **Kipnuk** in 2017-18. The tanks are in fabrication and will be mobilized to the site before freeze-up.
- The Alaska Village Electric Cooperative (AVEC) is constructing a community bulk fuel facility in **Pilot Station** with commissioning planned for 2017.
- AEA has contracted for a community bulk fuel facility in **Shishmaref**. The contractor is on site during the summer of 2017.
- AEA plans to issue a solicitation for bulk fuel facility construction in **Tatitlek** in 2018.
- AVEC is constructing a bulk fuel facility in **Togiak** and will break ground in 2017 with commissioning anticipated in 2018.

Program Overview

Under 3 AAC 108.100 – 130 the Alaska Energy Authority's Bulk Fuel Upgrade (BFU) program may provide financial assistance and technical assistance including construction management and training to eligible recipients.

Rural Alaska is energized primarily by liquid fuels: diesel for power generation and heating, and gasoline for transportation. Rural villages are located either along rivers or on the coast, so fuel is primarily delivered by barge. Where barge delivery is unavailable or uneconomic, air tankers and in a few cases tanker trucks deliver fuel. Delivery is seasonal and limited by sea or river ice, water levels, or ice road availability. Villages of a few hundred people must store hundreds of thousands of gallons of fuel to meet their annual energy needs.

Many of rural Alaska's bulk fuel facilities were built in the 1950's and 1960's or earlier. They were not built to national standards or in compliance with current regulations, and some of them are at the end of their useful lives. Yet they continue in service until upgraded or replaced, in some cases posing risks to personal safety and the surrounding environment.

In recent years AEA's BFU program has shifted the focus from new construction to repairs where feasible. In many cases, existing bulk fuel tanks can be re-used if they are appropriately painted and/or repaired. Repair projects focus on minimizing risk, using local workers and equipment, and replacing piping, pumps, valves and tanks that are at the end of their useful life.