

MEMORANDUM

TO: Potential Loan Recipients and Other Parties of Interest

FROM: Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program
Division of Municipal Facilities
North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality

RE: Request for Project Information – **DEADLINE OF JULY 1, 2022**

DATE: May 2, 2022

The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) program is currently developing its 2022 Intended Use Plan for funding allocated through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). This law provides funding for the DWSRF program through three separate appropriations for three separate purposes:

- General Supplemental Funding: projects must return a system to compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act, maintain compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act, or protect public health.
- Emerging Contaminants Funding: projects must address emerging contaminants in drinking water with a focus on perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances. Also eligible are projects to address contaminants listed on Contaminant Candidate Lists 1 through 5 that do not have current primary drinking water standards, such as manganese.
- Lead Service Line Replacement Funding: projects must be for identification, planning, design, and replacement of lead service lines.

The DWSRF program is soliciting information for drinking water projects that need financial assistance for construction in 2022 and later years. Systems must fill out and submit a project questionnaire in order to have the project added to the project priority list. Only projects on this list can be considered for DWSRF assistance.

A key priority of the BIL is to ensure that disadvantaged communities benefit equitably from this funding. The BIL mandates that 49% of funds provided through the General Supplemental

Funding and the Lead Service Line Replacement Funding must be provided as grants and forgivable loans to disadvantaged communities. The BIL also requires that not less than 25% of funds provided through the Emerging Contaminants Funding be provided as grants and forgivable loans to disadvantaged communities or public water systems serving fewer than 25,000 people. North Dakota will offer its additional subsidization in the form of loan forgiveness. North Dakota is currently evaluating and revising its disadvantaged community definition based on guidance from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The questionnaire is located at <https://deq.nd.gov/Forms/MF/DWSRF-Project-Questionnaire.pdf?v=1>. Only one questionnaire is required to be submitted to be considered for all three funding sources. Please note that this questionnaire has been recently updated and the most-recent version should be used to ensure that all projects are properly ranked. The deadline for the DWSRF program receipt of the completed project ranking questionnaires is **July 1, 2022**.

Systems are required to submit a project questionnaire for each new project and each project already listed on the base DWSRF program priority list for 2022. Please send the completed project ranking questionnaires and project updates to ndsrf@nd.gov or:

DWSRF Program
4201 Normandy St, 3rd Floor
Bismarck, ND 58503-1324

The program offers low-interest-rate loans to assist public water systems (excluding federally owned and for-profit non-community systems) in financing the costs of their infrastructure projects. The current interest rate is 1.5%, with a 0.5% administration fee for an effective 2.0% interest rate.

We look forward to your response and the opportunity to assist you through the DWSRF Program. Please contact the DWSRF Program at 701-328-5211 if you have questions. Additional information may be obtained from the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Municipal Facilities home page at <https://deq.nd.gov/MF/>.