

## **RICE-NESHAP Amendments: Rural Alaska Redefined**

EPA made changes to broaden the definition of remote area sources in Alaska in the RICE NESHAP. Previously, remote areas were considered those that are not on the Federal Aid Highway System (FAHS). This change permits existing stationary CI engines at other remote areas sources in Alaska to meet management practices rather than numerical emissions standards likely to require after-treatment. These remote areas have the same challenges as areas not on the FAHS, and complying with the current rule would similarly be prohibitively costly and potentially infeasible.

Any stationary RICE in Alaska meeting all of the following conditions are subject to management practices:

- (1) The only connection to the FAHS is through the Alaska Marine Highway System, or the stationary RICE operation is within an isolated grid in Alaska that is not connected to the statewide electrical grid referred to as the Alaska Railbelt Grid, and
- (2) At least 10 percent of the power generated by the stationary RICE on an annual basis is used for residential purposes, and
- (3) The generating capacity of the area sources is less than 12 megawatts (MW), or the stationary RICE is used exclusively for the backup power for renewable energy.