



OFFICE OF GROUND WATER AND DRINKING WATER

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Availability-Based Project Waiver of American Iron and Steel Requirements for 24-Inch Insertion Resilient Wedge Gate Valves to the City of Marshalltown, Iowa, Marshalltown Water Works Project
Waiver Number 07-DWA-0014

FROM: Jennifer L. McLain, Director

Decision: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is granting an availability-based project-specific waiver pursuant to the American Iron and Steel (AIS) requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) to the City of Marshalltown, Iowa (Applicant) for the purchase of 24-inch insertion resilient wedge gate valves for the Marshalltown Water Works Project. This waiver permits the use of these valves because no known manufacturers produce domestic products that meet the technical specifications of the project. This project-specific waiver applies only to the use of the specified products for the referenced project funded by the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF). Any other project funded by the DWSRF, Clean Water State Revolving Fund, or the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act that wishes to use the same product must request a separate waiver based on the specific project circumstances.

Rationale: The AIS provision requires DWSRF assistance recipients to use specific domestic iron and steel products if the project is funded through an SRF assistance agreement unless the EPA determines that it is necessary to waive this requirement. The EPA has the authority to issue waivers in accordance with Section 1452(a)(4)(C)(ii) of the SDWA. The provision states in part: “[the requirements] shall be waived in any case or category of cases in which the Administrator [of the Environmental Protection Agency] ...finds that... iron and steel products are not produced in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available quantities and of a satisfactory quality.”

Background of Waiver Request: The purpose of the project is the construction of a new 6 million gallon per day reverse osmosis treatment process train at the Marshalltown Water Works existing treatment plant site, including a detention basin, water treatment buildings, dual-media gravity filters, installation of pre-procured reverse osmosis membrane system, water treatment chemical storage and feed systems, site piping, additional high service pumping, and electrical work and instrumentation and controls associated with the new water treatment equipment. The project also includes the construction of a new chemical and pump building at the existing Marshalltown Water Works water

treatment plant that will include new booster pumps and chemical feed and storage. The 24-inch insertion resilient wedge gate valve is required on the finished water transmission main that conveys treated water from the treatment plant to the distribution system. The valve will be installed on an existing transmission main to maintain service to the City of Marshalltown during construction while providing isolation and operational flexibility without requiring an extended shutdown of the main. Because this is a critical finished water transmission main, the insertion valve will help maintain service reliability during construction.

The Applicant conducted research to find a domestic manufacturer of AIS-compliant 24-inch insertion resilient wedge gate valves and provided information to the EPA demonstrating that there are no domestic manufacturers producing 24-inch insertion resilient wedge gate valves that meet the project's technical specifications.

Assessment of Waiver Request: The EPA conducted market research and a public comment period on the supply and availability of the insertion gate valves. The basis of evaluation included thorough review of the waiver request submission, examination of domestic manufacturer catalogs or other technical data and marketing materials, personal communication with domestic manufacturers, inquiries of state staff, and outreach to contractors and engineers with expertise and familiarity with the project. During market research, the EPA contacted ten (10) manufacturers and suppliers of insertion gate valves. There were no (zero) manufacturers who indicated they could provide valves or fittings that meet the technical specifications of the project and are AIS compliant.

Per statutory requirement, the waiver request was posted on the EPA's AIS website for the mandatory 15-day public comment period. The EPA received one (1) public comment on this waiver request. The comment was from a manufacturer who confirmed that they do not manufacture AIS-compliant 24-inch insertion resilient wedge gate valves.

Finding: The EPA is granting an availability-based waiver from the AIS requirements to the City of Marshalltown, IA for the Marshalltown Water Works Project with respect to 24-inch insertion resilient wedge gate valves. This waiver permits the purchase of 24-inch insertion resilient wedge gate valves using DWSRF funds as documented in the State of Iowa's waiver request submittal on behalf of the Applicant dated May 15, 2026.

Legal Authority: Legal authority for the AIS requirements for DWSRF projects, including waiver authority, is included in the Safe Drinking Water Act section 1452(a)(4).

If you have any questions concerning the contents of this memorandum, please contact the American Iron and Steel team at SRF_AIS@epa.gov.