

**CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 150(RES)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

**BY THE SENATE RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**Offered: 4/6/09**

**Referred: Finance**

**Sponsor(s): SENATORS MCGUIRE, Ellis**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act establishing an emerging energy technology fund."**

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 **\* Section 1.** AS 42.45 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 **Article 7A. Emerging Energy Technology.**

5 **Sec. 42.45.375. Emerging energy technology fund.** (a) The emerging energy  
6 technology fund is established. The fund consists of

7 (1) money appropriated to the fund by the legislature to provide grants  
8 and loans for energy projects; and

9 (2) gifts, bequests, contributions from other sources, and federal  
10 money appropriated to the fund.

11 (b) The fund is not a dedicated fund.

12 (c) The fund shall be administered by the interdisciplinary research unit of the  
13 arm of the College of Engineering and Mines of the University of Alaska known as the  
14 Alaska Center for Energy and Power, whose mission is to research energy sources and  
15 the way in which energy fits into the state's economic development, but the Alaska

1 Center for Energy and Power may contract for the investment of money appropriated  
2 to the fund but not disbursed for a grant or loan. The Alaska Center for Energy and  
3 Power, in consultation with the advisory committee established under (f) of this  
4 section, may make grants or loans from the fund to eligible applicants for

5 (1) research, development, or demonstration projects designed to

6 (A) test new energy technologies or methods of conserving  
7 energy; or

8 (B) improve an existing energy technology; and

9 (2) applied research projects that employ energy technology with a  
10 reasonable expectation that the technology will be commercially viable in not more  
11 than five years.

12 (d) In making grants and loans under this section, the Alaska Center for  
13 Energy and Power, in consultation with the advisory committee established under (f)  
14 of this section, shall give priority to

15 (1) Alaska residents, associations, organizations, or institutions;

16 (2) projects that demonstrate partnership with the University of Alaska  
17 or another Alaska postsecondary institution; and

18 (3) projects supported by matching funds or in-kind partnerships.

19 (e) If the University of Alaska alters the status of the Alaska Center for Energy  
20 and Power, the president of the University of Alaska shall promptly notify the revisor  
21 of statutes and the presiding officer of each house of the state legislature of that  
22 change.

23 (f) An advisory committee is established and consists of five members. Each  
24 member of the committee shall have a degree in science or engineering and at least  
25 two years of experience working in the state. Members of the committee shall be  
26 appointed by the governor to staggered three-year terms. The committee consists of  
27 one representative of each of the following groups:

28 (1) a business or organization engaged in the renewable energy sector;

29 (2) a business or organization engaged in the fossil fuel energy sector;

30 (3) the Alaska Power Association or an Alaska electric utility;

31 (4) the Denali Commission established under P.L. 105-277 and

1 mentioned in a note at 42 U.S.C. 3121;

2 (5) a department or agency of the state.

3 (g) A member of the advisory committee appointed under (f) of this section  
4 serves without compensation but is entitled to per diem and travel expenses as  
5 provided in AS 39.20.180.

6 (h) In this section,

7 (1) "eligible applicant" means

8 (A) an electric utility holding a certificate of public  
9 convenience and necessity under AS 42.05;

10 (B) an independent power producer;

11 (C) a local government, quasi-governmental entity, or other  
12 governmental entity, including a tribal council or housing authority;

13 (D) a business holding an Alaska business license; or

14 (E) a nonprofit organization.

15 (2) "energy technology" means technology that promotes, enhances, or  
16 expands the diversity of available energy supply sources or means of transmission,  
17 increases energy efficiency, or reduces negative energy-related environmental effects;  
18 "energy technology" includes technology related to renewable sources of energy,  
19 conservation of energy, enabling technologies, efficient and effective use of  
20 hydrocarbons, and integrated energy systems;

21 (3) "fund" means the emerging energy technology fund.