

## Nick Riordan

Alternatives to diesel-generated electricity in Rural Alaska are much needed to lower utility costs, improved air quality, fewer greenhouse gases, etc. Micro-nuclear reactors may provide this alternative source of power, but when considering nuclear power, the questions of where the fuel is mined and disposed of must be front and center. Before Alaska embarks on any nuclear project, a cost analysis that takes into account these factors is essential. For example, what is the cost of perpetual storage of nuclear waste compared to the savings associated with not using alternative fuels and/or costs of wind or solar. Similarly, where are nuclear fuels mined and what harm does this pose to those ecosystems and people who live there? Accounting that includes these types of issues is needed before proceeding.