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PUBLIC NOTICE

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

CLIMATE AND FLOOD RESILIENCE

DIVISION OF DAM SAFETY AND FLOOD ENGINEERING

Notice of Availability of Loan Funds and Application Deadline

Dam Restoration and Inland Water Projects Loan Program

Dam Restoration Loan Program

Take notice that, in compliance with N.J.S.A. 52:14-34.4 et seq., the Department of Environmental Protection (Department) hereby announces the availability of the following State loan funds:

Name of the loan programs: The Dam Restoration and Inland Water Projects Loan Program, in accordance with the Green Acres, Clean Water, Farmland and Historic Preservation Bond Act of 1992; and the Dam Restoration Loan Program in accordance with the Dam, Lake, Stream, Flood Control, Water Resources, and Wastewater Treatment Project Bond Act of 2003.

Purpose for which the loan program funds shall be used: The purpose of the Dam Restoration and Inland Waters Projects Loan Program is to provide loans to assist local government units, private lake associations or similar organizations, and owners of private dams for dam restoration or inland waters projects.

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The purpose of the Dam Restoration Loan Program is to provide loans to assist local government units, private lake associations or similar organizations, and owners of private dams for dam restoration projects.

Amount of money in the programs: Forty-five million dollars (\$45,000,000) is available for loans under the Dam Restoration and Inland Water Projects Loan Program and the Dam Restoration Loan Program. The interest rate for loans under either program shall not exceed two percent per year, and the maturity period shall be for a period not to exceed 20 years.

Groups or entities that may apply for the loan programs: Any local government unit (municipal or county, or instrumentality thereof) is eligible to apply to either program. Any private lake association or similar organization or private dam owner is eligible to apply as a co-applicant with a local government unit.

Qualifications of an applicant to be considered for the loan programs: To be qualified for a loan under these programs, an eligible applicant's project must meet the project eligibility criteria set forth in the Dam Restoration and Inland Waters Projects Loan rules at N.J.A.C. 7:24A-1.3.

Procedure for eligible entities to apply for loan funds: The procedure for applying for a loan is governed by the Dam Restoration and Inland Waters Projects Loan rules at N.J.A.C. 7:24A-2.1 through 2.7. Specifically, N.J.A.C. 7:24A-2.2 sets forth the application requirements. Each applicant shall request a pre-application conference pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:24A-2.1 before making a formal application for a loan. During the conference, the Department shall identify and explain all loan application procedures and

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requirements. The Department shall also identify and answer questions concerning other Departmental permits the applicant must obtain before being awarded a loan. Neither written nor oral statements made during the pre-application conference shall bind the Department. The Department may waive the pre-application conference at its discretion. Pre-application conferences must be requested by contacting the Bureau of Dam Safety at the address or phone number below. Applications must be submitted before the application deadline. If the applicant is a local government unit, the application must include a written resolution or ordinance of the local government unit authorizing the application for a loan. If the application is a co-application in which a local government unit is applying along with a private lake association or similar organization, then the application must include both the local government authorization and a resolution of the organization authorizing the application. A private dam owner applying with a local government unit must submit the written resolution or ordinance of the unit authorizing the application.

Address of the division, office, or official receiving the application:

Clint Oman, P.E., Bureau Chief
Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Dam Safety
PO Box 420, Mail Code 44-03
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420
(609) 984-0859

Additionally, applications may be submitted by emailing the completed application package to damsafety@dep.nj.gov.

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Deadline by which applications must be submitted to the office: Applications must be submitted by the close of business on Thursday, December 30, 2021.

Date by which applicants shall be notified of preliminary approval or disapproval: Generally, the Department will notify an applicant of preliminary approval or disapproval within 90 days after the application deadline pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:24A-2.6. However, this time frame may change based on the number of applications and whether the applications are complete when received by the Department. The Department will, in any case, notify all applicants of preliminary approval or disapproval no later than June 30, 2022.