NOTICE OF OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
REGARDING
PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE
FFY2016 DRINKING WATER PRIORITY SYSTEM/INTENDED USE PLANS
AND A
"TRACK II CALL FOR
PROJECTS"

January 15, 2016

Dear Interested Parties:

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) Amendments of 1996 authorized a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) to assist publicly and privately owned community water systems and nonprofit noncommunity water systems to achieve or maintain compliance with SDWA requirements and to further the public health objectives of the SDWA.

Two FFY2016 Proposed Intended Use Plans (IUP) - DWSRF and Superstorm Sandy - were published on September 3, 2015. The proposed IUPs contained the Department’s funding policies for the forthcoming financing cycle and the SFY2017 schedule for submitting DWSRF projects. Project sponsors were required to meet these schedules with all applicable deadlines in order to be considered for financing in the SFY2017 funding cycle.

A Track II opportunity is being provided for project sponsors to submit projects for financing in the FFY2016/SFY2017 Financing Program.

The FFY2016/SFY2017 Financing Program now includes a second chance provision to accommodate project sponsors that missed the initial commitment letter and planning document deadline of October 9, 2015. Sponsors of such projects will be given a second opportunity to participate in the FFY2016/SFY2017 Financing Program provided they are able to submit a letter of intent, complete planning documents, design documents, a loan application and proof that all applicable permits/approvals have been applied for by March 4, 2016. Projects that met the October deadline are still required to submit their project design documents and loan application on or before March 4, 2016.
Track II projects will be eligible for loans in the FFY2016/SFY2017 Financing Program provided the project meets the program requirements in a timely manner and there are sufficient DWSRF monies available for project needs. Track II projects will be ranked in accordance with the FFY2016 Priority System and assigned a rank below the projects that met the October deadline which have been identified in the January Report to the Legislature.

In addition, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (Department) is reserving the right to establish a limit on the loan amount that any one project sponsor can receive under the Superstorm Sandy DWSRF Program.

An electronic copy of the complete package must be submitted to the New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust in electronic format by close of business on March 4, 2016. Please refer to www.njeit.org under loan applications for further guidance.

If you would like a copy of the IUPs or Project Priority Lists, you may contact the DWSRF program or obtain a copy from our website, http://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/dws_loans.html

The period for submitting written comments on this proposal will close on February 16, 2016 (all comments must be postmarked by that date). Please submit the written comments to:

Mail Code 401-04Q
NJ Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Water Supply and Geoscience
Sandra Krietzman, Bureau Chief Bureau of Safe Drinking Water
P.O. Box 420
Trenton, NJ, 08625-0420

All comments submitted in accordance with the deadline will be considered in the preparation of the final amended FFY2016 Priority System IUP documents.

Should you have any questions regarding the IUP or the DWSRF program, please contact Alan Dillon or Todd Taylor at the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at (609) 292-5550 or fax (609) 292-1654. Thank you for your anticipated input on this proposal document.

Very truly yours,

Sandra Krietzman, Chief,
Bureau of Safe Drinking Water
c: Community Water Supply Systems
   Nonprofit Noncommunity Water Supply Systems
   County and Municipal Health Authorities
   Environmental Groups
   Engineering Consultants
USEPA Region II, Arlene Anderson, Chief, Drinking Water Section
USEPA Region II, Stephen R. Vida, SRF Team Leader
USEPA Region II, Laura Fishman, DWSRF Coordinator
Drinking Water Quality Institute
USDA, NJ Rural Development, Kenneth C. Drewes, Director, Business & Community Programs
NJAWWA, Mona Cavacoli, Section Manager
NJ Water Association, Rick Howlett, Executive Director
Water Supply Advisory Council, Norman Nelson, Chairman
NJ Dept. of Community Affairs, Tom Neff, Director, Local Government Services
NJ Board of Public Utilities, Maria Moran, Director, Division of Water
NJ Economic Development Authority, John Rosenfield, Director, Program Services
NJ Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency, Jerome Keelen, Director, Single Family Programs
New Jersey Redevelopment Authority, Leslie Anderson, Executive Director
David E. Zimmer, Executive Director, NJ Environmental Infrastructure Trust
Adrienne Kreipke, Director, Management and Budget, NJDEP
Patricia Gardner, Director, Division of Water Supply and Geoscience, NJDEP
Karen Fell, Assistant Director, Division of Water Supply, NJDEP
Eugene Chebra, Assistant Director, Municipal Finance & Construction Element, NJDEP