



MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES LABORATORY EQUIPMENT PURCHASE

The Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) tests water and wastewater samples from across Montana in its Environmental Laboratory. DPHHS plans to use Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) emerging contaminants funding to purchase new laboratory equipment that will enable the State to test wastewater and surface water samples for several emerging contaminants, including PFAS, lithium and 1,4-dioxane. The State will also purchase new control valves for its HVAC system, which will enable the laboratory to maintain an optimal temperature for water quality testing in accordance with EPA approved methods.

Emerging Contaminants:
PFAS, Lithium, 1,4-Dioxane

Project Type:
Lab equipment purchase

Purchase of specialized equipment and upgrades to its laboratory facility will enable DPHHS to expand its monitoring capabilities and allow the State to identify communities, particularly small and disadvantaged communities, that have emerging contaminant issues. After communities are identified, the State then plans to conduct outreach and targeted support to help those communities obtain planning grants and eventually develop capital projects to address emerging contaminants. This initial CWSRF investment in emerging contaminants monitoring equipment and laboratory capabilities will help the State address the communities with the highest need and make the most efficient and effective use of its limited emerging contaminants funding.

Eligibilities:

The proposed project is a planning/assessment project. It will enable the DPHHS to monitor for emerging contaminants in wastewater and surface water samples and help the State target communities and support planning and assessment activities that will inform the development of capital projects to address emerging contaminant challenges. Per Section 603(c)(1) and 603(c)(2), CWSRF financing is available to any municipality or intermunicipal, interstate, or State agency for the construction of publicly owned treatment works and to support the implementation of a non-point source management plan. To be eligible for the CWSRF emerging contaminants funds:

1. The presence of an emerging contaminant(s) needs to be confirmed: DPHHS has identified the emerging contaminants that will be the focus of its planning/assessment activities and the associated lab equipment that is needed to support those planning efforts. This equipment will help potential CWSRF emerging contaminants fund recipients confirm the presence of emerging contaminants.
2. A capital project needs to be identified: The purchase and installation of new laboratory equipment to monitor emerging contaminants in Montana's wastewaters and surface waters is a capital project.

All of the above make the proposed project eligible for CWSRF emerging contaminants funds.