

HOUSE BILL NO. 4007

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION

BY THE HOUSE RULES COMMITTEE BY REQUEST

Introduced: 7/29/08

Referred:

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act creating the alternative energy grant fund and describing its uses and
2 purposes; relating to applied energy research and applied energy research projects; and
3 providing for an effective date."

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

5 * **Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section
6 to read:

7 LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT. The legislature finds that

8 (1) an adequate, reliable, reasonably priced, and safe supply of energy is
9 necessary for Alaska's basic infrastructure and economic and technological development;

10 (2) Alaska possesses vast amounts of alternative energy resources such as
11 wind, solar, geothermal, wave, tidal, biomass, river in-stream hydro, hydro, and other energy
12 resources such as coal, coal bed methane, and methane hydrates;

13 (3) the cost of fuels such as natural gas, fuel oil, and diesel that Alaskans rely
14 on in large part to generate electric power have risen at staggering rates;

1 (4) residents of rural Alaska pay far more for energy than residents who live
2 on the Railbelt energy grid;

3 (5) other states and nations are working successfully to develop their
4 alternative resources to reduce the cost of energy;

5 (6) the continued competitiveness and stability of the state's economy requires
6 the development of alternative energy sources;

7 (7) alternative energy development creates jobs and promotes a robust
8 economy;

9 (8) utilization of our resources in an environmentally friendly manner
10 promotes a healthy legacy for future generations;

11 (9) locally produced alternative energy has many security benefits;

12 (10) modern, affordable, and efficient alternative energy technologies now
13 exist; and

14 (11) it is in the interest of the public for Alaska to develop its energy
15 resources.

16 * **Sec. 2.** AS 42.45 is amended by adding a new section to read:

17 **Article 4A. Alternative Energy.**

18 **Sec. 42.45.210. Alternative energy grant fund.** (a) An alternative energy
19 grant fund is established as a separate fund to finance certain alternative energy
20 resource projects in the state.

21 (b) The authority shall administer the fund as a fund distinct from other funds
22 of the authority in the manner provided for in AS 42.45.045.

23 (c) In this section, "alternative energy resource" includes

24 (1) renewable resources in the form of wind, solar, geothermal,
25 hydrothermal, wave, tidal, biomass, river in-stream hydro, and hydro; and

26 (2) other energy resources such as coal, coal bed methane, and
27 methane hydrates, and other available resources.

28 * **Sec. 3.** AS 42.45 is amended by adding a new section to read:

29 **Article 4B. Applied Energy Research.**

30 **Sec. 42.45.221. Applied energy research projects.** (a) The authority shall

31 (1) accept and evaluate applied energy research proposals relating to

1 renewable alternative energy; and

2 (2) not later than 10 days after the first day of each regular session,
3 submit a report to the legislature summarizing and reviewing each applied energy
4 research proposal received and recommend a priority for funding the projects from the
5 general fund.

6 (b) Until June 30, 2013, the authority shall consult with the advisory
7 committee established under AS 42.45.045(i) when discharging its duties under (a) of
8 this section.

9 * **Sec. 4.** AS 42.45.210, added by sec. 2 of this Act, is repealed June 30, 2013.

10 * **Sec. 5.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).