

Energy Efficiency & Weatherization Panel
Friday, Oct. 24, 3:30-5pm
Room 4 (2ND floor)

V. Energy Efficiency and Weatherization

According to a 2008 report from First Alaskan's Institute, rural Alaska consumes roughly 15% less energy than Anchorage residents, yet pay upwards of three times more for it, even with PCE. This panel will generate ideas and propose immediate action to address the significant challenge of creating affordable, energy-efficient and culturally-appropriate shelter for rural Alaskans. The critically important discussion will focus on innovative approaches for new home construction and improving the performance of existing structures through weatherization and retrofits. Panelists will also offer tips on purchasing energy-efficient consumer items such as appliances, motor fuel, and vehicles.

1. *Chair:* Jack Hébert, President and CEO, Cold Climate Housing Research Center
2. Cary Bolling, Energy Specialist, Alaska Housing Finance Corporation
3. Bob Gough, Secretary, Intertribal Council on Utility Policy
4. Todd Hoener, Energy Efficiency Specialist, Golden Valley Electric Association
5. Teri Paniptchuk, former VISTA Energy Program, RurAL CAP

Questions & Answers:

If you have a question for any of the panelists, please write it down on a piece of paper and submit it to a volunteer who will be collecting questions and handing them to the Chair. Index cards will also be provided. With this process we hope to answer many more questions from the audience. Emails are also provided for panelists in their bios below.

Panelists' Biographies

Chair: Jack Hébert, Cold Climate Housing Research Center

Jack is currently president and CEO of the Cold Climate Housing Research Center (CCHRC), an organization established by industry to promote and advance the development of healthy, durable and sustainable shelter for Alaskans and other circumpolar people through applied research. His planned communities reflect this philosophy as well. Jack has received numerous honors in recognition of his work, including the first State of Alaska Governor's Award for Excellence in Energy Efficient Design and the Energy Rated Homes of Alaska President's Award. He has twice been honored as the Alaska State Homebuilder of the Year. Jack is also a very active member of the National Association of Homebuilders (NAHB). Mr. Hébert has served in leadership roles on local, state and national levels, including a term as president of the Alaska State Home Building Association. He currently represents Alaska on NAHB's National Executive Board. (jack@cchrc.org)

Cary Bolling, Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC)

Cary is an energy specialist who has managed the AHFC Research Information Center (RIC) since 1992. The center provides information and technical assistance on housing construction and energy efficiency. Cary is experienced in energy-efficient home construction and has received professional training in northern building science. He produces videos and articles for national, state and local media. Mr. Bolling has also been a frequent presenter at homebuyer and homeowner education classes, where he provides information on AHFC's Home Energy Rebate & Weatherization programs. (cbolling@ahfc.state.ak.us)

Bob Gough, Intertribal Council on Utility Policy

Bob is the secretary of the Intertribal Council on Utility Policy, composed of 14 tribes in North and South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa and Wyoming. The Intertribal COUP plan received the inaugural World Clean Energy Award in 2007. Mr. Gough also serves as a director at NativeWind.org, an organization that develops small and large-scale tribal renewable energy and energy efficiency projects in the Northern Great Plains. The group focuses on interconnected, utility-scale wind projects as well as energy-efficient, affordable, and healthy straw bale homes. (gough.bob@gmail.com)

Todd Hoener, Golden Valley Electric Association (GVEA)

As Golden Valley Electric Association's energy end-use specialist, Todd administers GVEA's two energy programs: *EnergySense*, which was awarded an honorable mention for utility programs by the American Council for an Energy Efficiency Economy, and *SNAP*, Alaska's first renewable power program. With the help of a grant from the Alaska Energy Authority and Denali Commission, Todd is now studying the feasibility of installing a large-scale solar water heating system in the McKinley Village area near Denali National Park to displace some of the electricity used by the hospitality/tourism industry. Todd has worked in Alaska's housing services and energy end-use industry for 30 years. He currently serves as chair of the Policy Advisory Council for Alaska's Low-Income Weatherization Assistance Program. He was housing director for the Tanana Chiefs' Conference in the mid-1990s. Mr. Hoener is a graduate of the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. He has resided in Alaska since 1972 and lives in Ester, a historic mining community west of Fairbanks. (tmhoener@gvea.com)

Teri Paniptchuk, VISTA Energy Program, RurAL CAP

Teri served as a VISTA Energy Program member in her community of Unalakleet from April 2007 until April 2008. During her term, she received strategic energy planning and home energy assessment training and performed home energy conservation education in her community. Teri created educational and outreach materials for the community, worked with the Native Village of Unalakleet Council to develop funding proposals, and taught local school children about energy conservation. The techniques she taught to Unalakleet residents for saving electricity and energy include avoiding "phantom power," using compact fluorescent lights, and cleaning refrigerator coils. Prior to serving with the VISTA Energy Program, Teri served a 12-month term with the Village Council Management Program, assisting her village with developing funding proposals, community planning, and increasing community, and volunteer involvement with projects from 2005-2006. Ms. Paniptchuk currently serves as a council member for the Native Village of Unalakleet, Unalakleet State elections chairperson, and as a worker at the local AC store. (tlp_99684@yahoo.com)