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Denali Commission Quarterly Progress Report

Name of Organization: Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

Name of Project: Rural Utility Cooperative aka Alaska Rural Utility
Collaborative

Reporting Period: July 1 - September 30, 2008

Contact Person: John Nichols

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Expenditures to date: \$195,565.11

Certification: I certify that the information in this report is current, correct and true and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the agreement.

Signed by:  Dated 10/29/08

1. In a few sentences, please describe the scope of your project:
This project's scope is the recruitment of new communities to join ARUC, a collaborative to help make rural utilities self-sustaining in rural Alaska. This project will also purchase spare parts and provide start-up funds for new communities in ARUC, and identify new communities to join ARUC for a total of at least 11 communities in ARUC.

2. Project Activities for this Reporting Period:
Describe the grant activities that happened during this report period.
The ARUC added one member community, Sleetmute, during this reporting period. We now have eight member communities, and expect another, South Naknek, to join soon. We continue to work to improve the self-sufficiency of ARUC communities, as well as recruit new ARUC communities. We made trips to Bethel, Sleetmute, Cheformak, Grayling and New Stuyahok to accomplish these objectives. We also began purchasing startup supplies for our new communities.

3. Scheduled Project Activities/Important Dates for next quarter:

Describe your planned activities for next quarter.

We will continue to recruit member communities for ARUC in the next quarter, and anticipate having the required 11 ARUC communities before the project expires December 31 of this year.

4. a. How many villages joined the RUC/ARUC during this reporting period?

One.

b. How many villages have joined the RUC/ARUC to date from this grant?

Three new communities joined ARUC from the date of this grant, however, the community of Holy Cross that was an original member is no longer.

5. Villages currently online with the RUC/ARUC program.

Chevak, Goodnews Bay, Grayling, Lower Kalskag, Russian Mission, Toksook Bay, Upper Kalskag, Sleetmute

Villages that will be coming online with the RUC/ARUC program

South Naknek is scheduled to come online soon. We are also recruiting Akiak, Akiachak, St. Michael, New Stuyahok, Tyonek, Tuluksak, and Emmonak for ARUC membership. It is unknown which of these, or other, villages will become ARUC members.

6. Please identify any problems or changes in your project that will affect the budget, scope or timeline of the project. Is your project on schedule? What are the reasons for any difficulties or delays? Are you over budget/under budget? Have you had to change the initial scope? Please provide an explanation to this change and your resolution to the variance.

The ARUC took the RUC concept statewide, requiring a significant amount of time to be spent preparing legal, regulatory, and personnel documents to make the transition from RUC to ARUC. This occupied one complete quarter of this grant period, so an extension has been granted to extend this grant to December 31, 2008. The extension also allows the ARUC member villages to be statewide instead of being selected only from the YK Delta.

7. How are you evaluating success?

We are evaluating success by the number of village members of ARUC.

8. Please identify areas that we can assist you in the future.

We are confident in our abilities to complete this grant within the extension given.