

RANKING SYSTEM FOR DWSRLF PROJECTS

NEW MEXICO'S FY 16 DWSRLF PRIORITY RANKING SYSTEM

New Mexico's priority ranking system ensures funding precedence for projects that (1) address the most serious risk to human health, (2) are necessary to ensure compliance with Safe Drinking Water Act requirements, and (3) assist systems most in need, on a per household basis, according to state affordability criteria. In accordance with these criteria, all eligible projects will be rated with respect to six categories to determine their ranking and selection for funding under New Mexico's DWSRLF.

The categories are as follows:

- Source Water Vulnerability (45 total points)
- Safe Drinking Water Act Compliance (48 total points)
- Affordability (16 total points)
- Regionalization (14 total points)
- Water Efficiency (31 total points)
- Sustainability (16 total points)

The total project score is the sum of the scores for each category.

Source Water Vulnerability	
<u>Inconsistent Water Supply</u> : Project is for rehabilitation or a new source of raw water for drinking water systems that experience water outages or deficiencies in water production as demonstrated by peak demand needs.	12 Points
<u>Improve water quality in areas not currently served</u> : Project extends water service to existing residences that are not currently served by a centralized water system and the local groundwater is contaminated.	8 Points
<u>Backup source</u> : Project includes development of a second potable source of water, such as a backup well or surface water intake.	6 Points

<u>Inadequate water supply</u> : Project supplies future water production needs.	5 Points
<u>Finished Water storage</u> : Project is for additional finished water storage capacity to ensure adequate supply during emergency situations and planned outages (excluding storage requirements for fire flow). Recommended finished water storage should supply the system's demand with water for 2 days of no production. Excess storage capacity where water quality may be impacted should be avoided.	5 Points
<u>Source Water Protection Plan</u> : Water system maintains an active Source Water Protection Plan that has been updated in the last three years.	4 points
<u>Water reuse project²</u> : The project increases water efficiency, to increase potable water supply by replacing potable uses with non-potable sources, such as grey water systems and wastewater effluent reuse systems.	3 points
<u>Water Use Management</u> : Water system utilizes drought contingency or water conservation policies to manage customer demand seasonally or as needed in water shortages.	2 points
Safe Drinking Water Act Compliance	
<u>Acute violations</u> : System is in violation of acute treatment technique requirements or an MCL of an acute contaminant, and the proposed project will return the system to compliance.	20 Points
<u>Ground Water Under the Direct Influence of Surface Water (GWUDI) Sources</u> : System has received a formal GWUDI determination requiring the installation of surface water treatment, and the proposed project will meet compliance requirements.	15 Points
<u>Non-acute violations</u> : System is in violation of non-acute treatment technique requirements or MCL exceedances of non-acute contaminants, and the proposed project will return the system to compliance.	12 Points
<u>Maintains Compliance</u> : System is in compliance with state and federal drinking water regulations.	1 point
Affordability (Community Water Systems Only)	
Affordability ratio ¹ .01 to .015	6 Points
Affordability ratio ¹ greater than .015	10 Points

Regionalization	
<u>Regionalization Activities</u> : Project is a regionalization effort among two or more public water systems that results in the consolidation or physical connection of the public water systems that will begin to operate as one system, full time.	5 Points
<u>Provide regulated water service to areas not currently served</u> : Project extends water service to existing homes not currently served by a centralized water system.	5 Points
<u>Emergency Interconnection</u> : Project addresses the need for an emergency or back up source through an interconnection with another public water system.	3 Points
<u>Regional Resource Coordination</u> : System participates in a regional sharing of resources with other water system(s).	1 point
Water Efficiency	
<u>Metering</u> : Project includes metering an unmetered system.	8 Points
<u>Water Conservation</u> : Project is expected to result in 15% or more water conservation, determined using AWWA M36 methods.	6 Points
<u>Line Rehabilitation</u> : Project replaces or rehabilitates failing or inadequate distributions lines and water loss has been identified at 10% or greater.	5 points
<u>Water Pressure</u> : Project addresses a water pressure problem.	4 Points
<u>Rehabilitation</u> : Project replaces or rehabilitates failing or inadequate infrastructure or equipment, other than a water source.	4 Points
<u>Water Loss Program</u> : The system actively manages a Water Loss Program with the AWWA M36 method.	4 points
Sustainability	
<u>Asset Management</u> : Systems that have developed or are in the process of developing an asset management plan will receive one point for each core component completed. The core components are: asset inventory, level of service, critical asset assessment, life cycle costing, and long-term funding strategy.	5 Points Maximum
<u>Asset Management</u> : Project is part of a current asset management long term funding strategy	2 points

<u>Energy Efficiency</u> ² : Project implements renewable energy or energy conservation to reduce the amount of energy consumed from the grid to produce, treat and deliver water.	2 Points
<u>Green Storm water Infrastructure</u> ² : Project preserves or restores natural landscape features and establishes policies such as infill and watershed redevelopment to reduce imperviousness. Local green infrastructure practices include bio retention, green roofs, rainwater harvesting, or grey water use.	2 Points
<u>Environmentally Innovative Projects</u> ² : Project uses environmentally innovative concepts to produce, treat and/or deliver water.	2 Points
<u>Operation Improvements</u> : Project streamlines, automates, or improves operations of the system (e.g. radio read meters, looping, SCADA, additional valves).	3 Points
Total	170 Points Maximum

¹ The affordability ratio is calculated by dividing projected average annual cost for water service upon the completion of the proposed project by the Median Household Income of the public water system's service area.

² Reference for these criteria is the EPA 2011 Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund 20% Green Project Reserve: Guidance for Determining Project Eligibility.