



Haines Borough Energy & Sustainability Commission
Stephanie Scott, Coordinator
Coordinator Bi-Monthly Report
May 5, 2009

Facilities

IntelliCon -HW+, microprocessors for 7 borough boilers: I determined that the least cost vendor for the units Patriot-Supply.com

<http://www.patriot-supply.com/products/showitem.cfm/155940>

Telephone: 866-321-4822

Patriot-Supply sells IntelliCon-HW+ microprocessors for \$203.50 each. An extra sensor may be required to manage the domestic hot water system @ \$16.68. Shipping (including the sensor) is \$77.95 shipping via the US Postal Service. The total plus shipping is \$1619.21.

I also contacted three Alaskan vendors. Please see the complete memo to the Manager attached.

Library. The Library's mid-March to Mid-April consumption was 14% lower than the three year average for 2006,2007, and 2008. Interestingly, the mid February to mid-March consumption was 14% above the three -year average for March.

I recommended tracking what was done differently during those two periods in the operation of the building in order to "institutionalize" the procedure and continue to benefit from the savings.

Noticing that the Library's inside and outside lights are on despite a strong western Sun providing more than adequate illumination, I learned that the only person who is skilled in reconfiguring the timer is on vacation. I have not quantified the savings that would be realized if the lights were more easily manipulated in response to the natural illumination available.

I encouraged Library to describe the new circulation system in terms of the energy conservation that would result from implementation. James Alborough, member of the Library Board of Directors, explained the energy conservation advantages in an April 28 email as follows: *As to energy consumption, the new system should use less because the plan is to house it on an existing server within the borough office, so there is some good consolidation going on. That should take the load off a couple of existing*

servers.

The savings have not been quantified.

K-12 School. The K-12 School and Pool KWH account is once again significantly below consumption for the same period in 2008 (mid-March to mid-April). The K-12 account has been below last year's consumption for three consecutive months – and showing increasingly larger reductions each month. April 2009 KWH expense represents a savings of \$5650 over April 2008. March 2009 KWH reductions saved \$3660 over March 2008; and February 2009 saved \$3268.00. January 2009 KWH consumption cost \$357 more than January 2008. Thus the efforts made to date represent a savings of \$12,221.00. I believe additional savings are possible should the K-12 School, Voc. Ed. Building, and Pool adopt a systematic conservation and efficiency plan.

Energy Audits. Borough Assessor, John Wurst, and Dean Olson, Property Data Collection Assistant, and Christa Rayl have been working with me to prepare information packets for the Request for Proposals (RFP) for energy audits for the Public Safety Building, Mosquito Lake School, and the Chilkat Center. Building type, foundation information, heat plant data, fuel, electricity, and water consumption data is uniformly available. Dean Olson has prepared electronic copies of each building's footprint. The next step is to work with the manager to draft the language for the RFP.

Outreach

High School Students: Energy & Sustainability Chair Melissa Aronson led the Haines High School Environmental Education Class in an exercise May 2 designed to promote personal commitment to individually selected energy conservation goals. ESC Coordinator Scott followed with demonstrations and discussion designed to develop the distinction between energy conservation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy activities.

Borough Staff: Aronson & Scott are scheduled to meet with Sheldon Museum Staff May 5 to lead a similar "capacity building workshop" on energy conservation for the staff. We are "testing" this procedure as a possible response to the Manager's decision to provide conservation training "in house" instead of contracting with a professional.

Public Information Project: I have met with Kevin Shove (Howsers, IGA) and Doug Olerud (Alaska Meat & Grocery) both of who have agreed to dedicate space for displays of public information. Both grocers prefer a rack design that is "long and skinny." I met with King's Store proprietors hoping to order the display units locally. We were stumped by units available. The proprietors also warned about shipping costs as well as probability of damage in shipping. They suggested that we contract with a local carpenter to building the unit. I am awaiting the advice of the manager on my next move.

Energy Talk. April 27: Sustainable Skagway. Interview with Tim Wing and Charlotte.

May 4: Bi-Pedal Power: Status of efforts in Haines to install infrastructure that will offer support for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Business of Clean Energy in Alaska Conference, May 18-19. The Manager has approved the Coordinator's request to attend the Business of Clean Energy in Alaska Conference in Anchorage, May 18-19. The trip will be funded from the ESC funds or from Economic Development. The conference website

(<http://www.bceaconference.com/>) describes the purpose of the gathering:

The Business of Clean Energy in Alaska (BCEA) is a two-day conference showcasing the opportunity for Alaska to become a leader in Energy Efficiency (EE) and Renewable Energy (RE). The conference will focus on understanding the challenges and best practices in implementing an EE/RE infrastructure. Attendees will gain insight into the experiences of governments and businesses from around the country, as they relate to Alaska's unique potential.

Plenary panels of national and local experts will cover federal and state EE/RE initiatives, business investment, job creation and training, and manufacturing. Each panel will include three panelists and will conclude with 30 minutes of moderated discussion. The panel discussions will be videotaped and made available online following the conference.

I hope to return with a deeper understanding of the economic benefits that accompany conservation, efficiency, and renewable energy initiatives; as well as to develop insights into how Haines can be a player in this emerging economy.

I have arranged with KHNS to call in to the radio station directly from the Conference for the May 18 **Energy Talk**.

Grant for Rural Commercial Business Energy Audits

The USDA-RD has posted a grant opportunity that provides 75% of the funding for energy audits for rural commercial businesses. Although the Haines Borough would not be a competitive applicant, I am contacting others who may apply to make sure that Haines is a rural business community that should be targeted for the services. The grant is designed for a qualified entity that provides energy management services and desires to extend the services to rural small businesses.

This grant is similar to the project proposed for funding through a Rural Enterprise Grant by the Juneau Economic Development Council for which the Energy & Sustainability Commission provided a letter of support February 3.

As you know, Haines, at least for a while, led the rural areas of the state in participation in the home energy rebate program. We were very early adopters. I have interviewed business owners in Haines and have determined that there is interest in this program here. I have communicated that interest to contacts within Alaska Community Development Corporation (weatherization), AHFC, Alaska Energy Authority, and building science departments with the University of Alaska.

Hopefully, if one of these entities picks up this grant opportunity, Haines will rise to the top of the list of participants.

Transportation

Non-Motorized Transportation

1) Safe Routes to Schools. The Haines Borough has received a \$5500 from the Department of Transportation's Safe Routes to School program, to identify and plan for infrastructure that enhance, improve or create a safe route within a two-mile radius of the school. Leigh Horner is the District Coordinator and Debra Schnabel is the grant administrator. Horner and Schnabel conducted a community meeting April 28, 4 PM. Many students (55%) who ride the bus to school also live within 2 miles of the school, but do not have a safe route to school.

A "safe" route is characterized by a sidewalk, a bike path, and pedestrian and bike crossings. Southeast Road builders reports that 55% of the bus riders live within 2 miles of the school but do not have a safe route to school.

The Haines Borough School District contracted for school bus services this year for \$155,700; and budgeted \$5000 for parents who must provide transportation because they live beyond a bus route (Lutak Road residents). Walk or bike to school week is May 11-17.

Safe Routes to Schools funds can support both infrastructure and non-infrastructure projects. Please see the slide show presented to Haines April 28 and posted on the Haines ESC website, Energy Talk, May 4 (<http://www.hnsboroesc.outlierproductions.com/energytalk.html>)

Funds from the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG) may be spent for *Development and Implementation of Transportation Programs*, including *development of infrastructure such as bike lanes and pathways and pedestrian walkways* (Category #7).

2) Non-motorized infrastructure support

The Haines Borough Manager reports (4/24/09) that he will draft a Memorandum of Understanding between the Haines Borough and the Chilkoot Indian Association for a sidewalk improvement program utilizing CIA and Haines Borough funds for Assembly approval.

About 40 people attended the second public meeting of the Haines Borough "Downtown Planning" project with MRV Architects April 22. Many residents spoke in favor of improved pedestrian and bicycle access to and through the downtown core.

Financial Report

Remaining Unexpended Balance:	\$3439.41
Encumbrances:	
Chris Rose Travel:	\$206.00
Information Racks:	\$425.00
Light Box shipping:	\$40.00

Unexpended Balance Minus Encumbrances: \$2768.41

Resources

American Council for an Energy-Efficiency Economy, www.aceee.org. The ACEEE is dedicated to advancing energy efficiency as a means of promoting both economic and environmental prosperity. It has excellent resources for commercial and residential consumers. The ESC Commission may be particularly interested in the 2006 study reviewing the savings benefits in-home energy displays (attached).

In-home energy displays, like The Energy Detective, result in energy savings between 4% and 15%. The authors conclude that the most reliable and reasonably conservative estimate available is 5% based on a 2004-05 controlled pilot study by Hydro One in Canada, which found that “without any energy savings guidance on the part of the utility, participants achieved aggregate savings of 5% in base-load electricity that persisted over the 18-month test period.”

Attachments:

ESC Recommendations to Manager re EECEBG Funds

Purchase price for 7 IntelliCons-HW+

ACEEE Emerging Technologies Report: In-Home Energy Use Displays