September 20, 2022

Joint Office of Energy and Transportation  
c/o U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave SE  
Washington, DC 20590  
Attn: Lissa Myers (NREL) and Heather Richardson (Volpe)

RE: Vehicle Electrification Activities in Alaska

Ms. Myers and Ms. Richardson:

The Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) is pleased to submit this memorandum updating the Joint Office of Energy and Transportation on the continuing activities related to vehicle electrification in Alaska. We are excited about the opportunities that the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula Program funding has to offer our state and look forward to maximizing the return on investment in Alaska.

Comments Received
Due to the tight timeline to prepare Alaska’s NEVI plan, AEA recognizes that the public comment period on the draft plan extended beyond the allowable time to collect, incorporate, and address all comments received. Several comments were received before the internal deadline for production and are reflected in the final submission. However, comments received after the internal deadline are still of utmost importance to AEA, and the team has reviewed the comments to determine if any updates will be required to the living document or if those comments will help inform AEA’s next steps, particularly regarding procurement activities. We have found the additional comments to be useful through the procurement and implementation phase, and plan to incorporate them into the next iteration of the plan.

NEVI Plan
Following the submission of Alaska’s NEVI plan, it was brought to AEA’s attention that the NEVI plan logo and a small business’s logo are similar. AEA was able to address this issue and is resubmitting the plan with the updated logo. All else in the document remains the same, and any other changes will be incorporated in the next iteration of the plan.

Outreach Activities
AEA continues to engage in public outreach and participate in key electrification events across the state.

- August 4 – Juneau Chamber of Commerce Presentation
- August 11 – Alaska Municipal League Summer Legislative Conference Presentation
- August 12 – Golden Valley Electric Association EV Member Event Vendor Table
- August 12-16 – Arctic Road Rally Sponsor
August 23 – Fairbanks Economic Development Corporation: Energy for All Alaska Task Force Presentation
August 24 – Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce: Energy Committee Presentation

AEA has also scheduled the following events for the remainder of September, as we continue to engage communities, gather additional information, solicit input, and update partners and the public on the progress of electrification efforts. All activities can be found on our website.

- September 21 – Alaska NEVI Plan Workshop: Fairbanks Regional Presentation
- September 27 – Alaska EV Working Group: Technical Meeting

Additional EV Funding Efforts
AEA collaborated with several partners to develop two concept papers for the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Fiscal Year 2022 Vehicle Technologies Office Program Wide Funding Opportunity Announcement. The concept papers were submitted in the following topic areas:

- Topic Area 8 – Community Engagement, Outreach, Technical Assistance, and Training in Underserved Communities
- Topic Area 9 – Community-Driven Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Deployment in Underserved Communities

We believe that successful grant selection for this DOE opportunity will enable AEA to further enhance the knowledge base in underserved communities, as well as provide access to critical EV charging infrastructure as more EVs become available to all drivers. We await the response from DOE to determine if our concept papers are recommended for further consideration at which point we will transition into developing the full proposal.

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments. We look forward to receiving approval on the submitted plan and welcome the opportunity to begin implementing it.

Sincerely,

Curtis W. Thayer
Executive Director