CURRENT STATUS

During the first quarter of calendar year 2018 and in accordance with 3 AAC 108.220 the Circuit Rider (CR) and Rural Electric Utility Workers (REUW) provided real time remote assistance and training via phone and SCADA to the following communities:

- Akiak
- Akichak
- Alakanuk
- Atmautluak
- AVTEC
- Beaver
- Buckland
- Central
- Chenega
- Chefornak
- Chignik Bay
- Chignik Lagoon
- Chitina
- Crooked Creek
- Diomede
- Elfin Cove
- False Pass
- Hoonah
- Hughes
- Igiugig
- Kake
- Kipnuk
- Kwethluk
- Kwillingok
- Kongiganak
- Larsen Bay
- Levelock
- Manokotak
- McGrath
- Nikolski
- Newtok
- Northway
- Nunam Iqua
- Ouzinkie
- Pedro Bay
- Pelican
- Prince of Whales
- Whale Pass
- Port Alsworth
- Sleetmute
- Stevens Village
- St. George
- Stoney River
- Tatitlek
- Takotna
- Tuluksak
- Unalakleet

CR and REUW traveled to the village and provided onsite training and assistance to: Akiak, Akichak, AVTEC, Kipnuk, Kwillingok, Levelock, Napakiak, Pedro Bay, Tuntatuliak.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Under 3 AAC 108.200 - 240 the Alaska Energy Authority’s Circuit Rider program provides eligible utilities with technical assistance to improve the efficiency, safety, and reliability of their power systems and helps reduce the risk and severity of emergency conditions.

AEA staff instruct the rural utility operators and managers in the proper operations and maintenance of their generation and distribution infrastructure. Generation includes conventional diesel and alternative sources of hydro and wind. Technical staff can help with diagnosing and troubleshooting through real time remote monitoring, or provide onsite training, technical consultation, assistance and minor repairs. The program does not replace the utility’s necessary operations and maintenance budget or provide funding for major repairs or reconstruction of utility systems.

AEA annually evaluates the utilities needs under the Circuit Rider program. The program manager and Circuit Rider technician review the needs and requests and in coordination with other information respond accordingly.

This program is available for rural Alaska communities with a population between 20 and 2,000. The utility’s ability to pay for assistance from other sources is considered. The utilities are encouraged to have power plant operators who have: knowledge of the local power system; are able to communicate effectively; are available during onsite visits; and the ability to maintain written performance logs. To reduce the programs travel expenses the utilities are encouraged to use email, phone calls and have a remotely accessible Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system.

Current funding is from both State of Alaska and Denali Commission.