



Denali Commission
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Denali Commission Quarterly Progress Report

Name of Organization: Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

Name of Project: Rural Utility Cooperative aka Alaska Rural Utility Collaborative

Reporting Period: October 1 – December 31, 2008

Contact Person: John Nichols

Contact Number: 729-5695 Email Address: jpnichols@anthc.org

Expenditures to date: \$264,909.85

Certification: I certify that the information in this report is current, correct and true and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the agreement.

Signed by: *John Nichols* Dated *1/30/09*
for John Nichols

1. In a few sentences, please describe the scope of your project:

This project's scope is the recruitment of new communities to join ARUC, a collaborative to help make rural utilities self-sustaining in rural Alaska. This project will also purchase spare parts and provide start-up funds for new communities in ARUC, and identify new communities to join ARUC for a total of at least 11 communities in ARUC.

2. Project Activities for this Reporting Period:

Describe the grant activities that happened during this report period.
The ARUC added three member communities, Chignik Lake, Savoonga and South Naknek during this reporting period. We now have 11 member communities, as anticipated in the project scope. During this quarter, we used Denali Commission funds to purchase startup supplies such as fuel, chemicals, regulatory testing, parts and supplies for the new ARUC communities. We continue to work to improve the self-sufficiency of ARUC communities.

3. Scheduled Project Activities/Important Dates for next quarter:

Describe your planned activities for next quarter.

This grant is now complete, and a final grant report will be submitted within 90 days of grant completion. We feel that ARUC is vital to improving health status and infrastructure sustainability in rural Alaska, and we work to continue the growth of ARUC. We are currently recruiting new member communities for ARUC, and expect to add more new communities to this program. Our data shows that it takes approximately three years to make these utilities sustainable, so financial support from agencies such as the Denali Commission is critical for new community start-up.

4. a. How many villages joined the RUC/ARUC during this reporting period? Three.

b. How many villages have joined the RUC/ARUC to date from this grant? Six new communities joined ARUC from the date of this grant. There are now 11 member communities in ARUC.

5. Villages currently online with the RUC/ARUC program.

Chevak, Chignik Lake, Goodnews Bay, Grayling, Lower Kalskag, Russian Mission, Savoonga, Sleetmute, South Naknek, Toksook Bay, Upper Kalskag,

Villages that will be coming online with the RUC/ARUC program

Although this grant is now complete, we are continuing to recruit Akiak, Akiachak, Emmonak, and other communities for ARUC membership.

6. Please identify any problems or changes in your project that will affect the budget, scope or timeline of the project. Is your project on schedule? What are the reasons for any difficulties or delays? Are you over budget/under budget? Have you had to change the initial scope? Please provide an explanation to this change and your resolution to the variance.

The ARUC took the RUC concept statewide, requiring a significant amount of time to be spent preparing legal, regulatory, and personnel documents to make the transition from RUC to ARUC. This occupied one complete quarter of this grant period, so an extension has been granted to extend this grant to December 31, 2008. The scope of the project was completed within the extended grant period.

7. How are you evaluating success?

We are evaluating success by the number of village members of ARUC. This project successfully achieved its objectives.

8. Please identify areas that we can assist you in the future. We completed this grant within the extension given, and appreciate the Denali Commission's funding that allows us to improve health status and infrastructure sustainability in rural Alaska.