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2009 Economic Recovery Pre-Application
For all Drinking Water Funding Programs
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1. Q: How much money is available?
 - A. The California Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SDWSRF) program anticipates receiving approximately \$160 million federal grant award in Spring 2009 as the result of Congressional Economic Recovery Legislation.
2. Q: What is eligible for funding?
 - A. CDPH SDWSRF funding supports construction projects of public water system facilities including replacement projects (sources, treatment, distribution, and storage) to meet public health standards and system reliability consistent with state waterworks standards. Economic Recovery funding also considers the readiness of a project to proceed to construction in 2009 this year.
3. Q: Who is an eligible applicant?
 - A. Community water systems, schools that are public water systems and non-community water systems operated by not-for-profit entities are generally eligible for funding. For details, see the respective criteria at <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/drinkingwater/pages/dwppfunding.aspx>
4. Q: My system needs funding for construction projects, but I think we already submitted a preapplication last year. What should I do?
 - A. If you want Economic Recovery funding for your project you MUST submit an SDWSRF 2009 Economic Recovery Preapplication. Projects from the existing SDWSRF project priority list have not been evaluated for Economic Recovery Funding. NOTE: A ready to go project will need to meet project design and review requirements, as well as environmental review requirements (including federal cross-cutting provisions), should be able to begin construction before the end of 2009. We suggest you check existing CDPH project priority lists prior to submitting a new pre-application. If your system's project funding needs are not reflected on the existing priority lists, you should submit a new "Universal Pre-application" for each project in need of funding. Please give each pre-application a unique project title (e.g. Treatment of Jones Well for high nitrate).

5. Q: How do I apply for funding for my water system or project?
- A. All CDPH funding programs utilize the web based universal pre-application, which provides information to enable CDPH to establish project priority lists for each of the funding programs. CDPH then sends a letter of invitation to a specific group of the highest ranked systems/projects for a funding program to complete a full application for funding. The CDPH pre-application can be found at the following web site.
<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/drinkingwater/Pages/UniversalPreapplication.aspx>
6. Q: When is my pre-application due? What if I miss the deadline?
- A. The 2009 Economic Recovery Pre-Application will be available from for at least two weeks in February 2009, If you miss the deadline, you will have another opportunity to submit a pre-application during the annual CDPH preapplication period in Summer 2009.
7. Q: Can I submit a pre-application for more than one project?
- A. Yes. We recommend you identify each project with a unique name. This is especially important for similar projects (e.g. Transmission main replacement – north of Oak Street; Transmission main replacement – west of Maple Street).
8. Q: What priority list(s) will my project be placed on?
- A. Each eligible 2009 Economic Recovery Pre-Application will be evaluated and placed on the SDWSRF 2009 Economic Recovery priority list(s).
9. Q: How will the 2009 Economic Recovery Priority List be used?
- A. CDPH will use projects from the 2009 Economic Recovery Pre-Application for all invitations to apply for Economic Recovery funding provided to CDPH this federal fiscal year. If federal funding to CDPH for this purpose is more than \$160 million, additional projects could be invited from the SDWSRF 2009 Economic Recovery priority list.
10. Q: If I am placed on a priority list, does this guarantee that my project will be funded?
- A. No. Funding is available only to those projects invited to submit a complete application, and meets the deadlines of the SDWSRF 2009 Economic Recovery application and funding process.
11. Q: Can my ranking on a priority list change?
- A. The project standing on a priority list may change because other projects have been received subsequently which have a higher ranking “score” than your project. In addition, CDPH may reevaluate a project if additional information becomes available which results in a change in the project ranking “score”.

12. Q: How long will it take to receive funding to build my project?

A. The length of time after submitting an application before you will receive funds will depend upon how ready you are to proceed. Completing plans and specifications and compliance with California Environmental Quality Act are usually the most time-consuming activities. Economic Recovery funding should be available to those projects that are ready to proceed beginning the summer of 2009.

13. Q: If I submit a pre-application, what am I obligated to do?

A. There is no further obligation until your project is determined to be at a high enough ranking to receive an invitation to apply for funding. Once invited, you'll then be provided a full DWSRF application. During the CDPH evaluation process, you may be contacted for more information or to provide information missing on your pre-application.

14. Q: Do I need to hire an engineer to help me submit a pre-application?

A. No. In general, whoever completes the pre-application should know about your water system problem and the project needed to solve the problem. The pre-application can be "Saved" as "Pending" while you check for supporting information. You can revise the pending pre-application before you "Submit" it.

15. Q: What is the maximum funding (grant/loan) that can be requested?

A. There is no limit on the funding which can be requested. The SDWSRF currently does have a cap of 20 million per project and 30 million per system.

16. Q: If my project is not planned to be started before 2010, can I submit a pre-application now?

A. Yes. Your pre-application is evaluated and ranked.

17. Q: What will happen with projects on the existing priority lists (SDWSRF and Proposition 50)?

A. Pre-applications on the existing priority lists will remain on those lists. In addition, pre-applications for projects on those lists which are eligible for other CDPH funding programs will be placed on the other project priority lists with the appropriate ranking. This will particularly be done for the Proposition 84 project priority lists.

18. Q: I don't know much about using a computer/the Internet; where can I get help with the pre-application?

A. Assistance is available from the CDPH headquarters in Sacramento (916)-449-5600 (ask for help with the universal pre-application), from Drinking Water Program field offices (see attached map and contact information), or you can email ddwem.upreapp@cdph.ca.gov