

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

Possible Funding Opportunities Available for Pima Association of Governments Projects

Project Category: Water/Wastewater

Project Description: Twin Peaks Water Line-Bluebonnet Waterline

Jurisdiction: Marana

Funding Amount Required: \$6.3 Million

Potential Funding Source and Amounts Available:

- 1) The Environmental Protection Agency, Clean Water State Revolving Funds
Available Funding: The Arizona Water Infrastructure Finance Authority is expecting to receive approximately \$26.5 Million for the Clean Water program and approximately \$55 Million for capitalization grants under the Safe Drinking Water Act (section 1452).
- 2) The United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Community Facilities Program Grants
Available Funding: \$130 Million

Authorizing Agency Contact Person:

- 1) Arizona Water Infrastructure Finance Authority, Jon Bernreuter, Phone: (602) 364-1326, E-Mail jbernreuter@azwifa.gov. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, The Clean Water State Revolving Fund Branch, Phone: (202) 564-0752.
- 2) U.S. Department of Agriculture, Community Facilities Program – (202) 720-4323; Arizona's Rural Development Office, Debra Stewart, Phone: (602) 280-8746, E-Mail debra.stewart@az.usda.gov.

Distribution or Appointment of Formula:

- 1) Competitive.
- 2) Competitive.

Grant/Program Description:

- 1) Under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, federal funds are provided to states to capitalize their respective revolving funds, which are used to provide financial assistance (loans or grants) to local governments for wastewater treatment, nonpoint source pollution control and estuary protection. The fund provides loans to municipalities at lower-than-market rates. As of 2007 the average rate was 2.1 percent nationwide, compared to an average market rate of 4.3 percent. At least 50% of funds shall be used to provide additional subsidization to eligible recipients in the form of forgiveness of principal, negative interest loans or grants, or any combination of these. Projects that address green infrastructure, water or energy efficiency improvements, or other environmentally innovative activities shall be for at least 20% of the grants. The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) is the main federal law that ensures the quality of Americans' drinking water. Under SDWA, EPA sets standards for drinking water quality and oversees the states, localities, and water suppliers who implement those standards. This act does not cover private wells serving fewer than 25 people.
- 2) Under the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, the Department of Agriculture's Rural Community Facilities Program authorizes loans and grants to build, enlarge or improve community facilities that provide essential services for rural residents. Community facilities are those providing or supporting overall community development such as child care facilities, food recovery, and distribution centers; assisted-living facilities; group homes, mental health

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clinics, and shelters; and education facilities. Projects may include community, social, cultural, transportation and industrial park facilities, fire and rescue services, access ways and utility extensions.

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Eligibility Requirements:

Eligible ARRA Clean Water Projects include water and energy efficiency projects, green infrastructure or other environmentally innovative activities; the construction of wastewater treatment plants; wastewater facilities expansions; water reclamation facilities expansions; and the construction of district sewer collection systems.

Projects to be funded under the SDWA include any and all water treatment and source water protection projects necessary to meet the SDWA requirements and protect public health.

Grant/Loan Priorities:

- 1) Projects on a state priority list that are ready to proceed to construction within 12 months of the date of enactment of this act. Priority under the SDWA will be given to the construction/upgrading of water treatment facilities and/or related activities that can proceed with construction by June 17, 2009 (within 120 days of the ARRA enactment date).
- 2) Projects that will receive priority are those that:
 - **Serve small communities** - Highest priority for projects in a community with a population of 5,000 or less.
 - **Serve low-income communities** - Highest priority going to projects serving communities with median household incomes below the higher of the poverty line or 60% of the State non-metropolitan median household income.
 - **Provide healthcare, public safety, or public and community services**

Application Instructions:

- 1) Requesting entities must submit a Project Priority List (PPL) application for each grant. The applications can be obtained by visiting the Arizona Water Infrastructure Finance Authority website at <http://www.azwifa.gov/?pageid=recoveryact>.
- 2) Detailed information and applications available through Arizona's Rural Development Office.

Application Deadline:

- 1) March 6, 2009. Please contact the Arizona Water Infrastructure Finance Authority as there may be an extension on this deadline.
- 2) Unknown.

Websites Available:

- 1) The Arizona Water Infrastructure Finance Authority Website - <http://www.azwifa.gov/?pageid=recoveryact>.
The Environmental Protection Agency, Clean Water State Revolving Funds Website - <http://www.epa.gov/owm/cwfinance/cwsrf/basics.htm>
- 2) U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development Site - http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs/cf/brief_cp_grant.htm
Arizona's Rural Development Office - <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/az/>