DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND INTENDED USE PLAN FOR THE FFY24 AND FFY25 DWSRF EMERGING CONTAMINANTS FUNDING IIJA, 2021

Submitted to the



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IV

By the



Florida Department of Environmental Protection

March 2025

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Revisions:

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1. Introduction

President Biden signed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) on November 15, 2021. The IIJA provides \$5 billion through the State Revolving Funds (SRFs) to reduce people's exposure to perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and other emerging contaminants (ECs) through their drinking water. The IIJA provides emerging contaminants funding through the SRFs that must be distributed to communities entirely as forgivable loans or grants. States are not required to provide matching funds.

To receive IIJA funding, states must submit an Intended Use Plan (IUP) to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Section 1452(b) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires the states to prepare a plan identifying the intended uses of the funds in the SRF and describing how those uses support the goals of the SRF. An IUP, meeting all requirements of Section 1452 of the SDWA and regulations, will be required for EPA's approval of a grant award and release of awarded funds. Public engagement is strongly encouraged during the state's solicitation stage to ensure an abundance of diverse applicants as the IUP is being developed.

IIJA EC Capitalization Grant Summary											
Federal Fiscal Year Grant	Grant Amount	Required Equivalency	Required Minimum Subsidization (25%)								
FFY2022-2023 Reallotment ¹	\$68,000.00	\$68,000.00	\$17,000.00								
FFY2023-2024 Reallotment ¹	\$784,000.00	\$784,000.00	\$196,000.00								
FFY 2024-2025	\$27,572,000.00	\$27,572,000.00	\$6,893,000.00								
FFY 2025-2026	\$27,572,000.00	\$27,572,000.00	\$6,893,000.00								
FFY2022-2023 Reallotment	\$68,000.00	\$68,000.00	\$17,000.00								

The State of Florida will receive EPA Capitalization Grants for the following federal fiscal years (FFYs):

 Reallotment is assumed to go with the FFY2024-2025 IIJA EC Capitalization Grant; therefore, added to the FFY2024-2025 IIJA EC Capitalization Grant in following tables.

The DWSRF IIJA EC allotments will be used to provide financial assistance for the DWSRF program. No state match is required for these Capitalization Grants. The DWSRF IIJA EC Capitalization Grant funds will be distributed as outlined by this plan.

FDEP has set its short and long term goals of this IUP to align with EPA's strategic goals and objectives <u>FY</u> <u>2022-2026 EPA Strategic Plan</u>. The Office of Water has identified specific measures that address the strategic goals and objectives outlined by EPA in its strategic plan. A basis for each goal in this program IUP has been identified. These references ensure that all of the specific commitments made by the State are properly correlated to the strategic goals and objectives of the Agency.

2. Program Goals

A. Short Term Goals - Outputs

- A. To provide DWSRF assistance to the extent there are sufficient eligible project applications of the DWSRF IIJA EC Capitalization Grant for projects to address Emerging Contaminants as identified on EPA's Contaminant Candidate Lists (CCL).
- B. To provide DWSRF loans with additional subsidization in the form of principal forgiveness for not less than 100% of the DWSRF IIJA EC Capitalization Grants.
- C. At least 25% of the DWSRF IIJA EC Capitalization Grants will be subsidization to the state-defined disadvantaged communities. Should subsidization remain available, communities serving a population of 25,000 or less will receive subsidization.
- D. To ensure the projects receiving any Federal funds are in compliance with the Build America Buy America (BABA) Act passed by Congress in 2021, concurrently with the IIJA (Deliverable).
- E. To ensure that American Iron and Steel and Davis-Bacon Act wage rules apply to all assistance agreements made with funds appropriated under the IIJA EC Capitalization Grant (Deliverable).
- F. To implement the State's DWSRF in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act and to ensure conformance with Federal crosscutting requirements (Deliverable).
- G. To protect the public health and the environment and promote the completion of cost-effective water treatment, storage, and distribution facilities.
- H. The inspection team will perform timely on-site inspections and monitoring to assure compliance with IIJA BABA, Davis-Bacon wage rules, and American Iron and Steel requirements, and provide deliverables such as notes, checklists, and photos, outlining the items inspected, staff in attendance and any deviations from the requirements that require addressing.

B. Long Term Goals - Outcomes

- A. To maintain the DWSRF program and the long-term fiscal integrity of the fund.
- B. To provide a self-perpetuating source of financial assistance for the construction of public water treatment and distribution facilities needed to meet the public health goals of the Safe Drinking Water Act.
- C. To fund projects which will have a positive impact on public health and ensure compliance with the SDWA.
- D. To ensure the applicable DWSRF projects are in compliance with the Federal Davis-Bacon Act and American Iron and Steel requirements (Deliverable).
- E. Make funds available from the IIJA EC Capitalization Grants for projects to address infrastructure, water or energy efficiency improvements, or other environmentally innovative activities.
- F. Ensure Clean and Safe Water for All Communities by funding projects that prioritize Safe Drinking Water and Reliable Water Infrastructure and Protect and Restore Waterbodies and

Watersheds by addressing sources of water pollution and projects that ensure water quality standards and protective of the health and environment.

3. Program Changes

To successfully implement the IIJA EC Capitalization Grant, DWSRF, in accordance with Chapter 62-552.300(8), Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), made exceptions to the following rules made:

- A. 62-552.300(1)(b) readiness-to-proceed criteria for the documentation to be timely submitted to compete for funding at a project priority list meeting.
- B. 62-552.300(1)(d) readiness-to-proceed deadline for the submittal and response to Department comments of documentation to appear on the project priority list.
- C. 62-552.300(2) Allocations of principal forgiveness percentage based on loan agreement.
- D. 62-552.500 Funds reserved for specific purposes.

The original priority ranking system targets items that address maximum contaminant level (MCL) violations and acute public health from regulated contaminants. By prioritizing ECs on the EPA Contaminant Candidate Lists to meet the congressional intention of the IIJA EC Capitalization Grants, any regulated contaminant will be ineligible for this funding. Additionally, ranking of potential projects was based on the detected concentration of an EC listed on EPA Contaminant Candidate Lists.

Additionally, DWSRF will implement the Build America Buy America Act (BABA) as stated in 41 USC 8301 for projects funded through DWSRF IIJA EC Capitalization Grants. BABA will be implemented for these fiscal years and be required for projects funded through the DWSRF. BABA is considered a federal cross-cutting requirement that applies to SRF assistance equivalent to the IIJA EC Capitalization Grants (i.e., "equivalency" projects). EPA's SRF regulations at 40 CFR 35.3145 and 35.3575 require states and recipients of SRF funds equivalent to the amount of the capitalization grant to comply with federal cross-cutting requirements. Section 70914 of the IIJA, which states when a Buy America preference applies, explains that "none of the funds made available for a Federal financial assistance program for infrastructure may be obligated for a project unless all of the iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in the project are produced in the United States." Therefore, BABA only applies to projects funded in an amount equivalent to the federal capitalization grant.

4. SRF Data System

The DWSRF will enter required data into the Office of Water State Revolving Funds (OWSFR) database to track drinking water projects and report no less than quarterly to the EPA.

5. Coordination with State Drinking Water Enforcement Agency

The DWSRF will coordinate with funding priorities with the Division of Water Resource Management, the state drinking water enforcement agency.

6. Operating Agreement

The DWSRF shall comply with all of the requirements of the DWSRF Operating Agreement made with EPA dated April 1998, including the assurances contained therein. The Operating Agreement is incorporated by reference. Additionally, the DWSRF Operating Agreement is in revision for updates and will be complied with once approved by the EPA and the FDEP.

The State agrees to comply with all Title VI requirements of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

7. Capacity Development and Operator Certification

The DWSRF will continue to demonstrate compliance with the capacity development authority, capacity development strategy, and operator certification program provisions as described in the Base and IIJA General Supplemental Intended Use Plans and funded from Unliqidated Obligations from set-asides taken from these Capitalization Grants and associated modifications.

8. Public Notice and Public Meetings

To ensure interested parties were made aware of the public meeting, notice of the public meeting for the DWSRF project priority list adoption and DWSRF EC project list was published in the Florida Administrative Register, Volume 50, Number 141, on July 19, 2024 (**Attachment A**). To ensure the public has an opportunity to review a draft version of the Intended Use Plan for EC was presented to the public at least one week prior to August 14, 2024, public meeting

To ensure interested parties were made aware of the public meeting, notice of the public meeting for the DWSRF project priority list adoption and DWSRF EC project list was published in the Florida Administrative Register, Volume 51, Number 11, on January 16, 2025 (**Attachment A**). To ensure the public has an opportunity to review a draft version of the Intended Use Plan for EC was presented to the public at least one week prior to February 12, 2025, public meeting.

These meetings provide a forum for discussing the overall purpose, format, and content of the IUP including the types of assistance being provided through the DWSRF project account and set-aside account, the long- and short-term goals of the program, the priority system used to rank individual projects, and the proposed list of EC projects to receive funding from the IIJA EC Capitalization Grant funds.

Comments for the Project Priority Lists are accepted during the public meetings and written comments until the Final Agency Action is issued. These comments are incorporated into the IUP until the IUP is ready to be presented to the public for comment. During the February 2025 public meeting, the DWSRF presented and discussed the draft IUP and Project Priority Lists for ECs, written comments were received and responded to by the DWSRF (**Attachment B**). Following the issuance of the Final Agency

Action for the February 2025 public meeting, final comments and responses were issued and the IUP determined to be final.

9. Public Health Outputs

DWSRF will continue to assist public health outputs as described in the Base and IIJA General Supplemental Intended Use Plans and funded from Unliqidated Obligations from set-asides taken from these Capitalization Grants and associated modifications. No set-asides are requested for public health outputs from the IIJA EC Capitalization Grant.

10. Program Evaluation Report

DWSRF anticipates receiving and responding to Program Evaluation Report (PER) and audit findings for FFY2023-2024 in calendar year 2025, during and following the Annual Review/PER in March 2025.

11. Sources and Use of the Funds

DWSRF is anticipating to fund the FFY 2025 projects using IIJA EC Capitalization Grants from multiple FFYs and from reallotments. No state match is required for the IIJA EC Capitalization Grants. No setasides are allotted from the IIJA EC Capitalization Grants. One hundred percent of the funding from the IIJA EC Capitalization Grants will be used as subsidy. At least 25% of the IIJA EC Capitalization Grants will be subsidization to the state-defined disadvantaged communities. The State definition of a small community is a municipality or unincorporated community or other identifiable entity with a total service area population of less than 10,000. A financially disadvantaged community is defined as a municipality, county or agency (such as a county-wide department) thereof, franchised area, or other entity with a defined public water system service jurisdiction having a median household income of less than the statewide average.

No funds from the IIJA EC Capitalization grants will be recaptured through investment earnings, loan repayments, or service fees.

The estimated sources and uses of the funds in the DWSRF Program are as follows:

SOURCE OF FUNDS	
FEDERAL FUNDS	AMOUNT
FFY2022-2023 Reallotment ¹	\$68,000.00
FFY2023-2024 Reallotment ¹	\$784,000.00
FFY 2024-2025	\$27,572,000.00
FFY 2025-2026	\$27,572,000.00
STATE FUNDS	
SFY 2023-2024 Matching Funds Appropriated by the FL Legislature	\$0.00
SFY 2024-2025 Matching Funds Appropriated by the FL Legislature	\$0.00
SFY 2024-2025 Loan Repayments	\$0.00
Interest on Idle SRF Funds	\$0.00
PRIOR YEARS' BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD	
Deobligated Loan Funds	\$0.00
Recaptured Funds from Unused Previously Encumbered Money	\$0.00
Total Available Funds	\$55,996,000.00

 Reallotment is assumed to go with the FFY2024-2025 IIJA EC Capitalization Grant; therefore, added to the FFY2024-2025 IIJA EC Capitalization Grant in following tables.

USE OF FUNDS	
PROJECTS	AMOUNT
SFY 2024-2025 Fundable Portion of the Project Priority List (Attachment C)	\$28,424,000.00
SFY 2024-2025 Waiting Portion of the Project Priority List (Attachment C)	\$31,210,751.00
SFY 2024-2025 Total Use of Funds	\$59,634,751.00
SFY 2025-2026 Fundable Portion of the Project Priority List (Attachment C)	\$27,572,00.00
SFY 2025-2026 Waiting Portion of the Project Priority List (Attachment C)	\$3,638,751.00
SFY 2025-2026 Total Use of Funds	\$31,210,751.00

FFY 2024-2025 IIJA EC Capitalization Grant Equivalency Projects									
Project Sponsor	Project Sponsor Project Number								
Boynton Beach	Boynton Beach DW-50130								
Port Richey	DW-51080	\$4,250,000.00 \$3,571,930.00							
Orange City	DW-6420A								
Marion County	DW-42063	\$1,250,000.00							
Sanford	Sanford DW-42063								
Total Equ	\$28,424,000								
Total Equivalency F	Required for FFY2024-2025	\$28,424,000							

FFY 2025-2026 IIJA EC Capitalization Grant Equivalency Projects							
Project Sponsor	SRF Loan Amount						
Sanford	\$27,572,000.00						
Total Equ	\$27,572,000.00						
Total Equivalency F	\$27,572,000.00						

FFY 2024-2025 IIJA EC Capitalization Grant Subsidy Projects										
Project Sponsor	Subsidy Amount									
Sanford ²	Sanford ² DW-59016 \$19,323,249.00									
Boynton Beach ²	DW-50130	\$28,821.00	\$28,821.00							
Port Richey ²	DW-51080 \$4,250,000.00 DW-6420A \$3,571,930.00	\$4,250,000.00	\$4,250,000.00							
Orange City ²		\$3,571,930.00	\$3,571,930.00							
Marion County ¹	DW-42063	\$1,250,000.00	\$1,250,000.00							
	Total Subsidy Projects Listed (100%)									
Minimum Subsidy Amount for	\$7,106,000.00									

Marion is applying to support a financially disadvantaged small community with PFAS detections to connect to their potable water system to provide safe drinking water to the Lowell community.
Qualifies as a financially disadvantaged community.

FFY 2024-2025 IIJA EC Capitaliz	
Project Sponsor	Subsidy Amount
Sanford ¹	\$27,572,000.00
Minimum Subsidy Amount for	
-	\$6,893,000.00
	\$27,572,000.00

1. Qualifies as a financially disadvantaged community.

It is not anticipated the source of funds will exceed the use of funds. Should projects not move forward expeditiously DWSRF will utilize the bypass procedure to elevate projects from the waiting list to the fundable list, up to the amount of funds available, to ensure that the IIJA EC Capitalization Grant is utilized expeditiously.

At the time of this IUP, Florida does not have Unliquidated Obligations (ULO) related to the IIJA EC Capitalization Grants.

12. Cash Draw

Attachment D provides the "Automated Clearing House" payment schedule for FFY 2024-2025 and FFY2025-2026 funding and identifies the timing of the cash outlays by the Federal government. The anticipated cash draw is for 25% of the IIJA EC grant on a quarterly basis. As there is no state match, there will be no match drawdown.

13. Loan Agreements and Binding Commitments

DWSRF will assure that all funds are expended in an expeditious and timely manner, by executing binding agreements in an amount equal to not less than 100 percent of the amount of each IIJA EC Capitalization Grant payment within 1 year after the receipt of such capitalization grant payment.

No additional binding commitments are anticipated with the IIJA EC Capitalization Grant.

14. Assistance, Terms, and Fees

The assistance to be provided by the IIJA EC Capitalization Grants are loan agreements with 100% subsidization for planning, design, and construction. The initial funding will be conducted as a planning or a planning and design loan agreement. As a project progresses to design, the loan agreement will be amended, if funds are available, to include design. Once design is complete, a loan agreement will be written for the construction, if funds are available. Each phase is dependent on available funding and will be conducted in priority ranking until funds are exhausted.

The fundable project priority lists itemizing the output/outcomes of the policies and procedures outlined in this Intended Use Plan for the FFY 2024-2025 and FFY 2025-2026 funds is included in **Attachment C**.

The term of the loan agreement is closed at the completion of the planning/design phase and then the construction phase. As the IIJA EC Grant is to be provided as 100% subsidization, no use of market rate determination and calculation of a loan interest rate is conducted. Additionally, no use of service fees is assessed on assistance recipients.

15. Transfer of Funds

DWSRF does not anticipate a need to transfer funds to Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF); however; DWSRF does reserve the right to in the future as needed.

16. Cross-Collateralization

DWSRF funds will not be used for debt security. There is no cross-collateralization of programs.

17. Selection of Projects

DWSRF is anticipating to fund FFY 2024-2025 and FFY 2025-2026 projects using the IIJA EC Capitalization Grant. No state match is required for the IIJA EC Capitalization Grant. One-hundred percent of the funding from the IIJA EC Capitalization Grants will be used as subsidy. At least 25% of the DWSRF IIJA EC Capitalization Grant will be subsidization to the state-defined disadvantaged communities. The State definition of a small community is a municipality or unincorporated community or other identifiable entity with a total service area population of less than 10,000. A financially disadvantaged community is defined as a municipality, county or agency (such as a county-wide department) thereof, franchised area, or other entity with a defined public water system service jurisdiction having a median household income of less than the statewide average.

For a project or activity to be eligible for funding under this appropriation, it must be otherwise DWSRF eligible and the primary purpose must be to address emerging contaminants in drinking water. Given the clear Congressional intent that these funds focus on projects addressing perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (hereinafter PFAS), EPA expects states to actively solicit and prioritize PFAS-focused projects. States, however, have the flexibility to fund projects for any contaminant in any of EPA's <u>Contaminant Candidate Lists</u>.

Both federal and state law require that a project priority ranking system be developed to determine the priority order of projects to be funded through the DWSRF program. As called for by Section 1452(b) of the SDWA, the priority ranking system is designed so that the greatest priority is given to projects that:

- 1. Address the most serious risks to human health
- 2. Ensure compliance with federal and state drinking water regulations

3. Assist systems most in need on a per household basis (affordability)

The project priority system primarily targets projects that address maximum contaminant level (MCL) violations and acute public health from regulated contaminants, but also includes projects that address unregulated chemical contaminants that pose a chronic health risk at a lower priority (Base 500 points). The State has set forth exceptions to prioritize projects that address emerging contaminants based on EPA's CCLs with a primary focus on projects that address PFAS to meet the congressional intent of the IIJA EC Capitalization Grant. Projects submitted that do not address emerging contaminants and/or the base priority score was less than 500 were not considered.

DWSRF's priority system was developed under the guidance of a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). The TAC reviewed the major compliance issues affecting drinking water systems in our state to determine the most critical needs. The results indicated that an important compliance issue for water systems in the state was related to violations of drinking water quality health standards for microbiological contaminants, some of which could have an adverse impact on human health. It was also noticed that the sources for many systems were determined to be under the direct influence of surface water, and as such, were out of compliance with the surface water treatment rules. In addition, private wells with chemical and microbiological contamination were found to be a serious health risk and this issue was also addressed in the priority system.

The priority system FDEP developed in partnership with the TAC places a focus on projects to address these important public health and compliance problems. FDEP developed six baseline categories and three bonus categories for use in the ranking of projects. The complete priority system can be found in **Attachment E** and is summarized below:

A. Baseline Categories

Acute Public Health Risks. The highest number of base priority points of 800 is given to projects that address an acute public health risk problem. The problem may be microbiological contamination that directly affects public health, nitrate/nitrite, lead or copper contamination, or non-compliance with the surface water treatment rule.

Potential Acute Public Health Risks. The second highest number of points of 700 is given to systems that exceed 50 percent of the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for nitrate, nitrite, or total nitrogen. This priority is also given to projects that address disinfection violations, total coliform violations, and to those systems that do not meet the requirements of the Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule.

Chronic Public Health Risks. The next highest priority is given to projects that address a primary contaminant violation and to systems that exceed the standards for Radionuclides. These projects are given a base priority score of 600.

Potential Chronic Public Health Risks. Systems with primary contaminant levels that are within 50% of the MCL or trihalomethane levels within 80% of the MCL are given the next highest

priority with 500 points. Projects that address unregulated chemical contaminants that are certified as a chronic health risk by the State Health Officer are also included in this category.

Compliance Issues (Compliance-1 and 2). Violations of the secondary contaminant standards and compliance issues such as not having the minimum number of wells required or not meeting the treatment, storage, power, or distribution requirements receive the next highest number. In addition, projects that address well setback and well construction requirements or cross-connection/backflow control requirements receive this score. Compliance-1 projects receive 400 points and Compliance-2 projects receive 300 points.

Other. All projects not meeting one of the above categories receive the minimum baseline score of 100 points.

B. Bonus Categories

Affordability. Up to 75 bonus points are available to systems in financially disadvantaged areas. The actual number of points received is inversely proportional to the median household income.

Population served. Up to 50 bonus points are available to small systems based on the population served. The number of points received is inversely proportional to the population served.

Projects are identified by systems through a Request for Inclusion (RFI) submittal process. Once an RFI form is received, the sponsor's project is placed on a comprehensive list of projects. FDEP project engineers review the form and assign points to projects based on the information provided by the project sponsor. As projects funded under the EC Capitalization Grant concern unregulated chemical contaminants that pose a chronic health risk, they are all assigned a baseline score of 500 points. The bonus points are then added based on the sponsor's income and population. Projects addressing other categories are not included.

All project sponsors submitting an RFI are contacted and the program requirements are discussed. Sponsors that complete all readiness requirements are then eligible to compete for funding.

When two or more projects score equally under the project priority system a tie breaking procedure will be used. The project that completed the requirements for funding first will receive priority.

Unreserved funds are assigned to projects in priority score order, within the funding of the IIJA EC Capitalization Grant, until the funds are exhausted. Projects for which funding is not available and projects that are incompletely funded are placed on the waiting list for consideration in future years.

A project must be ready-to-proceed prior to being placed on the fundable portion of the list. If a sponsor fails to execute an assistance agreement or the project fails to progress in a timely manner it is subject to bypassing at a subsequent project priority list hearing, up to the amount of funds available.

The fundable project priority list itemizing the output/outcomes of the policies and procedures outlined in this Intended Use Plan for the FFY 2024-2025 and FFY 2025-2026 funds is included in **Attachment C**.

18. Project Description

A. FFY2024-2025 IIJA EC Capitalization Grant

a. City of Boynton Beach

The City of Boynton Beach has detected PFAS in the raw water at the East Water Treatment Plant (32.1 parts per trillion [ppt]) and is preparing to evaluate alternatives for improvements to the treatment plant to treat PFAS. The current treatment process includes softening, multi-media gravity filtration, and Magnetic Ion Exchange. The alternatives the City will review include upgrading the existing process with granular activated carbon (GAC), upgrading the existing process with anion exchange, decommissioning the existing treatment process and replace with a membrane process, and an alternative where the capacity at the West Water Treatment Plant (treatment is nanofiltration) is increased to replace the capacity at the East Water Treatment Plant.

b. City of Port Richey

The City of Port Richey has taken raw water samples from Well 1 (20 micrograms per liter [ug/L]), Well 7 (19.6 ug/L), Well 7A (18.7 ug/L), Well 8 (39.4 ug/L), and finished water samples at the point of entry (21 ug/L) to the water distribution system that exhibited detections of PFOA+PFAS. The facilities plan will be looking at alternative upgrades to their current water treatment plant.

c. Orange City

The City of Orange City had 3 water treatment effluent samples with PFAS at levels greater than 4 parts per trillion. As such, pilot studies and planning documents will include a cost-effective emerging contaminants treatment system evaluation, design, and finally construction by the 2029 deadline established in the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWR) for six PFAS.

d. Sanford

The City of Sanford previously placed on the waiting list was determined by the Project Manager as Ready-to-Proceed. The project is now partially elevated from the waiting list for the construction of an ultraviolet light advanced oxidation process (UV AOP) WTP with granular activated carbon (GAC) to remove per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), 1,4-dioxane, and total trihalomethanes (TTHM) from the drinking water prior to distribution.

e. Marion County

Marion County is preparing, on behalf of the Town of Lowell, a planning and design document to extend the public water main into the Town of Lowell to provide safe drinking water to residences where private wells may be impacted by PFAS that has been identified in the area.

B. FFY2025-2026 IIJA EC Capitalization Grant

a. Sanford

The City of Sanford previously placed on the waiting list for additional funding to continue construction of an UV AOP WTP with GAC to remove PFAS, 1,4-dioxane, and TTHM from the drinking water prior to distribution.

19. Green Project Reserve

The State agrees that the funds provided by the IIJA EC Capitalization Grant may, at the discretion of the State, be used for projects to address infrastructure, water or energy efficiency improvements, or other environmentally innovative activities.

20. Equivalency Projects

As no state match is required, all projects listed on the project priority lists (**Attachment C**) are equivalency projects and subject to crosscutter review, Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA), and Build America Buy America (BABA) Act, requirements.

Additionally, DWSRF will implement the BABA as stated in 41 USC 8301 for projects funded through IIJA EC Capitalization Grants. BABA will be implemented for FFY 2024-2025 and FFY2025-2026 and be required for projects funded through the DWSRF. EPA's SRF regulations at 40 CFR 35.3145 and 35.3575 require states and recipients of SRF funds equivalent to the amount of the capitalization grant to comply with federal cross-cutting requirements. Section 70914 of the IIJA, which states when a Buy America preference applies, explains that "none of the funds made available for a Federal financial assistance program for infrastructure may be obligated for a project unless all of the iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in the project are produced in the United States." Therefore, BABA only applies to projects funded in an amount equivalent to the federal capitalization grant.

All appropriate DWSRF agreements and all appropriate procurement contracts for any construction project carried out in whole or in part with such assistance made available by a drinking water treatment revolving loan fund as authorized by Section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300j-12), will include a term and condition requiring compliance with the requirements of Section 1450(e) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300j-9(e)). The State will also require that loan recipients, procurement contractors and sub-grantees include such a term and condition in subcontracts and other lower tiered transactions.

21. Bypass Procedure

A project must be ready-to-proceed prior to being placed on the fundable portion of the list. If a sponsor fails to execute an assistance agreement or the project fails to progress in a timely manner it is subject to bypassing at a subsequent project priority list hearing, up to the amount of funds available.

22. Emergency Funding

Emergency Projects are considered a public health hazard and receive higher priority rankings and rank higher on the project priority list.

23. Amending the Project Priority List

DWSRF will continuously amend the project priority list through the course of the year. DWSRF anticipates amending the project priority list on no less than a quarterly basis. Amending the project priority list will be conducted through public noticing and public meetings. As more RFIs are submitted, readjustment of funding may be conducted. Should projects not move forward expeditiously DWSRF will utilize the bypass procedure to elevate projects from the waiting list to the fundable list, up to the amount of funds available, or identify new projects, to ensure that the IIJA EC Capitalization Grant is utilized expeditiously.

24. Disadvantaged Communities

At least 25% of the DWSRF IIJA EC Capitalization Grants will be subsidization to the state-defined disadvantaged communities.

The State definition of a small community is a municipality or unincorporated community or other identifiable entity with a total service area population of less than 10,000. A financially disadvantaged community is defined as a municipality, county or agency (such as a county-wide department) thereof, franchised area, or other entity with a defined public water system service jurisdiction having a median household income of less than the statewide average.

Should subsidization remain available, communities serving a population of 25,000 or less will receive subsidization.

DWSRF will prioritize the disadvantaged small communities to utilize the IIJA EC Capitalization Grant by utilizing the additional bonus points in the priority ranking system. The bonus points are calculated as follows:

Median Household Income (MHI) Score:

$$MHI Score = 100 \times \left(1.00 - \frac{MHI \text{ of the Service Area}}{Statewide MHI}\right)$$

Population Score:

Population Score =
$$50 - \left(\frac{\text{Population of the Service Area}}{200}\right)$$

Affordability Score:

The MHI Score shall not be greater than 75 points or less than zero points and be rounded to the nearest whole number. The Population Score shall not be less than zero and rounded to the nearest whole number.

25. Annual Report

An annual report will be submitted by September 30, 2025 that will quantify and identify the results of the Capitalization Grants awarded for FFY 2024-2025. An annual report will be submitted by September 30, 2026 that will quantify and identify the results of the Capitalization Grants awarded for FFY 2025-2026.

Attachment A Notice of Public Meetings

Notice of Meeting/Workshop Hearing

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Division of Water Restoration Assistance

The Department of Environmental Protection, State Revolving Fund Program announces a public meeting to which all persons are invited.

DATE AND TIME: August 14, 2024, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

PLACE: Virtual meeting, email Ethan.A.Morrow@Floridadep.gov for an invitation

GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED: A public virtual meeting will commence at 2:00 p.m. until not later than 4:00 p.m., to discuss the issues and recommendations for management of the FY 2024 Clean Water State Revolving Fund Base, Investment Infrastructure and Jobs Act (IIJA) General Supplemental and Emerging Contaminants (EC) and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Base, IIJA General Supplemental, Lead Service Line Replacement, and EC priority lists of projects to be funded with loans under Chapter 62-503 and Chapter 62-552, Florida Administrative Code, respectively. To request an invitation to the virtual meeting, please send an email to: Ethan.A.Morrow@Floridadep.gov

A copy of the agenda may be obtained by contacting: Ethan Morrow, State Revolving Fund Program, 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Mail Station 3505, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000, (850)245-2147, Ethan.A.Morrow@Floridadep.gov.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this workshop/meeting is asked to advise the agency at least 10 days before the workshop/meeting by contacting: Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, religion, sex, pregnancy, national origin, age, handicap, or marital status. Persons who require special accommodations under the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) or persons who require translation services (free of charge) are asked to contact DEP's Limited English Proficiency Coordinator at (850)245-2118 or LEP@FloridaDEP.gov at least forty-eight (48) hours before the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1(800)955-8771 (TDD) or 1(800)955-8770 (Voice).

For more information, you may contact: Ethan Morrow, (850)245-2147, Ethan.A.Morrow@Floridadep.gov State Revolving Fund Program, 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Mail Station 3505, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000.

Notice of Meeting/Workshop Hearing

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Division of Water Restoration Assistance

The DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION announces a public meeting to which all persons are invited.

DATE AND TIME: February 12, 2025, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

PLACE: Virtual meeting, email Ethan.A.Morrow@Floridadep.gov for an invitation

GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED: A public virtual meeting will commence at 2:00 p.m. until not later than 4:00 p.m., to discuss the issues and recommendations for management of the FY 2025 Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program (CWSRF), Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program (DWSRF), Investment Infrastructure and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding for both programs, Intended Use Plans (IUPs) for the programs as applicable, and CWSRF hurricane funding priority lists of projects to be funded with loans under Chapter 62-503 and Chapter 62-552, Florida Administrative Code, respectively. To request an invitation to the virtual meeting, please send an email to: Ethan.A.Morrow@Floridadep.gov

A copy of the agenda may be obtained by contacting: Ethan Morrow, State Revolving Fund Program, 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Mail Station 3505, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000, (850)245-2832, Ethan.A.Morrow@Floridadep.gov.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this workshop/meeting is asked to advise the agency at least 10 days before the workshop/meeting by contacting: Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, religion, sex, pregnancy, national origin, age, handicap, or marital status. Persons who require special accommodations under the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) or persons who require translation services (free of charge) are asked to contact DEP's Limited English Proficiency Coordinator at (850)245-2118 or LEP@FloridaDEP.gov at least forty-eight (48) hours before the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1(800)955-8771 (TDD) or 1(800)955-8770 (Voice).

For more information, you may contact: Ethan Morrow, (850)245-2832, Ethan.A.Morrow@Floridadep.gov State Revolving Fund Program, 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Mail Station 3505, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000.

Attachment B Public Comments



Comments and Responses Received Related to the Intended Use Plan

Comment #	Party	Comment	State Response
1	Jake Varn (E-mail 9/13/2024)	Please include copies of the Applications submitted by Boynton Beach, Port Richey, Orange City and Marion County (the local governments that DEP recommended to receive the funding described in item 3 above). In the alternative to including these applications in the FAA for the August 14, 2024 public meeting, please send the copy of these applications to Sanford.	Copies of the Request for Inclusions and back up documentation for the specified projects were provided.

ATTACHMENT C PROJECT PRIORITY LISTS

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PRIORITY LIST FOR STATE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 FUNDABLE PORTION TIERS 1, 2, & 3 (RESULTS/DELIVERABLES)

										IENT 2: EMER	GING CONTAMINANTS PROJECT PRIORITY I	IST AND COMP	REHENSIVE	LIST							
TIER	PRIORITY SCORE		PROJECT NUMBER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	SMALL COMMUNITY	POPULATION	MEDIA HOUSEHO INCOM	OLD SYSTEM	PROJECT TYPE	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	ADOPTION DATE	LOAN TYPE	LOAN APPLICATIO N DEADLINE	AGREEMENT DEADLINE	REQUESTED LOAN AMOUNT	AUTHORIZED LOAN AMOUNT	PRINCIPAL FORGIVENESS AMOUNT	AMOUNT TO BE REPAID	IUP EQUIVALENCY APPROPRIATION	IUP SUBSIDY APPROPRIATION
1	500	Boynton Beach ²	50130	26.514263	-80.062614	No ²	150,723	\$ 66	,642 4500145	DW/Planning/ Design (Increase)	Evaluation for upgrading the existing treatment process with granular activated carbon (GAC), upgrading the existing process with anion exchange, decommissioning the existing treatment process and replace with a membrane process, and an alternative where the capacity at the West Water Treatment Plant (treatment is nanofiltration) is increased to replace the capacity at the East Water Treatment Plant.	8/14/2024	Increase	12/12/2024	3/12/2025	\$ 28,821	\$ 28,821	\$ 28,821	\$ -	24-25 IIJA EC	24-25 IIJA EC
2	538	Port Richey ²	51080	28.281237	-82.709521	Yes	17,332	\$ 42	,254 6510324	DW/Planning/ Design	The City of Port Richey has detected PFOA+PFAS in raw water samples from Well 1 (20 ppt), Well 7 (19.6 ppt), Well 7A (18.7 ppt), Well 8 (39.4 ppt), and finished water samples at the point of entry (21 ppt) to the water distribution system. The City plans to evaluate ion-exchange, reverse osmosis, and GAC for the reduction of PFAS concentrations.		New	12/12/2024	3/12/2025	\$ 4,250,000	\$ 4,250,000	\$ 4,250,000	\$ -	24-25 IIJA EC	24-25 IIJA EC
2	527	Orange City ²	6420A	28.918614	-81.292253	No	14,928	\$ 49	,681 3640945, 3640946		The 3 water treatment effluent samples had PFAS at levels greater than 4 parts per trillion. As such, pilot studies and planning documents will include a cost- effective emerging contaminants treatment system evaluation, design, and construction by the 2029 deadline established in the NPDWR for six PFAS.	8/14/2024	New	12/12/2024	3/12/2025	\$ 3,571,930	\$ 3,571,930	\$ 3,571,930	\$ -	24-25 IIJA EC	24-25 IIJA EC
2	510	Sanford ²	59016	28.786633	-81.280241	No ²	70,576	\$ 55	,428 3590205	DW/Construct ion	Construction of an ultraviolet light advanced oxidation process (UV AOP) WTP with granular activated carbon (GAC) to remove per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), 1,4-dioxane, and total trihalomethanes (TTHM) from the drinking water prior to distribution.	2/12/2025	New	6/12/2025	9/10/2025	\$ 19,323,249	\$ 19,323,249	\$ 19,323,249	\$ -	22-23 IIJA EC \$68,000 23-24 IIJA EC \$784,000 24-25 IIJA EC \$18,471,249	24-25 IIJA EC
2	510	Marion County ³	42063	29.317325	-82.196875	Yes ³	8,367	\$ 66	,802 6421144	DW/Planning/ Design	Planning and Design on behalf of the Town of Lowell for connection to the Marion County Public water system. As private wells located in the Town of Lowell have identified concentrations of PFAS.	8/14/2024	New	12/12/2024	3/12/2025	\$ 1,250,000	\$ 1,250,000	\$ 1,250,000	\$-	24-25 IIJA EC	24-25 IIJA EC
ΤΟΤΑ	AWARD	DED SEGMENTS	S:														\$ 28,424,000	\$ 28,424,000	\$-		

1. Qualifies as a financially disadvantaged small community.

2. Qualifies as a financially disadvantaged community.

3. Community Sponsor is applying to support this financially disadvantaged small community

Required Minimum Subsidization (25%) to Disadvantaged Communities: \$ 7,106,000 Subsidization Listed: \$ 28,424,000 % of Subsidization to Disadvantaged Communities: 100%

FINAL FOR: 2/12/2025

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PRIORITY LIST FOR STATE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 WAITING PORTION (RESULTS/DELIVERABLES)

FINAL FOR: 2/15/2025

	ATTACHMENT 2: EMERGING CONTAMINANTS WAITING LIST								
PRIORITY SCORE	APPLICANT/ PROJECT NUMBER	PROJECT TYPE		WAITING LIST					
510	City of Sanford ² / DW-59016	DW/ Construction	Construction of an ultraviolet light advanced oxidation process (UV AOP) WTP with granular activated carbon (GAC) to remove per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), 1,4-dioxane, and total trihalomethanes (TTHM) from the drinking water prior to distribution	\$ 31,210,751					
UNCOMMITTED WAITING PORTION TOTAL:									

1. Qualifies as a financially disadvantaged small community.

2. Qualifies as a financially disadvantaged community.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PRIORITY LIST FOR STATE FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 FUNDABLE PORTION TIERS 1, 2, & 3 (RESULTS/DELIVERABLES)

	ATTACHMENT 2: EMERGING CONTAMINANTS PROJECT PRIORITY LIST AND COMPREHENSIVE LIST																				
TIER	PRIORITY SCORE	APPLICANT	PROJECT NUMBER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	SMALL COMMUNITY	POPULATION	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME	PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM IDENTIFICATION NUMBER	PROJECT TYPE	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	ADOPTION DATE	LOAN TYPE	LOAN APPLICATIO N DEADLINE	DFADLINF	REQUESTED LOAN AMOUNT	AUTHORIZED LOAN AMOUNT	PRINCIPAL FORGIVENESS AMOUNT	AMOUNT TO BE REPAID	IUP EQUIVALENCY APPROPRIATION	IUP SUBSIDY APPROPRIATION
1	510	Sanford ²	59016	28.786633	-81.280241	No ²	70576	\$ 55,428	3590205		Continued construction of an ultraviolet light advanced oxidation process (UV AOP) WTP with granular activated carbon (GAC) to remove per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), 1,4-dioxane, and total trihalomethanes (TTHM) from the drinking water prior to distribution.	2/12/2025	New	6/12/2025	9/10/2025	\$ 27,572,000	\$ 27,572,000 \$	27,572,000	\$-	25-26 IIJA EC	25-26 IIJA EC
ΤΟΤΑ	TAL AWARDED SEGMENTS:									\$ 27,572,000 \$	27,572,000	\$ -		·							
1. Qu	Qualifies as a financially disadvantaged small community.																				

2. Qualifies as a financially disadvantaged community.

Required Minimum Subsidization (25%) to Disadvantaged Communities: \$

% of Subsidization to Disadvantaged Communities:

FINAL FOR: 2/12/2025

6,893,000 Subsidization Listed: \$ 27,572,000 100%

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PRIORITY LIST FOR STATE FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 WAITING PORTION (RESULTS/DELIVERABLES)

FINAL FOR: 2/15/2025

	ATTACHMENT 2: EMERGING CONTAMINANTS WAITING LIST									
PRIORITY SCORE	APPLICANT/ PROJECT NUMBER		AITING LIST							
510	City of Sanford ² / DW-59016	DW/ Construction	Construction of an ultraviolet light advanced oxidation process (UV AOP) WTP with granular activated carbon (GAC) to remove per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), 1,4-dioxane, and total tribalomethanes (TTHM) from the drinking	\$	3,638,751					
UNCOMMITTED WAITING PORTION TOTAL:										

1. Qualifies as a financially disadvantaged small community.

2. Qualifies as a financially disadvantaged community.

ATTACHMENT D

AUTOMATED CLEARINGHOUSE SCHEDULE

ATTACHMENT D

ATTACHMENT D: ACH PAYMENT SCHEDULE AND CASH DRAWS FFY 2024-2025 IIJA EC GRANT AUTOMATED CLEARING HOUSE (ACH) PAYMENT SCHEDULE AND CASH DRAWS								
	FFY 2024 QTR 1 / SFY2024- 2025	FFY 2024 QTR 2 / SFY2024- 2025	FFY 2024 QTR 3 / SFY2024- 2025	FFY 2024 QTR 4 / SFY2025- 2026	TOTAL*			
ACH PAYMENT SCHEDULE – IIJA EC CAPITALIZATION GRANT	\$7,106,000	\$7,106,000	\$7,106,000	\$7,106,000	\$28,424,000			
CASH DRAW SCHEDULE FOR PROJECTS – IIJA EC CAPITALIZATION GRANT	\$7,106,000	\$7,106,000	\$7,106,000	\$7,106,000	\$28,424,000			

*No state match is required for IIJA EC Capitalization Grant.

ATTACHMENT D: ACH PAYMENT SCHEDULE AND CASH DRAWS

FFY 2025-2026 IIJA EC GRANT AUTOMATED CLEARING HOUSE (ACH) PAYMENT SCHEDULE AND CASH DRAWS

	FFY 2025 QTR 1 / SFY2025- 2026	FFY 2024 QTR 2 / SFY2025- 2026	FFY 2024 QTR 3 / SFY2025- 2026	FFY 2024 QTR 4/ SFY2026- 2027	TOTAL*
ACH PAYMENT SCHEDULE – IIJA EC CAPITALIZATION GRANT	\$6,893,000	\$6,893,000	\$6,893,000	\$6,893,000	\$27,572,000
CASH DRAW SCHEDULE FOR PROJECTS – IIJA EC CAPITALIZATION GRANT	\$6,893,000	\$6,893,000	\$6,893,000	\$6,893,000	\$27,572,000

*No state match is required for IIJA EC Capitalization Grant.

ATTACHMENT E

Complete Priority System

62-552.300 General Program Information.

• • •

(e) Priority System. Timely submitted projects shall be given priority according to the extent each project is intended to remove, mitigate, or prevent adverse effects on public health and drinking water quality. The final priority score for each project shall be determined as described in subparagraphs 1. through 3., below.

1. Base Priority Score. Each project shall receive a base priority score (BPS) dependent on the weighted average of its components. The BPS shall be determined using the following formula where CPS means the component priority score and CCC means component construction cost or:

 $BPS = [CPS_1 \times CCC_1 + ... + CPS_n \times CCC_n]/Total Construction Cost$

a. Project components shall be assigned a component priority score (CPS) according to the categories in Table 1 below.

Table 1	
Project Component	CPS
Acute Public Health Risk	800 points
1a. E-Coli or Fecal Coliform Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) Exceedance (subsection 62-550.310(5),	
F.A.C.)	
1b. Nitrate, Nitrite, or Total Nitrogen MCL Exceedance (subsection 62-550.310(1), F.A.C., Table 1)	
1c. Lead or Copper Action Level Exceedance (Rule 62-550.800, F.A.C)	
1d. Surface Water Filtration and Disinfection Noncompliance (subsection 62-550.817(2), F.A.C.)	
Potential Acute Public Health Risk	700 points
2a. Nitrate, Nitrite, or Total Nitrogen Exceed 50% of MCL (subsection 62-550.310(1), F.A.C., Table 1)	
2b. Microbiological MCL Exceedance (subsection 62-550.310(5), F.A.C)	
2c. Surface Water Enhanced Filtration and Disinfection Noncompliance (subsection 62-550.817(3), F.A.C.)	
2d. State Health Officer Certification of Acute Health Risk for Unregulated Microbiological Contaminants	
2e. Violation of Disinfection Requirements (subsection 62-555.320(12), F.A.C.)	
Chronic Public Health Risk	600 points
3a. Inorganic or Organic Contaminant MCL Exceedance (subsections 62-550.310(1), (4), F.A.C., Tables 1, 4,	
5)	
3b. Disinfection Byproducts MCL Exceedance (subsection 62-550.310(3), F.A.C., Table 3)	
3c. Radionuclide MCL Exceedance (subsection 62-550.310(6), F.A.C.)	
Potential Chronic Public Health Risk	500 points
4a. Inorganic or Organic Contaminant Exceed 50% of MCL (subsections 62-550.310(1), (4), F.A.C., Tables	
1, 4, 5)	
4b. Disinfection Byproducts Exceed 80% of MCL (subsection 62-550.310(3), F.A.C., Table 3)	
4c. State Health Officer Certification of Chronic Health Risk for Unregulated Chemical Contaminants	
Compliance-1	400 points
5a. Infrastructure upgrades to facilities that are undersized, exceed useful life, or have continual equipment	
failures	
5b. Insufficient water supply source, treatment capacity, or storage	
5c. Water distribution system pressure less than 20 psi	
5d. Eliminate dead ends and provide adequate looping in a distribution system	
5e. Replace distribution mains to correct continual leaks, pipe breaks, and water outages	
5f. New public water system or extension of existing system to replace contaminated or low yield residential	
wells	
5g. Lack of significant safety measures (e.g. chemical containment)	
5h. Secondary Contaminant MCL Exceedance (Rule 62-550.320, F.A.C.)	

5i. Drinking water supply project as defined in paragraph 403.8532(9)(a), F.S.	
Compliance-2	300 points
6a. Treatment, Storage, Power, and Distribution Requirements (Rule 62-555.320, F.A.C.)	
6b. Minimum Required Number of Wells (subsection 62-555.315(2), F.A.C.)	
6c. Well Set-back and Construction Requirements (Rules 62-555.312 and 62-555.315, F.A.C.)	
6d. Cross-Connection Control Requirements (Rule 62-555.360, F.A.C.)	
6e. Physical Security Project Documented in a Vulnerability Analysis	
6f. Consolidation or regionalization of public water systems	
6g. Water/Energy Conservation Project	
7. Other projects, including land or public water system acquisition	100 points

b. Project component scores that are based on contaminant levels shall be justified by sample analytical data. The date samples were collected must be no older than 24-months from the date of submittal of a Request for Inclusion. The sample results shall show an ongoing and current problem with a drinking water quality standard. The project sponsor shall provide documentation demonstrating contaminant levels (e.g. disinfection byproducts) cannot be reduced by adjusting system operations, if applicable. Samples shall be analyzed by a state certified laboratory as defined in Rule 62-550.550, F.A.C.

c. A project component score of 400 points that is based on compliance-1 categories of Table 1 shall be supported by documentation demonstrating the need for the project; otherwise, a component score of 300 points will be assigned.

d. A project sponsor with a qualifying water conservation project is eligible to receive an additional 100 points added to their priority score if the sponsor provides a water conservation plan in accordance with EPA's Water Conservation Plan Guidelines, document number EPA-832-D-98-001, August 6, 1998, hereby adopted and incorporated by reference. The sponsor must demonstrate that the proposed project meets the objective of the water conservation plan. This document is available from the Department's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program, 3900 Commonwealth Blvd., Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000 or http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-08363.

e. If 50% or more of residential wells of a given project meet the contamination levels indicated in Table 1 and connect to a new or existing public water system, then the project would be awarded component priority points according to the appropriate public health risk. Surface water flooding of wells of residents with septic drainfields and wells under the direct influence of surface water are considered an unregulated microbiological potential acute public health risk, and require substantiated documentation of occurrence in lieu of sampling data.

2. Affordability Score. The extent of affordability existing in a small community to be served by the project shall be reflected in the priority score. Points shall be awarded based upon two affordability criteria: namely, median household income (MHI) and service area population. These points are to be added to the base priority score. Affordability Score = (MHI Score + Population Score).

a. MHI Score. MHI score shall be derived based on the extent a community's MHI falls below the statewide average. MHI data shall represent all areas to be served by the project sponsor's public water system.

(I) MHI score shall not exceed a maximum of 75 points, shall not be less than zero points, and shall be rounded to the nearest whole number.

(II) MHI score is calculated as follows:

MHI Score = 100 x (1.00 - MHI fraction), MHI fraction is equal to the MHI of the service area divided by the statewide MHI.

b. Population Score. Projects for small systems are generally less affordable than those for larger systems due to a limited rate base from which to recover costs. Special consideration is given to such projects based on service area population. Population data shall represent all areas to be served by the project sponsor's public water system.

(I) Population score shall not be less than zero points and shall be rounded to the nearest whole number.

(II) The population score is calculated as follows:

Population score = 50 - (P/200). P is the population of the service area.

3. Tie-breaking procedure. The sponsor with the larger population will have the higher priority.