



NEWS RELEASE

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AUTHORITY

Arizona's water and wastewater funding source

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WIFA Announces Request for Applications for Drinking Water Planning and Design Projects

PHOENIX (January 6, 2015) – The Water Infrastructure Finance Authority (WIFA) of Arizona announced today the release of a Request for Applications (RFA) for water infrastructure planning or design projects that will help prepare drinking water facilities for capital improvements. WIFA is offering awards of up to \$35,000 per project through its Planning and Design Technical Assistance Program.

Total funding available for this award cycle is \$150,000. Eligible applicants include cities, towns, special districts, tribal entities, and private drinking water companies regulated by the Arizona Corporation Commission. Some examples of the type of technical assistance projects WIFA funds are capital improvement plans, engineering reports and environmental assessments.

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.

“Often we see that getting a project started is the biggest challenge for both small and large communities with limited budgets,” said WIFA Executive Director, Sandy Sutton. “Completing the planning or design phase of an infrastructure project is essential for a successful construction project, and we’re happy that WIFA can play a role in helping Arizona’s communities.”

Interested parties can apply online at www.azwifa.gov/application. Applications must be received by 3 p.m. on Friday, February 27, 2015. WIFA will post funding awards on April 15, 2015. For more information on eligible projects, evaluation criteria, and program terms and conditions, please refer to the Request for Applications at www.azwifa.gov/technical-assistance-program/.

WIFA’s Planning and Design Technical Assistance Program funds roughly \$450,000 per year in infrastructure planning and design projects. Funding comes from Clean Water and Drinking Water Revolving Funds, which WIFA manages for the state of Arizona.

Individual awards of up to \$35,000 are awarded twice a year, while WIFA’s low-interest financing (loan program) is available year-round and in any amount. The Planning and Design Technical Assistance Program 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 stormwater projects.

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

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