



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Commerce, Community,  
and Economic Development

DIVISION OF COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS  
Anchorage Office

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January 30, 2026

Tammy Helms  
Department of Environmental Conservation  
Division of Water, Technical Assistance and Financing  
555 Cordova Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Re: Best Practices Transmittal – Managerial and Financial Capacity Categories

Dear Ms. Helms,

Please find attached the Rural Utility Business Advisor (RUBA) program's preliminary transmittal of the managerial and financial scores for the Operations and Maintenance Best Practice criteria associated with the Spring 2026 scoring cycle.

The transmittal contains data for all the managerial and financial categories – utility management training, meetings of the governing body, budget, revenue, workers' compensation, and payroll liability compliance.

Following peer review, supervisor review, and spreadsheet review of the scored categories, we certify to the best of our knowledge the results are in accordance with the "Operations and Maintenance Best Practices Scoring Guide." The RUBA program continues to work on formalizing consistent language (where possible) and improving the scoring guide in partnership with the Department of Environmental Conservation to further strengthen the scoring process.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

*Patricia Sullivan*

Patricia Sullivan  
Local Government Specialist 4

Enclosure: 1

Cc: Sandra Moller, Director, Division of Community and Regional Affairs, DCCED  
Nichole Tham, Division Operations Manager, DCRA, DCCED  
Lynn Kenealy, Local Government Specialist 5, DCRA, DCCED  
Fred Broerman, Local Government Specialist 4, DCRA, DCCED  
Sonya Pevan, Local Government Specialist 4, DCRA, DCCED  
Carrie Bohan, Facilities Programs Manager, Division of Water, DEC