

Renewable Energy Grant Fund RFA
Frequently Asked Questions FAQ's 2
Summary of Weekly Questions – September 17, 2008

Applicant Eligibility Questions

1. *Is a private company eligible to submit an applicant if they are looking at building a wood pellet fuel plant?*

This actually raises two questions under AS 42.45.045: (a) Is the private company an “eligible applicant” under AS 42.45.045(l)(1)? (b) Is a wood pellet fuel plant a “direct use of renewable energy resources” under AS 42.45.045(f)(2)(B)?

(a) The legislature defined “eligible applicant” to mean a certificated electric utility, an independent power producer, a local government, or another governmental entity including a tribal council and housing authority, in AS 42.45.045(l)(1). We do not believe that a company that manufactures wood pellets or other fuel is within the meaning of “independent power producer,” therefore the company would need to partner with an eligible applicant such as a municipality or utility to submit an eligible application.

(b) It is uncertain whether manufacturing wood pellets or other fuels based on renewable sources constitutes a “direct use” of renewable energy resources under AS 42.45.045, but we believe the Legislature intended to include projects of this type. We intend to accept and evaluate these types of applications submitted by eligible applicants.

2. *Is an organization made up of multiple tribal groups an eligible applicant?*

No, as this organization would equate to an association of eligible applicants. The association itself is not eligible, but the member tribal entities could themselves apply as eligible applicants.