

Geologic Materials Center Deferred Maintenance, Repairs and Operational Upgrades **FY2009 Request: \$65,000**
Reference No: 45259

AP/AL: Appropriation **Project Type:** Deferred Maintenance
Category: Natural Resources
Location: Anchorage Areawide **Contact:** Leta Simons
House District: Anchorage Areawide (HD 17-32) **Contact Phone:** (907)465-2400
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2008 - 06/30/2009

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

The Geologic Materials Center (GMC) in Eagle River is the state's archive of geologic samples to help determine the potential for production of metals, minerals, and fuels on Alaska state land (AS 41.08.020). These samples were collected at great cost, and many are irreplaceable. The current facility is old and the structures do not provide adequate safety and security for storage and access to valuable geologic information related to resource potential throughout the state. DGGs is seeking funding to cover the costs of critical repairs and maintenance of this facility to protect the health and safety of staff and clients, and to prevent damage or loss of important samples and data.

Funding:	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	Total
Gen Fund	\$65,000	\$25,000	\$25,000				\$115,000
Total:	\$65,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$115,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On-Going
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill	

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	0
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

New Project - No Prior Funding History

Project Description/Justification:

The Geologic Materials Center (GMC) in Eagle River is the state's archive of geologic samples for supporting energy- and minerals-related exploration and development, which is a statutory responsibility of the Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys (DGGs). This valuable geologic information, the product of hundreds of millions of dollars of exploration and production drilling throughout the state and offshore waters, is at risk of damage or loss under current facility conditions. In a separate CIP request, DGGs is seeking funding for a new GMC facility, but building this facility will take many years and the current GMC structures require a minimum amount of maintenance and repair in order to keep them functional and secure in the interim.

The operating budget of the GMC is \$250,000 annually, and is primarily spent on repair, maintenance, and retrofit of the sorely inadequate facility. However, costs of repair and maintenance currently exceed this amount due to the age of the facility and the poor condition of the structures. We are seeking funding to address a number of important issues that directly affect the health and safety of GMC staff and clients and the security of the geologic samples. Items requiring immediate attention include:

- 1) Connect the sprinkler system to an alarm system in order to allow notification of staff that the sprinklers are running in another building. The current lack of a sprinkler alarm could result in damage to or even a complete loss of the items that are stored in the facility.

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- 2) Repair or replace entrance stairs and railings that are rotting and pose a danger to staff and clients using them for access to the materials stored in these buildings.
- 3) Repair exterior doors that no longer close correctly due to frost heaving. Facility security is seriously compromised by the inability to close the doors.
- 4) Replace roofs on two buildings that are leaking or are in imminent danger of leaking, and repair damage that has already occurred. Roof leakage has resulted in damage to a bathroom that is now unsafe and unusable. The safety and comfort of staff and clients are being seriously impacted, and items archived in these buildings are in danger of being damaged.
- 5) Repair or replace one of the furnaces at the facility that leaks and is in danger of failing at any time.

Funding these repairs and maintenance will allow the GMC to continue its mission of archiving valuable, irreplaceable geologic data and samples for the use of exploration companies, scientific researchers, and other State agencies. It is imperative that the GMC be able to provide a safe and secure environment in which to preserve this material and serve its clients. These repairs are critical and necessary even if a new facility is approved, because it will be years before such a new facility is built and is ready to house the archives.

Why is this Project Needed Now?:

The GMC facilities currently pose a hazard to the health and safety of staff and customers that must be addressed as soon as possible to avoid injury and resulting liability issues. Additionally, if the needed repairs are not completed in a timely fashion, the State risks loss of or damage to the irreplaceable samples and data housed in the GMC.

Specific Spending Detail:

<u>LINE ITEM</u>	<u>DOLLAR AMOUNT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION (text)</u>
Services	\$ 65,000	Repairs to GMC

Project Support:

Supporters for this project include:
 Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (AOGCC)
 Alaska Oil and Gas Association (AOGA)
 Alaska Geologic Society
 Alaska Miners Association
 University of Alaska
 Numerous oil, gas, and mineral exploration and development companies

Project Opposition:

None anticipated.