Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund
Project Ranking Criteria

CATEGORY A

Definition:

Water systems with deficiencies that have resulted in documented waterborne disease outbreak illnesses that are attributable to the water systems, or water systems under a court order to correct SDWA violations and/or water outage problems.

Includes water systems that:

1. Have defects resulting in confirmed waterborne disease outbreaks; or

2. Are under court order because of a SDWA violation and have a court ordered schedule of compliance; or

3. Are under a court ordered service connection moratorium, have been directed to correct water outage problems and have a schedule of compliance.

Excludes water systems:

1. With suspected but unconfirmed waterborne disease outbreaks.

2. Under court order that does not include a directive or a compliance schedule to correct a SDWA violation or pertains to an issue not covered by SDWA.

3. Under court order to correct a water outage problem that does not contain a service connection moratorium or a compliance schedule.

4. Only under enforcement action other than court order, i.e. citations, compliance orders, domestic water permits with enforcement provisions or directives by the enforcement agency.

Documentation:

Mandatory documentation includes:

1. A sanitary survey conducted by the enforcement agency defining the acute health hazard that resulted in the disease outbreak, SDWA violation or water outage.

2. If a waterborne disease outbreak has occurred in the water system:

    a. A statement from the local health officer that a waterborne disease outbreak has occurred including the number of people ill, the suspected causative agent(s) and confirmation that the illnesses were due to water system deficiencies; and

b. Copies of the consumer notification/ boil order notifying consumers of the health hazard and written confirmation that the notification has been issued, the dates issued, and to whom.

3. If a court order has been issued to the water system:

a. A copy of the court order; and

b. A statement from the enforcement agency defining when the outages and/or SDWA violations occurred, and affirming that the deficiency still exists.

CATEGORY B

Definition:

Water systems that have repeatedly violated the total coliform MCL due to active sources contaminated with coliform bacteria (fecal, E. coli, or total coliform)

Includes water systems that:

1. Distribute water from any source contaminated with coliform bacteria that has resulted in the water system violating the coliform MCL as a result of the contamination of the source.

2. As a result of the source contamination, has had repeated confirmed bacteriological contamination in the water delivered to consumers resulting in issuance of boil water and/or bacteriological failure notifications.

Excludes water systems that:

1. Distribute water from any surface water or groundwater that is contaminated with coliform bacteria and has been reliably treated to deactivate the organisms before distribution.

2. Have not had repeated confirmed coliform contamination in the water delivered to consumers within the past 24 months.

Documentation:

Mandatory documentation includes copies of coliform analyses and total coliform MCL violations and <u>at least one</u> related enforcement actions (citations, compliance orders, compliance letter, or permit condition).

CATEGORY C

Definition:

Water systems which have (1) a surface water supply, or a groundwater under the direct influence of surface water (GWUDI) source, that is untreated or not filtered, or (2) non-GWUDI well sources that are contaminated with fecal coliform or E. coli.

Includes water systems that:

1. Have been identified as water systems with groundwater sources that are under the direct influence of surface water; or

2. Have been identified as water systems with unfiltered surface water supply that does not comply with the federal or state filtration avoidance criteria: or

3. Have well sources that are bacteriologically contamination with fecal coliform or E. coli (but are not in violation of the coliform MCL).

Documentation:

Mandatory documentation includes a copy of a copy of the annual inspection report, sanitary survey, source water assessment, or deficiency report describing the deficiency. If a fecal coliform or E. coli contaminated well, mandatory documentation includes copy of bacteriological results.

CATEGORY D

Definition:

Water systems that have (1) surface water sources or GWUDI sources with filtration treatment deficiencies that violate federal or state regulations concerning surface water treatment requirements; or (2) non-GWUDI wells that are contaminated with fecal coliform or E. coli and are inadequately treated.

Includes water systems with any of the following water treatment deficiencies:

1. Filtration process without an approved filtration technology.
2. Disinfection facilities that do not comply with the federal or state surface water treatment requirements.
3. Surface water treatment facilities not meeting performance standards.
4. Wells with disinfection only or unreliable bacteriological treatment.

Excludes water systems with:

1. Properly designed diatomaceous earth or slow sand filtration.
2. Quality failures due to chemical dosage problems.
3. Quality failures due to operational deficiencies unrelated to infrastructure problems.
4. Projects involving raw water reservoir construction.

Documentation:

Mandatory documentation includes:

1. If there are turbidity standard failures, turbidity analyses reports confirming turbidity standard failures.
2. Annual inspection report, sanitary survey or deficiency report evaluating the compliance of the system with applicable requirements.
3. Copies of any related enforcement actions.

CATEGORY E

Definition:

Water systems with water outages or significant water quantity problems caused by source water capacity or water delivery capability that is insufficient to supply current demand.

Includes water systems:

1. That have had water quantity related connection moratoriums/limitations imposed by enforcement documentation, i.e. citation, compliance order, or permit provision; and

2. Where the water outages have been documented, frequent, and prolonged due to lack of sufficient source or water delivery capacity.

3. Where non-permitted sources have been used to maintain water pressure in the system.

4. Where water outages or shortages have resulted in enforcement action or permit condition directing that new sources be developed or requiring improvement be made in the water delivery system.

5. Where an independent engineering evaluation demonstrates that the water system's existing sources cannot supply the current demand without creating significant water quantity problems.

Excludes water systems:

1. That have been directed by letter not to add connections; or

2. Where building moratoriums/limitations have been initiated for reasons other than insufficient source capacity problems.

3. Where standby water sources are used to meet peak demand.

Documentation:

Mandatory documentation includes:

1. Enforcement document imposing connection moratorium/limitation or requiring new water source development or system improvement;

2. If water outages have occurred, records indicating the dates, times, areas affected and actions taken when water outages occurred.

3. Records indicating the dates and times during which non-permitted (emergency) water sources were used to meet demand, if applicable.

4. Records reflecting the enactment and imposition of emergency restrictions on water use including elimination of outdoor water usage, if applicable.

5. If an independent engineering evaluation demonstrating that the water system has insufficient source capacity and cannot reliably meet existing demand is the basis of the ranking, a copy of that evaluation, and a letter, permit requirement, citation, or compliance order CDPH indicating concurrence with the report's conclusions.

CATEGORY F

Definition:

Water systems that (1) distribute water containing nitrates/nitrites in excess of the MCL; or (2) distribute water containing perchlorate in excess of the MCL; or (3) water systems that are in violation of the Total Coliform Rule for reasons other than source contamination.

Includes water systems that:

1. Have removed a well from service to avoid violation of the MCL, if the well remains an “active” water source

Excludes water systems that:

1. Distribute water from high nitrate/nitrite sources that are reliably blended or treated to meet the nitrate/nitrite standard.

2. Distribute water from high perchlorate sources that are reliably blended or treated to meet the perchlorate standard.

3. Have violated the nitrate/nitrate standard in the past but have no recurring violation in the past **24 months**.

4. Have violated the perchlorate standard in the past but have no recurring violation in the past **24 months**.

5. Have reclassified the well to stand-by or emergency status through a permit change,

6. Have failed to maintain required monitoring on well or have removed pump or power supply from well.

7. Have violated the TCR in the past but have no recurring violation in the **past 24 months.**

Documentation:

Mandatory documentation includes

1. Nitrate/nitrite analysis reports confirming the concentration exceeds the MCL, if applicable

2. Perchlorate analysis reports confirming the concentration exceeds the MCL, if applicable

3. Monitoring results showing Total Coliform Rule Violation, if applicable

4. Related public notification and enforcement action, if any.

CATEGORY G

Definition:

Water systems that distribute water containing chemical or radiological contamination exceeding a State or Federal **primary** drinking water standard.

Includes water systems that:

1. Distribute water that is in excess of a federally adopted primary drinking water standard even though the State has not yet adopted the primary standard.

2. Violate the primary drinking water standards for lead or copper.

Excludes water systems that:

1. Distribute water from sources exceeding a primary MCL (chemical or radiological) that is reliably blended or treated to meet the MCL.

2. Have reclassified the well to stand-by or emergency status via permit change.

3. Have failed to maintain required monitoring on well or have removed pump or power supply from well.

4. Distribute water from sources that only exceed a secondary MCL.

5. Distribute water that exceeds the nitrate//nitrite MCL, or perchlorate MCL (such projects are in Category F).

6. Have violated the chemical or radiological MCL in the past but have no recurring violation in the past **24 months**.

Documentation:

Mandatory documentation includes

1. Reports of analyses confirming the concentration exceeds a primary MCL.

2. Related public notification and enforcement action, if any.

CATEGORY H

Definition:

(1) Water systems with uncovered distribution reservoirs or reservoirs with floating covers that are in active use; (2) projects to provide water meters for systems which do not presently measure water delivered to customers.

Includes water systems with:

1. Treated water reservoirs that do not have a rigid structural roof (e.g. floating covers).

2. Non-metered customer service connections.

Excludes water systems with:

1. Treated water reservoirs that receive subsequent filtration treatment and comply with the Surface Water Treatment Regulations.

2. Seeking to upgrade existing metered customer service connections.

Documentation:

Mandatory documentation includes

1. Annual inspection report, deficiency report, or sanitary survey with photographs of the reservoir if applicable, or

2. Annual water system report reflecting flat rate billing of customers.

CATEGORY I

Definition:

Water systems that do not meet federal or state treatment or monitoring requirements related to disinfectants or disinfection by-products; or water systems which comply with surface water treatment requirements, but are not in conformance with the California Cryptosporidium Action Plan.

Includes water systems that:

1. Conform with federal or state surface water treatment requirements, but not the Cryptosporidium Action Plan.

2. Are unable to comply with the treatment or monitoring requirements related to disinfectants and disinfection by products.

Excludes water systems that:

1. Do not meet surface water treatment requirements; (These should be in Category D)

2. Do not meet a specific primary drinking water standard MCL for a disinfectant by-product. (These should be in Category G).

3. Do not meet disinfection requirements, or disinfection by-product requirements, including monitoring requirements, due to operational deficiencies unrelated to infrastructure.

Documentation:

Mandatory documentation includes

1. Annual inspection report, sanitary survey or deficiency report describing the deficiency,

2. Related enforcement action, if any.

CATEGORY J

Definition:

Water systems that are in violation of those portions of the Water Works Standards that could result in the entry of wastewater into the water supply or distribution system.

Includes water systems with any of the following:

1. Distribution lines which may be subject to back-siphonage from wastewater or recycled water facilities.

2. Wells, mains, or storage facilities located in, or in close proximity to, sewage, sewage disposal areas, dairies, animal waste storage areas, feed lots, corrals, or other such animal enclosures.

3. Separation of water mains and sewer mains that do not comply with the Water Works Standards.

4. Improperly constructed or maintained wells, storage, treatment or distribution facilities which are situated in close proximity to sewage.

Excludes:

1. Water main and sewer main cross-overs which have been satisfactorily designed and which provide an adequate degree of protection for the water main.

Documentation:

Mandatory documentation includes

1. Annual inspection report, sanitary survey, source water assessment, or deficiency report describing the violation.

2. Related enforcement action or enforcement letter, if any.

CATEGORY K

Definition:

Water systems that operate disinfection facilities that lack needed reliability features, chlorine residual analyzers and alarms or have other disinfection deficiencies that violate the Water Works Standards.

Includes water systems with disinfection equipment that:

1. Does not have automatic switchover devices on manifolded chlorine cylinders.

2. Does not have a chlorine residual analyzer, chart recording device, and appropriate alarms.

3. Does not have reliable backup equipment (spare chemical feed pumps, etc.).

4. Does not have the necessary leak detection, safety and handling equipment.

Excludes:

1. Disinfection equipment that meets the reliability criteria.

2. Change of disinfectant when no defect exists in the disinfection facilities.

Documentation:

Mandatory documentation includes an annual inspection report or deficiency report requiring the installation of reliability features, monitoring and control features, or safety alarms.

CATEGORY L

Definition:

Water systems that: (1) distribute water in excess of the iron or manganese secondary standard and **for which a compliance order has been issued**; (2) distribute water in excess of a Department published chemical **notification level**; (3) distribute water which has exceeded a primary drinking water standard in one or more samples, but has not violated the standard (for a running average standard) at this time; or (4) need treatment for a standby groundwater source that is contaminated in excess of a primary drinking water standard.

Includes water systems that:

1. Distribute water that exceeds the iron or manganese secondary standard, **and** are under a compliance order to correct the exceedance;

2. Distribute water that exceeds the published chemical notification level;

3. Distribute water from a source which exceeds the primary drinking water standard in one or more samples (for a running average standard), but does not violate the standard;

4. Rely on a standby groundwater source, as identified in the water permit, which exceeds the primary drinking water standard.

Excludes water systems that:

1. Distribute water from sources exceeding a notification level that is reliably blended or treated to meet the notification level.

2. Distribute water exceeding the iron or manganese standard for which no compliance order has been issued.

3. Seek treatment for any **inactive well** that has not been designated as a "standby" source in the water permit.

4. Seek treatment for an **emergency water source** which exceeds the primary MCL.

Documentation:

Mandatory documentation includes

1. Reports of analyses confirming the contaminant concentration exceeds the primary drinking water standard, proposed primary drinking water standard, or notification level.

2. For iron and manganese, a related compliance order is required.

CATEGORY M

Definition:

Water systems that do not meet the Water Works Standards (other than those components already covered by the above listed categories) and water systems that do not meet the TMF criteria but do not have a project in any of the above categories.

Includes water systems that:

1. Have TMF deficiencies that will be purchased or taken over by a large water system but have no other problems.

2. Are in violation of the Water Works Standards.

3. Lack adequate security measures for water system facilities.

CATEGORY N

Definition:

Water systems that distribute water that exceeds secondary standards.

Documentation:

Mandatory documentation includes data confirming source water supply does not comply with the secondary standards.

Includes:

1. .. Iron / Manganese violations without enforcement action

Excludes:

1. Iron / Manganese violations **with formal enforcement action** (rank as category L)

CATEGORY O

Definition:

(1) All water system deficiencies that are eligible and are not covered in any of the above categories. (2) Water conservation projects not covered in any of the above categories.

Includes:

1. Improvement or replacement of source, storage, treatment, or distribution system facilities.

2. Provision of backup or reliability features not associated with another project, well rehabilitation, additional source acquisition, etc.

3. Water conservation projects not excluded from funding by federal or state statute or regulations.