Barrow To Get New Gas System

The City of Barrow will get a new natural gas distribution system. The U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is funding the project which is expected to cost between one and five million dollars. The Army Corpos of Engineers deisgned the system and will administer the construction contract.

Barrow has had a gas system of sorts for several years, serving the city with fuel from gas wells some five miles away. The exitsing lines are built above ground, mounted on empty drums and other makeshift supports, and do not meet federal standards. The new wsystem will be buried and will supply gas from pressure reducing stations to residential and commercial customers in Barrow and nearby Browerville.

Only bids from contractors having an accumulated two years of field experience in the construction of fuel pipelines within the past ten years will be considered for the project. A pre-bid conference is scheduled at the North Slope Borough Offices in Barrow, September 11 and 12. Prospective bidders are urged to attend and to inspect the site work.

A bid opening is scheduled for September 25 at the Corps' Alaska District Office on Elmendorf Air Force Base. The successful bidder will have 450 days to complete the work.