



NEWS RELEASE

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AUTHORITY

Arizona's water and wastewater funding source

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WIFA Funding Opportunity: Drinking Water Planning and Design Grants

PHOENIX (January 3, 2014) – The Water Infrastructure Finance Authority (WIFA) of Arizona announced today the release of a request for grant applications (RFGA) for the latest round of WIFA's Planning and Design Assistance grants. These grants provide funding for water infrastructure planning or design projects and prepare communities for future construction of capital improvements.

Total funding available this grant cycle is \$150,000. Eligible applicants include political subdivisions (cities, towns, special districts and tribes) and private drinking water companies regulated by the Arizona Corporation Commission. Some examples of the type of grant projects WIFA funds are feasibility studies, capital improvement plans, preliminary engineering reports and environmental assessments.

Funding up to \$35,000 per project is available for drinking water planning and design projects. Recipients are required to contribute a 40% match unless the project qualifies as "green." WIFA will waive the match requirement for a green project designed to improve water or energy efficiency.

Interested communities can apply online at www.azwifa.gov/application. Applications must be received by 3 p.m. on Friday, February 28, 2014. WIFA will post grant awards on April 16, 2014. For more information on eligible projects, evaluation criteria, and grant terms and conditions, please refer to the RFGA at www.azwifa.gov/grant-programs.

WIFA's Planning and Design Grant Program funds roughly \$450,000 per year in infrastructure planning and design projects and is designed to complement WIFA's low-interest loan program, which funds construction as well as planning and design for a wide variety of drinking water, wastewater and wastewater reclamation projects. Individual grants of up to \$35,000 are awarded twice a year, while WIFA's low-interest financing is available year-round and in any amount. Funding comes from Clean Water and Drinking Water Revolving Funds, which WIFA manages for the state of Arizona.

For more information on WIFA's programs, please visit www.azwifa.gov.

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