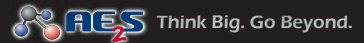


The Update

February 2008



Project Submissions Being Accepted for Minnesota State Revolving Fund Loan Programs

Project submissions are being accepted until May 2, 2008 to place public wastewater, stormwater, and drinking water infrastructure improvement projects on the Clean Water and Drinking Water Revolving Funds' respective 2009 project priority lists (PPLs). Projects must be on the appropriate PPL to be eligible for a below market rate revolving fund loan.

The two state revolving fund programs are administered by the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority (MPFA), together with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH). The MPFA must also receive a request to place a project on the 2009 Intended Use Plan (IUP) if financing will be sought for the state fiscal year 2009 (July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009).

For more information:

Clean Water Revolving Fund PPL Wastewater and Stormwater Projects
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Drinking Water Revolving Fund PPL Drinking Water Projects
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2009 IUP Placement
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In mid-January, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) released a comprehensive plan to reduce stormwater runoff and increase environmental and economic benefits for communities. The plan is intended to reduce stormwater runoff and sewer overflows by promoting "green infrastructure" techniques, technologies, and practices that reduce the amount of water and pollutants generated by a site. The USEPA's Green Infrastructure

USEPA Pushes for Green Stormwater Initiatives

Action Strategy includes seven major areas for which tasks are being developed and implemented. One of these areas is Clean Water Act (CWA) Regulatory Support. By addressing the CWA in the action strategy, USEPA is striving to overcome the misconception that regulatory programs do not allow the use of green infrastructure. Often regulatory requirements facilitate the proliferation of standard gray infrastructure because the technology is familiar to regulators and the regulated community. One preliminary effort to address the CWA component of the action strategy includes the issuance of a memo in August 2007 that clarifies that green infrastructure approaches are acceptable controls for Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs), stormwater, and other discharges within the CWA frameworks, subject to the same frameworks and requirements. Other efforts underway to promote the use of green infrastructure in CWA actions include: 1) the development of permit language that focuses stormwater management on processes of infiltration, reuse, and evapotranspiration; 2) the development of a guidebook that will discuss considerations for incorporating green infrastructure approaches for wet weather programs in permits, long term control plans (LTCPs), and settlements; 3) the development of guidance clarifying which infiltration measures are classified as class V wells and subject to underground injection control requirements to protect groundwater quality; 4) training to municipal officials on using green infrastructure to help manage wet weather regulatory programs; and 5) tools and assistance to communities in the process of developing LTCPs that may be good candidates for a model "green" plan. For more information on the Green Infrastructure Action Strategy, visit <http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/greeninfrastructure/information.cfm#greenpolicy>. ■

Compliance Costs Under Scrutiny

Legislation introduced by Senator James Inhofe (R-OK) would prevent USEPA from taking enforcement action against small drinking water systems unless the federal government has provided "sufficient" funds for compliance. The Small System Safe Drinking Water Act would develop new

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On-Line Chlorine Residual Monitoring in Question

When the Ground Water Rule was published in November 2006, EPA raised the question as to whether on-line amperometric chlorine analyzers are a Safe Drinking Water Act-approved method for monitoring chlorine residual. EPA's Technical Support Center believes that these analyzers are not an approved method and as a result, utilities using such instruments to produce compliance data under the Surface Water Treatment Rule could receive monitoring and reporting violations. On-line diethyl-p-phenylenediamine (DPD) instruments are not in question. Representatives of the American Water Works Association (AWWA) are developing a strategy to work with EPA to resolve this issue, which may involve manufacturers of amperometric chlorine analyzers demonstrating comparability with the approved method for monitoring. AWWA expects to begin meeting with EPA representatives in late February. ■

(Compliance Costs from first page)

conditions for determining the affordability of rules, develop model guidance for small systems, and create a technical assistance and training program. Funding for this Act would be authorized at \$15 million annually for fiscal years 2008-12. ■

Pharmaceuticals in Drinking Water a Hot Topic

The American Water Works Association (AWWA) recently released a Public Affairs Advisory intended to inform water utilities of a news story being compiled by the Associated Press focusing on pharmaceuticals and personal care products in drinking water and the environment. AWWA believes the resulting story may generate concern among consumers, and utilities should be prepared to discuss the topic. A list of suggested talking points on the subject accompanied the advisory. To learn more about these talking points, please email Miranda Kleven at Miranda.Kleven@ae2s.com.

Water industry professionals also will have the opportunity to learn more about emerging contaminants at the **2008 Surface Water Treatment Workshop** held on April 29 - May 1 in Moorhead, MN. Dr. James Stones will be presenting "Pharmaceuticals in Drinking Water" during the bi-annual workshop held by the Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota sections of the AWWA. For more information on the Workshop, visit www.awwand.org/swtw. ■

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