

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2024 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 69
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: SB069-DNR-DGGS-01-18-24
Title: GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES
Sponsor: RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR
Requester: (S)RES

Department: Department of Natural Resources
Appropriation: Fire Suppression, Land & Water Resources
Allocation: Geological & Geophysical Surveys
OMB Component Number: 1031

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

(Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2025 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2025 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2025	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030
Personal Services	150.0		150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0
Travel	10.0		10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Services	15.0		15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0
Commodities	15.0		10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	190.0	0.0	185.0	185.0	185.0	185.0	185.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	190.0		185.0	185.0	185.0	185.0	185.0
Total	190.0	0.0	185.0	185.0	185.0	185.0	185.0

Positions

Full-time	1.0		1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Part-time							
Temporary							

Change in Revenues

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2024) cost: 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2025) cost: 0.0 (separate capital appropriation required)

Does the bill create or modify a new fund or account? No
(Supplemental/Capital/New Fund - discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? No
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

Updated from SLA2023 to SLA2024 fiscal note template. Updated cost breakdown.

Prepared By: Melanie Werdon, Director
Division: Geological & Geophysical Surveys
Approved By: Theresa Cross, Administrative Services Director
Agency: Natural Resources

Phone: (907)451-5082
Date: 01/18/2024 10:00 PM
Date: 01/19/24

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 69

Analysis

This legislation will provide the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Division of Oil & Gas (DOG) with tools to support the development of state geothermal resources, much as it currently does with the development of petroleum resources. Geothermal resources refer to the natural heat of the earth and energy in whatever form it may be extracted. While AS 38.05.181 authorizes permits of such resources on state land, its limits and conditions make the program unattractive to industry.

This fiscal note supports one new Geologist 4 (range 21) position in the Division of Geological & Geophysical Survey's (DGGS) Energy Resources Section to restart the division's geothermal program. The position will coordinate with agencies and industry to publish new geologic data to further the development of Alaska's geothermal energy resources. This position will collaborate with other sections in DGGS, other divisions within the Department of Natural Resources, the University of Alaska, federal agencies, and industry on geothermal resources and projects in the state.

The Geologist 4 position will:

- Maintain and update geologic data on Alaska's geothermal systems in a geothermal database
- Attract federal funds available for characterizing Alaska's geothermal systems and resources
- Monitor developments in geothermal systems technology
- Conduct field-based geologic investigations on Alaska's geothermal systems; travel, services, and commodity funds are needed to support this work
- Publish geologic maps, reports, and data on Alaska's geothermal systems and resources
- Advise DNR and other state agencies on the state's geothermal resources
- Collaborate with entities developing technological solutions that will facilitate the commercialization of Alaska's geothermal resources, especially for small communities
- Support the department's geothermal leasing program
- Support and supply information to explorers and developers of Alaska's geothermal resources
- Support and advise the Governor's Office and DNR Commissioner's Office on geothermal policy and developments

Personal Services: \$150.0

Permanent Full-Time Geologist 4, range 21, Fairbanks

Travel: \$10.0

Services: \$15.0

Commodities: \$15.0

Initial position setup (\$5.0 one-time cost)