

Northwest Regional development Commission Request for Proposal Thermal Imaging (Thermography) Community Inventory

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Introduction:

The Northwest Regional Development Commission (NWRDC) was awarded funding in 2024 to support energy efficiency and resilience projects in northwest Minnesota (Region 1). Selected projects fall under a broad scope of energy related activities designed to bring public awareness to conservation, clean energy technologies, and new opportunities for public and private applications. As a unit of state government, the NWRDC's mission is to partner with municipal, township, and county stakeholders to provide technical assistance as they plan for future investments to achieve increased energy resiliency strategies.

To that end, the NWRDC is seeking contractor assistance to develop a pilot program for data collection on energy consumption based on infrared imaging by means of ariel data collection allowing for rooftop inspection on larger commercial/public facilities. This will inform local decision-makers with baseline information on energy efficiency (or lack thereof) on existing commercial building stock. With this information, a municipal inventory can be developed which will inform future decisions on energy-related planning and investments.

Project Scope:

NWRDC is proposing imagery/data capture activities in two northwest Minnesota communities (Kittson, Roseau, Marshall, Pennington, Red Lake, Polk, Norman counties). Selected sites must have sufficient building stock (downtown or commercial district) to have broad benefit to the overall municipality. NWRDC will assist the contractor in determining which community profiles best align with their data capture capabilities, including any operational considerations (limitations). NWRDC staff will act as liaison between the project contractor and the local government officials. Contractor shall provide NWRDC with a final analysis of project deliverables including technical data which informs community leaders on the current state of energy deficiencies for selected sites.

Project timeline:

NWRDC is proposing an expedited schedule for this project. All funding for this project and related activities must be exhausted by June 30, 2026. It is recommended project activities commence in mid-February 2026 to derive maximum benefit based on climate characteristics experienced in cold weather environments. The contractor will coordinate the overall project and specific operational schedule with NWRDC staff and selected municipal site contact(s).



Budget:

The proposed budget for this activity is established at \$90,000.00 (Ninety-Thousand dollars). This includes any contractor equipment, materials/supplies, and travel to accomplish project activities. Contractor will prepare a budget document including short narrative indicating cost categories and be mutually agreed to between NWRDC and Contractor prior to contract execution.

Responses should be clearly marked Thermal Imagery Community Inventory and emailed to:

James Retka
Director of Community Development
109 South Minnesota Street, Warren, Minnesota 56762
james@nwrdc.org
218-745-9135

Responses should be submitted no later than 4 p.m. February 9, 2026

