<u>NRD Fly-in:</u> Where do we come in?

Federal Agencies we can help you navigate: USACE, FEMA, USDA, EPA

How can we help?

3 main ways:

- 1. Connecting you with appropriate folks
- 2. Authorizing: Receiving WRDA Requests, Farm Bill Requests, etc.
- 3. Funding: appropriations, letters of support

Authorizing—WRDA Process

- Water Resources Development Acts (WRDAs)-
- Every two years
- Authorizes USACE studies, projects, and programs. Generally new activities that are added to the pool of existing priorities.
- Project specific authorities: studies, construction, and modifications to existing projects.
- Basically, if you want USACE to foot some of the bill or do the work, it requires authorization, because authorization is required for appropriations (federal funding)....
- UNLESS, it's a Continuing Authority Program (CAP) these are good for smaller dollar rural projects.
- What helps to get authorization? Section 7001 submissions (do that) and work with USACE-Omaha on your projects.

Funding USACE

- This is the rub, and why CAP projects are so appealing...
- There are hundreds of projects that are authorized that have never received funding.
- What helps to get funded? Being in the president's budget! Otherwise, it is a new start.

Additional Funding Sources/Mechanisms to Consider:

State Revolving Funds

- Drinking Water and Wastewater projects.

• FEMA:

- Hazard Mitigation Grants
- BRIC
- New, down the line, STORM Grants

USDA Programs:

- Rural Decentralized Water Systems Grant Program
- Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants
- Revolving Funds for Financing Water and Wastewater Projects
- Individual Water & Wastewater Grants
- Solid Waste Grant
- Water & Waste Disposal Loan & Grant Program
- Water & Waste Disposal Predevelopment Planning Grants

- EPA WIFIA Program
- HUD
 - Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), Mitigation
 - Grants to areas that have suffered recent disasters to mitigate risks and reduce the impact of future disasters.
 Supports activities that increase resilience to disasters and reduce or eliminate the risk of loss of life, injury, and property damage.
- Economic Development Admin (EDA)
 - Public Works Grants, which may include water and sewer projects.

Backup slides (if asked)

SRF Roles and Responsibilities

EPA

- Develops guidance for implementing the SRFs
- Provides training and technical support to states
- Provides standardized data collection
- Award and manage capitalization grants to states
- Review Intended Use Plans and capitalization grant applications
- Conduct programmatic oversight

States

- Develop Intended Use Plans and Project Priority Setting Systems to submit in capitalization grant applications
- Solicit projects and make funding decisions based on state priorities
- Manage the day-to-day operations of the SRF programs
- Responsible for long-term planning and financial health of the state's SRF
- Provide EPA Annual Reports that document the SRF performance

Local

- Develops water and wastewater projects
- Applies for funding through the state SRF process
- Manages bid, contract, and construction phases of the project(s)
- Complies with federal and state loan requirements including American Iron and Steel and Davis-Bacon provisions

General SRF Application Process



Preparing for the SRF Process

Explore	Outreach	Revisit	Develop	Update	Identify	Make
Explore opportunities to secure state or local ARPA funding Explore & Understand IIJA programs	Reach out to your state's SRF Administrators to learn: 1. Deadlines 2. Priorities 3. Definition & Affordability Criteria for "disadvantaged" community.	Revisit your capital improvement plan (CIP) project prioritization processes. Understand the demographics of your area —what kind of forgiveness could you get?	Develop SRF program applications for high-priority projects	Update your financial forecasting and planning models	Identify opportunities to advance environmental justice and social equity objectives Identify opportunities to combat climate and improve resilience	Make sure you have the capacity to deliver projects within funding program schedule requirements

WIFIA Loan Program - Key Features

\$20 M Minimum project size for large / communitie

Minimum project size for large / communities.

\$5M

Minimum project size for small communities (population of 25,000 or less).

49%

Maximum portion of eligible project costs that WIFIA can fund (for population of >25,000)

35 Years

Maximum final maturity date from substantial completion.

5 Years

Maximum time that repayment may be deferred after substantial completion.

%

Interest rate will be approximately equal to the U.S. Treasury rate of a similar maturity. Current rate is less than 1.5% for a 30 year loan.