

## **Organization**

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC-DEHE)  
Division of Environmental Health and Engineering  
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<http://www.anthc.org/cs/dehe/>

## **Contact**

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## **The Project**

The Division of Environmental Health and Engineering (DEHE) is the second largest ANTHC division and deals with Federal funding to provide safe water and wastewater disposal facilities, technical assistance with the construction, maintenance and renovation of health care facilities. In FY06, DEHE managed active projects in 160 communities across Alaska and was awarded \$67 million for sanitation facility projects, \$19.9 million for new health clinic facility projects, and \$4 million for hospital maintenance and improvement projects.

The Chugachmiut North Star Health Clinic is in Seward, Alaska, a community 125 miles southeast of Anchorage. In general, the project work comprises the remodeling of the second floor of the existing 18,890 sq. ft facility with selective demolition and renovation to include carpentry, plumbing, electrical, mechanical, HVAC, alarm and sprinkler systems. Chugachmiut is the Tribal consortium created to promote and increase self-determination opportunities for community operated tribal programs in the seven Native communities of the Chugach Region.

## **Bid Statistics**

Responses were received from five Alaska firms who registered as prime bidders on AEPlans. Submitted bids ranged from a high of \$655,422.00 to the low bid of \$342,868.00, awarded to ASRC Gulf States Constructors Inc. of Anchorage, AK.

Estimated Cost was \$421,692

Low Bid was \$342,868

The winning low bid came in at 19 per cent below expectations and this, along with the number of competitive bids did not escape the notice of the project owner.

## **The Benefits Derived from Use of AEPlans**

Carolynn Hickey, who has 30 years experience in Federal contract management in Alaska, stated, "The owner appreciated the greater visibility as their previous project in Seward had only attracted one bid and the additional competition between five bidders was a major factor in obtaining a better price. A significant benefit of the AEPlans website is the real-time statistics available for the owner to track who the prime bidders are and which material suppliers are downloading the project. Being able to create a contact database directly through the AEPlans website and email notices was also another contributing factor in promoting a competitive environment and ensuring that qualified firms knew about the project."

Carolynn went on to add: "The AEPlans process also offers tremendous administrative savings with big payoffs. It is an efficient and cost effective method for soliciting bids and proposals. The service is well thought out and easy for contractors to use. Electronic distribution on AEPlans saves the client money, as the paper process is very expensive and time consuming. This is especially true with new addenda as there is no tracking needed; just upload and the auto emails get the message to all interested parties."

## **The Design Professionals**

The specification and design files for the Chugachmiut North Star Health Clinic Orca building were done by Livingston Slone, Inc, an A/E firm in Anchorage, AK. ANTHC-DEHE completed the solicitation, posted the project to AEPlans and will continue to provide contract management and engineering support, along with Livingston Slone, during the construction phase.