



# NJDEP Technical Assistance

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October 6, 2022



# Agenda

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Background

Types of Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance Overview

Water Bank Technical Assistance Overview

How To Apply



# Background

- Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)
  - A.k.a. Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)
  - \$1 Billion in funding estimated to be allocated to New Jersey DWSRF and CWSRF over the next 5 years
- Set Asides for BIL
  - States have flexibility to utilize set-asides for direct program implementation
  - One of the set asides for NJDEP will be for technical assistance with a focus on disadvantaged communities



# Background

## Affordability/Disadvantaged Community Criteria

A project (CW or DW) that meets either of the following two criteria are considered to have satisfied the **State's Affordability Criteria**:

- **Project Affordability Score** of 80 or less; or
- The project is eligible to receive 80 **Environmental Justice Economic Overburdened Community Criteria** ranking points.

### Project Affordability Score:

Project (Median Household Income(MHI)) Factor – Project(Unemployment (UE)) Factor – (Population Trend (PT)) Factor

### Environmental Justice Economic Overburdened Community Criteria:

35% of the households served by the project, on a municipal basis, qualify as low-income households (at or below twice the poverty threshold).



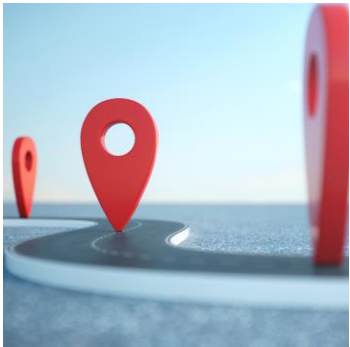
# Types of Systems We Are Focused On

- Ones serving Disadvantaged Communities with Lead, PFAS, and SDWA compliance issues, CSOs, sewer infrastructure rehab and upgrades, and more.
- May lack sufficient resources to perform full assessment of needs (e.g. LSLIs, AMPs, CIPs)
- May lack financial, managerial, and/or community support for infrastructure projects and require assistance with stakeholder outreach & engagement.
- May not be aware of funding opportunities or lack familiarity and comfort with navigating Water Bank program application processes.
- May need eventual engineering services to assist with planning and design.



# Types of Technical Assistance

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## Program Navigation

Providing technical assistance with navigating through the Water Bank process from application to project completion.



## Financial and Needs Assessments

Providing technical assistance with understanding system and fiscal needs and how to pay for them.



## Community Engagement

Providing assistance with solicitation and outreach to stakeholders to generate interest in the SRF program



## Engineering Services\*

Providing technical assistance from project conception to planning and design and through the Water Bank program.

\*Drinking water projects only.



# Water Bank

(Clean Water and Drinking Water)

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Technical Assistance

# Types of Assistance: Clean Water and Drinking Water

## Financial and Needs Assessments

Goal: Identify project(s) that is eligible for SRF funding.

- **System Assessment**
  - Conducting and reviewing preliminary system assessment and investigation data including processes and assets.
- **Fiscal Assessment**
  - Providing comprehensive assessments of a system's fiscal condition, including rate structure, design and components. Gain an understanding of the fiscal capabilities to prioritize projects.
- **Evaluate Financing Options**
  - Financing acquisition and evaluating other alternatives.
- **Public Outreach**
  - Participating in public meetings to help interpret information about site conditions, proposed remedies, and remedy implementation.





# Types of Assistance: Clean Water and Drinking Water

## Program Navigation

- Identify and contact disadvantaged community projects on priority list – hold preapplication meetings with those ready to proceed and identifying those that need assistance (Refer for Preliminary TA).
- Assign projects in disadvantaged communities to experienced staff who will be able to more effectively shepherd the project through the approval process.
- Hold regularly scheduled (e.g., monthly) meetings with project applicants, DEP managers, I-bank staff and project team.



# Types of Assistance: Water cont.

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## Community Engagement and Outreach Assistance

- Assist with development of educational materials outlining how to apply and obtain a SRF loan
- Coordinate with NJDEP on distribution, solicitation, and outreach to generate interest in SRF program



# Drinking Water

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Technical Assistance

# Types of Assistance: Drinking Water

## Lead Service Line Replacement Assistance

- Provide technical support services to assist water systems to develop:
  - Lead Service Line Inventories (LSLIs) and Plans
  - Capital Improvement Plans (CIP) for Lead Replacement
- Identify LSLR projects eligible for DWSRF funding
- Assist with filing DWSRF Application



# Types of Assistance: Drinking Water cont.

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## Engineering Assistance for Small Systems

- Population 10,000 or less
- Renewal of contract with New Jersey Water Association
- Asset management evaluation to identify best options to address existing compliance challenges and violations
- Covers planning and design costs in advance of a DWSRF loan



# Types of Assistance: Drinking Water cont.

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## Engineering Assistance (Non-Lead) for Medium/Large Systems

- Population greater than 10,000
- Provide technical support services to assist water systems develop:
  - Technical, Managerial & Financial (TMF) Evaluations
  - Asset Management Plans (AMPs)
  - Capital Improvement Plans (CIPs)
- Assess systems to identify DWSRF eligible projects
- Assist with filing a DWSRF application
- Planning and design costs covered in the future in advance of a DWSRF loan for any systems that need this assistance.





# Next Steps

- Moving forward with targeted outreach based on NJDEP priorities outlined in IUP
- Evaluating requests that come in on the online form
- Working with third party service providers to provide Technical Assistance

# How to Apply

- Interested parties can fill out the Technical Assistance Request form on our website to apply directly for no-cost TA. Link: <https://www.nj.gov/dep/wiip/request.html>


The screenshot shows the official website of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) for the Water Infrastructure Investment Plan (WIIP). The page features a blue header with the NJDEP logo and navigation links. The main content area has a dark background with a close-up image of hands typing on a laptop keyboard. The title "Water Infrastructure Investment Plan - Technical Assistance Request Form" is prominently displayed, followed by a sub-headline: "NJDEP in collaboration with our technical assistance providers will be offering no cost assistance to water systems for various activities such as engineering services, program navigation, and financial and needs assessments." Below this, there is a breadcrumb trail "Home / Technical Assistance Request Form" and a brief introductory text: "If your water system is interested in applying for assistance, complete the form below. To submit a comment longer than 20,000 characters (about 10 pages), see instructions below."

OFFICIAL SITE OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Governor Phil Murphy • Lt. Governor Sheila C. Nathan

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Department of Environmental Protection

Water Infrastructure Investment Plan 

Home | NJ Water Bank | How to Apply | IUP & Project Priority Lists | WIIP Sessions | Submit Comments | CW Needs Survey | **Technical Assistance** | Additional Resources | Contact

## Water Infrastructure Investment Plan - Technical Assistance Request Form

*NJDEP in collaboration with our technical assistance providers will be offering no cost assistance to water systems for various activities such as engineering services, program navigation, and financial and needs assessments.*

Home / Technical Assistance Request Form

If your water system is interested in applying for assistance, complete the form below.

To submit a comment longer than 20,000 characters (about 10 pages), see [instructions below](#).





\* indicates required field

First\*

Last\*

Email\*

We'll never share your email with anyone else.

Title/Position\*

Phone\*

Choose Type of System\*

- Drinking Water
- Clean Water (wastewater/stormwater)

PWSID (Drinking Water Only)

Name of System\*

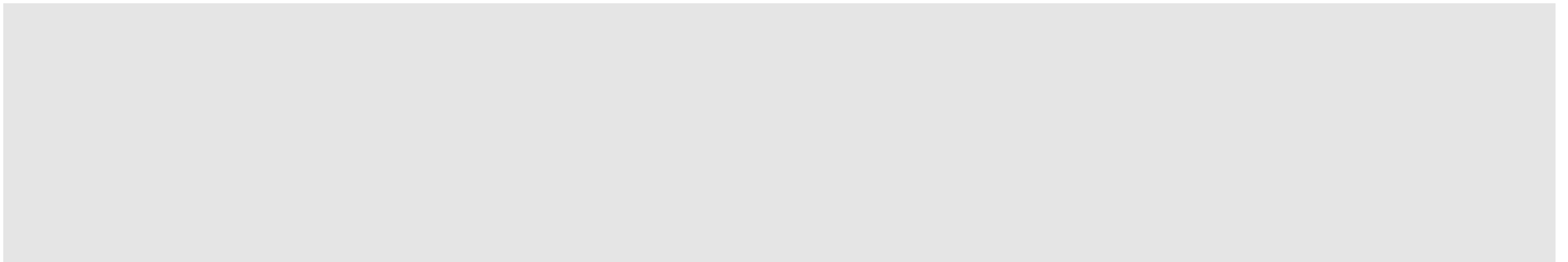
Type of Assistance Requested\*

- Asset Management Plan Development
- Technical, Managerial, and Financial Capacity Evaluation
- Capital Improvement Plan Development
- Lead Service Line Inventory Development
- Lead Service Line Replacement Law Compliance Assistance
- Lead Service Line Replacement Program Creation and Implementation
- Drinking Water Infrastructure Project Development
- Clean Water Infrastructure Project Development
- State Revolving Fund Loan Application Submittal Assistance
- Preliminary Technical Assistance (needs and fiscal assessments and public outreach)
- Other (Please indicate in comment box below)

Has your system submitted a project through the SRF Program before?\*



Questions





NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION



# Thank you!

**More information:**

<https://www.nj.gov/dep/wiip/>

**Contact:**

[WaterBankInfo@dep.nj.gov](mailto:WaterBankInfo@dep.nj.gov)

