

NEW YORK STATE'S SOLICITATION PROCESS SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PLANNING PROJECTS

The State of New York successfully solicited 11 emerging contaminants (EC) projects for its Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) EC federal fiscal Year 2022 (FFY22) funds. The projects are primarily planning efforts focused on addressing PFAS and 1,4-dioxane in source water and landfill leachate.

In addition to its typical Intended Use Plan solicitation process for FFY22 funds, the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) hosted a webpage

Emerging Contaminants: PFAS, 1,4-Dioxane

Project Type:

Source water protection/ Capital project planning

with specific information related to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, attended conferences, and held webinars for potential applicants as part of the process for soliciting potential EC projects. In its initial outreach the State did not receive any listings for EC projects. To encourage project submissions, EFC adjusted to a rolling solicitation process for EC projects and partnered with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to identify eligible projects, specifically targeting known contaminated sites and inactive landfills where the projects would benefit environmental justice areas.

The DEC has been working for the past several years with the New York State Department of Health (DOH) to develop standards and testing procedures and implement monitoring for emerging contaminants such as PFAS and 1,4-dioxane, as well as harmful algal blooms (HABs). DEC assisted EFC in identifying locations where these contaminants were detected in source water, particularly in and around industrial facilities such as airports, metal working facilities, fire training facilities, and landfills. The State targeted its outreach in these areas with the intent of funding projects to further investigate and begin planning for capital projects to address the emerging contaminants in source water. Once potential funding applicants were identified, staff from New York State's CWSRF team conducted one-on-one phone calls with each potential recipient to help them through the process. This assistance included providing information on application materials and how to comply with federal requirements.

Eligibilities:

CWSRF financing, including EC funding, is available for many types of source water protection projects, including green and grey infrastructure water quality solutions for both surface water and groundwater. Per Section 603(c)(2) of the Clean Water Act, CWSRF financing is available to projects that implement identified goals of a state's nonpoint source management program. To be eligible for the CWSRF, EC funds:

- 1. The presence of an emerging contaminant(s) needs to be confirmed. The State has confirmed emerging contaminants are present in the project areas.
- 2. A capital project needs to be identified. Funding will be used for planning and assessment to develop a Record of Decision (Engineering Report) that will identify future capital projects to address the emerging contaminants and can be used to list construction projects for EC funding in future years.
- 3. Monitoring proposed as part of a project needs to be integral to capital project development. Further monitoring and investigation are essential to understand project locations and potential treatment options.

All of the above make the proposed projects eligible for CWSRF EC funds.

