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Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) has selected Ocean Renewable Power Corporation (ORPC) and the Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) as Round III funding recipients of the Emerging Energy Technology Fund (EETF).

AEA announced the third request for applications (RFA) for the Emerging Energy Technology Fund on September 12, 2016 and received seven abstracts in response. In consultation with the EETF Advisory Committee, AEA invited three of the applicants to submit full proposals for review. After careful consideration AEA ultimately selected ORPC and FNSB as funding recipients.

ORPC will continue the development and demonstrate a microgrid controller and grid forming inverter capable of dispatching multiple types of renewable resources in an effort to increase renewable penetration levels on microgrids and ultimately operate in “diesels off” mode. The FNSB will demonstrate a gasification, combined heat and power unit capable of producing 40-kW of electricity along with 100-kW of heat.

The EETF demonstrates energy projects that have a reasonable expectation of commercial viability within five years. In advance of the September RFA solicitation, AEA consulted with energy industry stakeholders and experts and identified where the EETF Program might provide the greatest benefit to Alaska consumers. Microgrid and microgrid enabling technologies were accordingly prioritized in the Round III RFA.

EETF Round III is funded by a competitively awarded federal grant of $250,000 from the U.S. Department of Energy and required $250,000 state match.

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