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March 11, 2015

Addressed to: Municipalities, Counties, Water & Sanitation Districts, Mutual Domestic Water Consumer Associations (as defined by the Sanitary Projects Act), Indian Tribes, and related industry professionals

IMPORTANT: Solicitation for projects for the SFY 2016 **Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund Integrated Projects Priority List**

Dear Interested Party,

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is soliciting applications for projects under the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund (CWSRF) for placement on the State Fiscal Year 2016 (SFY 2016) CWSRF Integrated Projects Priority List (IPPL). The CWSRF is a federal program administered by NMED that provides low-cost, subsidized loans to public entities for the planning, design, and construction of wastewater collection and treatment facilities, storm water drainage projects, and nonpoint source water pollution control projects that protect surface and ground water.

All applications must be submitted by close of business Friday, April 3, 2015 to NMED's Construction Programs Bureau (CPB). Applications are encouraged from all Municipalities, Counties, Water and Sanitation Districts, Mutual Domestic Water Consumer Associations (as defined by the Sanitary Projects Act), Indian Tribes and interested parties. CWSRF loans are offered at below market rates, currently ranging from 0% to 3% depending on census & economic criteria. Partial loan subsidies in the form of grants may also be available. An application to the CWSRF program does not obligate a community to proceed with the proposed project but a project must be on the IPPL to be eligible for CWSRF funding.

There will be no carry-over of applications from previous years. **All applicants must submit a new 2016 Priority List Attachment Form** (attached) **and a new Project Interest Form** (online at <https://swim.water.web.env.nm.gov/>) **to be considered for the SFY 2016 IPPL.**

Projects will be ranked per the prioritization system which takes into account five general factors: Water Quality Improvement, Permit Compliance, Financial Affordability, Sustainability, and Readiness to Proceed, as well as one bonus category, Green Project Reserve. Further information on the CWSRF priority ranking system can be found at <http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/cpb/CWSRFPPage.htm>.

ASSET MANAGEMENT PLANS

Beginning October 1, 2014, all CWSRF applicants must have an asset management plan. The asset management plan must be completed prior to the project's completion and can be funded through CWSRF as part of the project. Please refer to the CWSRF web page for New Mexico's Asset Management Report Criteria:

<http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/cpb/CWSRFPage.htm>.

GREEN PROJECTS

Communities are strongly encouraged to apply for financing of water quality protection projects such as watershed management and water reuse projects that address at least one of the following four federally-mandated "green" requirements:

- Green Infrastructure – Green stormwater infrastructure includes a wide variety of practices at multiple scales that manage wet weather and maintain and/or restore natural hydrology by infiltrating, evapotranspiring, harvesting and using stormwater.
- Water Efficiency Improvements – Water efficiency improvement is defined as the use of improved technologies and practices to deliver equal or better services with less water. Water efficiency encompasses conservation and reuse efforts, as well as water loss reduction and prevention, to protect water resources for the future.
- Energy Efficiency Improvements – Energy efficiency is the use of improved technologies and practices to reduce the energy consumption of water quality projects, use energy in a more efficient way, and/or produce/utilize renewable energy.
- Environmentally Innovative Activities – Environmentally innovative projects include those that demonstrate new and/or innovative approaches to delivering services or managing water resources in a more sustainable way.

Planning, design, and/or building activities may be approved as green. Entire projects, or the appropriate discrete components of projects, may be eligible as green. Projects do not have to be part of a larger capital project to be eligible. All projects or project components must clearly advance one or more of the objectives articulated in the four categories discussed above. The US Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) full green requirements write-up, including examples, can be found at:

<http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/cpb/GreenProjectReserve.htm>.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The application process has 2 steps:

1. Please complete an online **Project Interest Form (PIF)** for each project at <https://swim.water.web.env.nm.gov/>. For assistance in completing the Project Interest Form, please contact the following community services team member based on your county:
 - Bernalillo, Los Alamos, McKinley, San Juan, Sandoval, Santa Fe counties please contact Megan Marsee, (505) 222-9532, Megan.Marsee@state.nm.us

- Colfax, Harding, Mora, Rio Arriba, San Miguel, Taos, Union counties please contact Melanie Delgado, (505) 753-7256, Melanie.delgado@state.nm.us
 - Chaves, Curry, De Baca, Eddy, Guadalupe, Lea, Lincoln, Otero, Quay, Roosevelt, Torrance counties please contact Krista Schultz, (505) 222-9518, Krista.Schultz@state.nm.us
 - Catron, Cibola, Dona Ana, Grant, Hidalgo, Luna, Sierra, Socorro, Valencia counties please contact Karl Pennock, (575) 647-7969, Karl.Pennock@state.nm.us
2. Please completely fill out the enclosed **2016 Priority List Attachment Form (PLAF)** for each project, **attach the current rate ordinance for your entity**, if applicable, and attach any additional information to support the application and return them to Jennifer Prada either by:
- e-mail to jennifer.prada@state.nm.us,
 - by fax to (505) 827-2837, or
 - by mail to Jennifer Prada
NMED Construction Programs Bureau
PO Box 5469
Santa Fe, NM 87502

An electronic version of the Priority List Attachment Form can also be found near the bottom of the page at <http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/cpb/CWSRFPPage.htm> in both Adobe Acrobat PDF and Microsoft Excel format under the heading Downloadable CWSRF Forms. Please remember to attach the current rate ordinance for your entity. For additional application forms and information please contact Ms. Prada at (505) 827-2807.

To be considered for funding beginning July 1, 2015, you must submit a new online Project Interest Form (PIF) **AND** a new Priority List Attachment Form (PLAF) for each project. **Both must be completed and received no later than Friday, April 3, 2015 at 5:00 P.M. Mountain Daylight Time.**

The SFY 2016 CWSRF Intended Use Plan and the proposed SFY 2016 Integrated Projects Priority List will be available for public review and comment on the website listed above from June 8, 2015 to June 26, 2015.

Sincerely,



Jim Chiasson, P.E.
Chief, Construction Programs Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department

Enclosure – 2016 Priority List Attachment Form