

TITLE 18. ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

R18-15-101. Definitions

In addition to the definitions prescribed in A.R.S. § 49-1201, the terms of this Chapter, unless otherwise specified, have the following meanings:

“Applicant” means a governmental unit, a non-point source project sponsor, a drinking water facility, or a water provider that is seeking financial assistance from the Authority under the provisions of this Chapter.

“Application” means a request for financial assistance submitted to the Board or Committee by an applicant.

“Authority” means the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona pursuant to A.R.S. § 49-1201(1).

“Board” means the Board of Directors of the Authority pursuant to A.R.S. § 49-1201(2).

“Certified Water Quality Management Plan” means a plan prepared by a single representative organization designated by the Governor according to Section 208 of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1288.

“Clean Water Revolving Fund” means the fund established by A.R.S. § 49-1221.

“Committee” means the Water Supply Development Fund Committee as defined in A.R.S. § 49-1201(5).

“DBE” means EPA’s Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program.

“Dedicated revenue source for repayment” means a source of revenue pledged by a borrower to repay the financial assistance.

“Department” means the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality.

“Disbursement” means the transfer of cash from a fund to a recipient.

“Discharge” has same meaning as prescribed in A.R.S. § 49-201(12).

“Drinking water facility” has same meaning as prescribed in A.R.S. § 49-1201(6).

“Drinking Water Revolving Fund” means the fund established by A.R.S. § 49-1241.

“EA” means an environmental assessment.

“EID” means an environmental information document.

“EIS” means an environmental impact statement.

“EPA” means the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

“Executive director” means the executive director of the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona.

“Federal capitalization grant” means the assistance agreement by which the EPA obligates and awards funds allotted to the Authority for purposes of capitalizing the Clean Water Revolving Fund and the Drinking Water Revolving Fund.

“Financial assistance” means the use of monies for any of the purposes identified in R18-15-102(B).

“Financial assistance agreement” means any agreement that defines the terms for financial assistance provided according to this Chapter.

“FONSI” means a finding of no significant impact.

“Fundable range” means a subset of the project priority list that demarcates the ranked projects which have been determined to be ready to proceed and will be provided with a project finance application.

“Governmental unit” means a political subdivision or Indian tribe that may receive technical or financial assistance from the Authority pursuant to A.R.S. § 49-1203.

“Grant applicant” means a governmental unit, a nonpoint source project sponsor, a drinking water facility, or a water provider that is seeking a planning and design assistance grant from the Authority under the provisions of this Chapter.

“Grant application” means a request for a planning and design assistance grant submitted to the Board or Committee by a grant applicant in a format prescribed by the Authority.

“Impaired water” means a navigable water for which credible scientific data exists that satisfies the require-

ments of A.R.S. § 49-232 and that demonstrates that the water should be identified pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 1313(d) and the regulations implementing that statute.

“Intended Use Plan” means the document prepared by the Authority identifying the intended uses of Clean Water Revolving Fund and Drinking Water Revolving Fund federal capitalization grants according to R18-15-202 and R18-15-302, the intended uses of the Water Supply Development Revolving Fund according to R18-15-402, and the intended uses of funds for technical assistance according to R18-15-502.

“Master priority list” means the master priority list for Capacity Development developed by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality under A.A.C. R18-4-803, which ranks public water systems according to their need for technical assistance.

“Onsite system” means a conventional septic tank system or alternative system that is installed at a site to treat and dispose of wastewater of predominantly human origin that is generated at that site.

“Planning and design assistance grant” means a technical assistance grant that provides for the use of monies for a specific water, wastewater treatment facility, or water supply delivery system for planning or design to facilitate the design, construction, acquisition, improvement, or consolidation of a drinking water project, wastewater project, or water supply development project.

“Planning and design assistance grant agreement” means any agreement that defines the terms for a technical assistance grant provided according to Article 5 of this Chapter.

“Planning and design loan repayment agreement” means the same as technical assistance loan repayment agreement and has the meaning at A.R.S. § 49-1201(12).

“Priority value” means the total points a project received during the evaluation of its project priority list application.

“Professional assistance” means the use of monies by or on behalf of the Authority to conduct research, conduct studies, conduct surveys, develop guidance, and perform related activities that benefit more than one water or wastewater treatment facility.

“Project” means any distinguishable segment or segments of a wastewater treatment facility, drinking water facility, water supply delivery system, or nonpoint source pollution control that can be bid separately and for which financial or technical assistance is being requested or provided.

“Project priority list” means the document developed by the Board or Committee according to R18-15-203, R18-15-303, or R18-15-403 that ranks projects according to R18-15-204, R18-15-304, or R18-15-404.

“Recipient” means an applicant who has entered into a financial assistance agreement or planning and design assistance grant agreement with the Authority.

“ROD” means a record of decision.

“Staff assistance” means the use of monies for a specific water or wastewater treatment facility to assist that system to improve its operations or assist a specific water provider with a water supply delivery system. For water providers, staff assistance is limited to planning and

design of water supply development projects according to A.R.S. § 49-1203(B)(17).

“Technical assistance” means assistance provided by the Authority in the form of staff assistance, professional assistance and planning and design assistance grants.

“Wastewater treatment facility” has the same meaning as prescribed in A.R.S. § 49-1201(13).

“Water provider” has the same meaning as prescribed in A.R.S. § 49-1201(14).

“Water supply development” has the same meaning as prescribed in A.R.S. § 49-1201(15).

“Water Supply Development Revolving Fund” means the fund established by A.R.S. § 49-1271.

Historical Note

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3). Amended effective June 4, 1998 (Supp. 98-2). Amended by final rulemaking at 6 A.A.R. 2116, effective May 16, 2000 (Supp. 00-2). Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-102. Types of Assistance Available

- A. The Authority may provide financial and technical assistance under the following programs if the Board or Committee, as applicable, determines funding is available:
 1. Clean Water Revolving Fund Program and Clean Water Technical Assistance Program,
 2. Drinking Water Revolving Fund Program and Drinking Water Technical Assistance Program,
 3. Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Program and Water Supply Development Technical Assistance Program, and
 4. Hardship Grant Fund Program.
- B. Financial assistance available from the Authority includes any of the following:
 1. Financial assistance loan repayment agreements;
 2. Planning and design loan repayment agreements in accordance with A.R.S. § 49-1203(16) and (17);
 3. The purchase or refinancing of local debt obligations;
 4. The guarantee or purchase of insurance for local obligations to improve credit market access or reduce interest rates;
 5. Short-term emergency loan agreements in accordance with A.R.S. § 49-1269; and
 6. Providing linked deposit guarantees through third-party lenders as authorized by A.R.S. §§ 49-1223(A)(6), 49-1243(A)(6), and 49-1273(A)(6).
- C. Technical assistance available from the Authority includes planning and design assistance grants, staff assistance, and professional assistance. Technical assistance may be offered at the Board’s or Committee’s discretion and shall be identified in the annual Technical Assistance Intended Use Plan as described in R18-15-502.

Historical Note

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3). Former R18-15-102 renumbered to R18-15-103; new Section made by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-103. Application Process

- A. An applicant requesting assistance shall apply to the Authority for each type of financial or technical assistance described in R18-15-102 on forms provided by the Authority.

- B. An applicant seeking financial assistance through the Clean Water Revolving Fund Program shall apply for financial assistance according to Articles 1 and 2 of this Chapter.
- C. An applicant seeking financial assistance through the Drinking Water Revolving Fund Program shall apply for financial assistance according to Articles 1 and 3 of this Chapter.
- D. An applicant seeking financial assistance through the Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Program shall apply for financial assistance according to Articles 1 and 4 of this Chapter.
- E. An applicant seeking technical assistance available through the technical assistance programs shall apply for technical assistance according to Articles 1 and 5 of this Chapter.
- F. An applicant shall mark any confidential information with the words “confidential information” on each page of the material containing such information. A claim of confidential information may be asserted for a trade secret or information that, upon disclosure, would harm a person’s competitive advantage. The Authority shall not disclose any information determined confidential. Upon receipt of a claim of confidential information, the Authority shall make one of the following written determinations:

1. The designated information is confidential and the Authority shall not disclose the information except to those individuals deemed by the Authority to have a legitimate interest.
2. The designated information is not confidential.
3. Additional information is required before a final confidentiality determination can be made.

Historical Note

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3). Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Section repealed; new R18-15-103 renumbered from R18-15-102 and amended by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-104. General Financial Assistance Application Requirements

- A. The applicant shall provide in the financial assistance application the information in subsections (B), (C), (D), and (E).
- B. The applicant shall demonstrate the applicant is legally authorized to enter into long-term indebtedness, and is legally authorized to pledge a dedicated revenue source for repayment under subsection (C).
 1. If the applicant is a political subdivision and the long-term indebtedness is authorized through an election, the applicant shall provide all of the following:
 - a. One copy of the sample election ballot and election pamphlet,
 - b. One copy of the governing body resolution calling for the election, and
 - c. Official evidence of the election results following the election.
 2. If the applicant is a political subdivision and the long-term indebtedness is not required by law to be authorized through an election, the applicant shall provide one copy of the approved governing body resolution authorizing the long-term indebtedness.
 3. If the applicant is a political subdivision and the long-term indebtedness is authorized through a special taxing district creation process, the applicant shall provide one copy of all final documentation, notices, petitions, and related information authorizing the long-term indebtedness.

4. If the applicant is regulated by the Arizona Corporation Commission, the applicant shall provide evidence that the financial assistance from the Authority to the applicant is authorized by the Arizona Corporation Commission.
 5. All other applicants shall demonstrate that a majority of the beneficiaries consent to the terms and conditions of the financial assistance. The Authority shall assist each applicant to devise a process by which this consent is documented.
- C. The applicant shall identify a dedicated revenue source for repayment of the financial assistance and demonstrate that the dedicated revenue source is sufficient to repay the financial assistance.
1. The applicant shall provide the following information:
 - a. Amount of the financial assistance requested;
 - b. One copy of each financial statement, audit, or comprehensive financial statement from at least the previous three fiscal years;
 - c. One copy of each budget, business plan, management plan, or financial plan from the previous and current fiscal years;
 - d. One copy of the proposed budget, business plan, management plan, or financial plan for the next fiscal year;
 - e. A projection of revenue anticipated to be collected over the next five fiscal years from the dedicated revenue source for repayment;
 - f. A summary of current fees for drinking or wastewater services including, as applicable, any resolutions passed by the governing body of a political subdivision; and
 - g. Copies of documentation relating to outstanding indebtedness pledged to the dedicated source for repayment, including official statements, financial assistance agreements, and amortization schedules.
 2. If any of the required information listed in subsection (C)(1) is not available, the Authority may assist the applicant in determining alternative documentation to support the applicant's financial capability.
 3. The Authority may ask for additional financial information as necessary to evaluate the applicant's financial capability.
- D. The applicant shall demonstrate the applicant is technically capable to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed project.
1. The applicant shall provide the following information:
 - a. An estimate of the project costs in as much detail as possible, including an estimate of applicable planning, design, construction, and material costs;
 - b. The number of connections to be served by the proposed project;
 - c. The most recent version of the applicant's capital improvement plan or other plan explaining proposed infrastructure investments;
 - d. One copy of each feasibility study, engineering report, design memorandum, set of plans and specifications, and other technical documentation related to the proposed project and determined applicable by the Authority for the stage of project completion;
 - e. Copies of resumés, biographies, or related information of the certified operators, system employees, or contractors employed by the applicant to operate and maintain the existing facilities and the proposed project;
 - f. A description of the service area, including maps; and
 - g. A description of the existing physical facilities.
 2. The Authority may ask for additional information as necessary to evaluate the applicant's technical capability.
- E. The applicant shall demonstrate the applicant is capable to manage the proposed project.
1. The applicant shall provide the following information:
 - a. Years of experience and related information regarding the owners, managers, chief elected officials, and governing body members of the applicant; and
 - b. A list of professional and outside services retained by the applicant and the proposed project.
 2. If any of the required information listed in subsection (E)(1) is not available, the Authority may assist the applicant in determining alternative documentation to support the applicant's managerial capability.
 3. The Authority may ask for additional information as necessary to evaluate the applicant's managerial capability.

Historical Note

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3).
 Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-105. General Financial Assistance Conditions

- A. The Authority shall not execute a financial assistance agreement with an applicant until the applicant provides all documentation specified by the Authority and the requirements of R18-15-106 are met. Projects under the Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Program are not subject to the requirements of R18-15-106. For planning and design loans that include an environmental information document or an environmental impact statement, the Authority may execute a financial assistance agreement with an applicant prior to the completion of the conditions of R18-15-106, provided that the applicant meets the requirements of R18-15-106 before proceeding with the design of the selected alternative.
- B. The documentation required prior to execution of the financial assistance agreement shall at a minimum include:
1. One copy of the governing body resolution approving the execution of the financial assistance agreement,
 2. A project budget, and
 3. An estimated disbursement schedule.
- C. The financial assistance agreement between the recipient and the Authority shall at a minimum specify:
1. Rates of interest, fees, and any costs as determined by the Authority;
 2. Project details;
 3. The maximum amount of principal and interest due on any payment date;
 4. Debt service coverage requirements;
 5. Reporting requirements;
 6. Debt service reserve fund and repair and replacement reserve fund requirements;
 7. The dedicated source for repayment and pledge;
 8. The requirement that the recipient comply with applicable federal, state and local laws;
 9. A schedule for repayment; and
 10. Any other agreed-upon conditions.
- D. The Authority may require a recipient to pay a proportionate share of the expenses of the Authority's operating costs.
- E. The recipient shall maintain the project account in accordance with generally accepted government accounting standards. After reasonable notice by the Authority, the recipient shall make available any project records reasonably required to

determine compliance with the provisions of this Chapter and the financial assistance agreement.

- F. The Authority shall release loan proceeds subject to a disbursement request if the request is consistent with the financial assistance agreement and the disbursement schedule.
 - 1. The applicant shall submit each disbursement request on the forms provided by the Authority. Each disbursement request shall include a certification and signature document, a cost-incurred report, and a DBE report. The Authority shall not process a disbursement until the applicant provides a completed disbursement form.
 - 2. The applicant shall include copies of invoices, canceled checks, or other documents that show proof of eligible costs incurred with each disbursement request.
- G. The recipient shall make repayments according to an agreed-upon schedule in the financial assistance agreement. The Authority may charge a late fee for any loan repayment not paid when due. The Authority may refer any loan repayment past due to the Office of the Attorney General for appropriate action.

Historical Note

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3).
Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Section repealed; new Section made by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-106. Environmental Review

- A. The Authority shall conduct an environmental review according to this Section for impacts of the design or construction of water infrastructure. Projects under the Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Program are not subject to the requirements of R18-15-106. As part of the application process, the Authority shall request information from the applicant to conduct an environmental review consistent with 40 CFR 35.3140 and 40 CFR 35.3580. The Authority shall determine whether the project meets the criteria for categorical exclusion under subsections (B) and (C), or whether the project requires the preparation of an environmental assessment (EA) or an environmental impact statement (EIS) to identify and evaluate its environmental impacts.
- B. A project may be categorically excluded from environmental review if the project fits within a category that is eligible for exclusion and the project does not involve any of the extraordinary circumstances listed in subsection (C). If, based on the application and other information submitted by the applicant, the Authority determines that a categorical exclusion from an environmental review is warranted, the project is exempt from the requirements of this Section, except for the public notice and participation requirements in subsection (J). The Authority may issue a categorical exclusion if information and documents demonstrate that the project qualifies under one or more of the following categories:
 - 1. Any project relating to existing infrastructure systems that involves minor upgrading, minor expansion of system capacity, rehabilitation (including functional replacement) of the existing system and system components, or construction of new minor ancillary facilities adjacent to or on the same property as existing facilities. This category does not include projects that:
 - a. Involve new or relocated discharges to surface water or groundwater,
 - b. Will likely result in the substantial increase in the volume or the loading of pollutant to the receiving water,
 - c. Will provide capacity to serve a population 30% greater than the existing population,
 - d. Are not supported by the state or other regional growth plan or strategy, or
 - e. Directly or indirectly involve or relate to upgrading or extending infrastructure systems primarily for the purposes of future development.
 - 2. Any clean water project in unsewered communities involving the replacement of existing onsite systems, providing the new onsite systems do not result in substantial increases in the volume of discharge or the loadings of pollutants from existing sources, or relocate an existing discharge.
- C. The Authority shall deny a categorical exclusion if any of the following extraordinary circumstances apply to the project:
 - 1. The project is known or expected to have potentially significant adverse environmental impacts on the quality of the human environment either individually or cumulatively over time.
 - 2. The project is known or expected to have disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on any community, including minority communities, low-income communities, or federally-recognized Indian tribal communities.
 - 3. The project is known or expected to significantly affect federally listed threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat.
 - 4. The project is known or expected to significantly affect national natural landmarks or any property with nationally significant historic, architectural, prehistoric, archeological, or cultural value, including but not limited to, property listed on or eligible for the Arizona or National Registers of Historic Places.
 - 5. The project is known or expected to significantly affect environmentally important natural resource areas such as wetlands, floodplains, significant agricultural lands, aquifer recharge zones, wild and scenic rivers, and significant fish or wildlife habitat.
 - 6. The project is known or expected to cause significant adverse air quality effects.
 - 7. The project is known or expected to have a significant effect on the pattern and type of land use or growth and distribution of population, including altering the character of existing residential areas, or may not be consistent with state or local government, or federally-recognized Indian tribe approved land use or federal land management plans.
 - 8. The project is known or expected to cause significant public controversy about a potential environmental impact of the proposed action.
 - 9. The project is known or expected to be associated with providing financial assistance to a federal agency through an interagency agreement for a project that is known or expected to have potentially significant environmental impacts.
 - 10. The project is known or expected to conflict with federal, state, or local government, or federally-recognized Indian tribe environmental, resource-protection, or land-use laws or regulations.
- D. If the Authority denies the categorical exclusion under subsection (C), the Authority shall conduct an EA according to subsection (E), unless the Authority decides to prepare an EIS according to subsections (F) and (G) without first undertaking an EA. If the Authority conducts an EA, the applicant shall:
 - 1. Prepare an environmental information document (EID) in a format prescribed by the Authority. The EID shall be of

- sufficient scope to undertake an environmental review and to allow development of an EA under subsection (E); or
2. Provide documentation, upon Authority approval, in another format if the documentation is of sufficient scope to allow the development of an EA under subsection (E).
- E. The Authority shall conduct the EA that includes:
1. A brief discussion of:
 - a. The need for the project;
 - b. The alternatives, including a no action alternative;
 - c. The affected environment, including baseline conditions that may be impacted by the project and alternatives;
 - d. The environmental impacts of the project and alternatives, including any unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources; and
 - e. Other applicable environmental laws.
 2. A listing or summary of any coordination or consultation undertaken with any federal agency, state or local government, or federally-recognized Indian tribe regarding compliance with applicable laws and executive orders;
 3. Identification and description of any mitigation measures considered, including any mitigation measures that must be adopted to ensure the project will not have significant impacts; and
 4. Incorporation of documents by reference, if appropriate, including the EID.
- F. Upon completion of the EA required by subsection (E), the Authority shall determine whether an environmental impact statement (EIS) is necessary.
1. The Authority shall prepare or direct the applicant to prepare an EIS in the manner prescribed in subsection (G) if any of the following conditions exist.
 - a. The project would result in a discharge of treated effluent from a new or modified existing facility into a body of water and the discharge is likely to have a significant effect on the quality of the receiving water.
 - b. The project is likely to directly, or through induced development, have significant adverse effect upon local ambient air quality or local ambient noise levels.
 - c. The project is likely to have significant adverse effects on surface water reservoirs or navigation projects.
 - d. The project would be inconsistent with state or local government, or federally-recognized Indian tribe approved land use plans or regulations, or federal land management plans.
 - e. The project would be inconsistent with state or local government, or federally-recognized Indian tribe environmental, resource-protection, or land-use laws and regulations for the protection of the environment.
 - f. The project is likely to significantly affect the environment through the release of radioactive, hazardous, or toxic substances, or biota.
 - g. The project involves uncertain environmental effects or highly unique environmental risks that are likely to be significant.
 - h. The project is likely to significantly affect national natural landmarks or any property on or eligible for the Arizona or National Registers of Historic Places.
 - i. The project is likely to significantly affect environmentally important natural resources such as wetlands, significant agricultural lands, aquifer recharge zones, wild and scenic rivers, and significant fish or wildlife habitat.
 - j. The project in conjunction with related federal, state, or local government, or federally-recognized Indian tribe projects is likely to produce significant cumulative impacts.
 - k. The project is likely to significantly affect the pattern and type of land use or growth and distribution of population, including altering the character of existing residential areas.
 - l. The project is a new regional wastewater treatment facility or water supply system for a community with a population greater than 100,000.
 - m. The project is an expansion of an existing wastewater treatment facility that will increase existing discharge to an impaired water by more than 10 million gallons per day (mgd).
2. The Authority may issue a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) if the EA supports the finding that the project will not have a significant impact on the environment. The FONSI shall include the submitted EA and a brief description of the project, alternatives considered, and project impacts. The FONSI must also include any commitments to mitigation that are essential to render the impacts of the project not significant. The Authority shall issue the FONSI for public comment in accordance with subsection (J).
- G. The Authority shall prepare or direct the applicant to prepare an EIS required by subsection (F)(1) when the project will significantly impact the environment, including any project for which the EA analysis demonstrates that significant impacts will occur and not be reduced or eliminated by changes to, or mitigation of, the project. The Authority shall perform the following actions:
1. As soon as practicable after its decision to prepare an EIS and before the scoping process, the Authority shall prepare a notice of intent. The notice of intent shall briefly describe the project and possible alternatives and the proposed scoping process. The Authority shall distribute the notice of intent to affected federal, state, and local agencies, any affected Indian tribe, the applicant, and other interested parties. The Authority shall issue the notice of intent for public comment in accordance with subsection (J)(3).
 2. As soon as possible after the distribution and publication of the notice of intent required by subsection (G)(1), the Authority shall convene a meeting of affected federal, state, and local agencies, affected Indian tribes, the applicant, and other interested parties. At the meeting, the parties attending the meeting shall determine the scope of the EIS by considering a number of factors, including all of the following:
 - a. The significant issues to be analyzed in depth in the EIS,
 - b. The preliminary range of alternatives to be considered,
 - c. The potential cooperating agencies and information or analyses that may be needed from cooperating agencies or other parties, and
 - d. The method for EIS preparation and the public participation strategy.
 3. Upon completion of the process described in subsection (G)(2), the Authority shall identify and evaluate all potentially viable alternatives to adequately address the range of issues identified. Additional issues also may be

addressed, or others eliminated, and the reasons documented as part of the EIS.

4. After the analysis of issues is conducted according to subsection (G)(3), the Authority shall issue a draft EIS for public comment according to subsection (J)(4).
5. Following public comment according to subsection (J), the Authority shall prepare a final EIS, consisting of all of the following:
 - a. The draft EIS.
 - b. An analysis of all reasonable alternatives and the no action alternative;
 - c. A summary of any coordination or consultation undertaken with any federal, state, or local government, or federally-recognized Indian tribe;
 - d. A summary of the public participation process;
 - e. Comments received on the draft EIS;
 - f. A list of persons commenting on the draft EIS;
 - g. The Authority's responses to significant comments received;
 - h. A determination of consistency with the Certified Water Quality Management Plan, if applicable;
 - i. The names and qualifications of the persons primarily responsible for preparing the EIS; and
 - j. Any other information added by the Authority.
6. The Authority shall prepare or direct the applicant to prepare a supplemental EIS when appropriate, including when substantial changes are made to the project that are relevant to environmental concerns, or when there are significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns bearing on the project.

H. After issuance of a final EIS under subsection (G)(5), the Authority shall prepare and issue a record of decision (ROD) containing the Authority's decision whether to proceed or not proceed with a project. A ROD issued with a decision to proceed shall include a brief description of the project, alternatives considered, and project impacts. In addition, the ROD must include any commitments to mitigation, an explanation if the environmental preferred alternative was not selected, and any responses to substantive comments on the final EIS. A ROD issued with a decision not to proceed shall preclude the project from receiving financial assistance under this Article.

I. For all determinations (categorical exclusions, FONSI, or RODs) that are five years old or older and for which the project has not been implemented, the Authority shall re-evaluate the project, environmental conditions, and public views to determine whether to conduct a supplemental environmental review of the project and complete an appropriate environmental review document or reaffirm the Authority's original determination. The Authority shall provide public notice of the re-evaluation according to subsection (J)(5).

J. The Authority shall conduct public notice and participation under this Section as follows:

1. If a categorical exclusion is granted under subsection (B), the Authority shall provide public notice of that fact by publishing the notice as a legal notice at least once, in one or more newspapers of general circulation in the county or counties concerned.
2. If a FONSI is issued under subsection (F)(2), the Authority shall provide public notice that the FONSI is available for public review by publishing the notice as a legal notice at least once in one or more newspapers of general circulation in the county or counties concerned. The notice shall provide that comments on the FONSI may be submitted to the Authority for a period of 30 days from the date of publication of the notice. If no comments are received, the FONSI shall immediately become effective.

The Authority may proceed with the project subject to any mitigation measures described in the FONSI after responding to any substantive comments received on the FONSI during the 30-day comment period, or 30 days after issuance of the FONSI if no substantive comments are received.

3. If a notice of intent is prepared and distributed under subsection (G)(1), the Authority shall publish it as a legal notice at least once, in one or more newspapers of general circulation in the county or counties concerned.
4. If a draft EIS is issued under subsection (G)(4), the Authority shall provide public notice by publishing the notice as a legal notice at least once, in one or more newspapers of general circulation in the county or counties concerned, that the draft EIS is available for public review. The notice shall provide that comments on the draft EIS may be submitted to the Authority for a period of 45 days from the date of publication of the notice. When the Authority determines that a project may be controversial, the notice shall provide for a general public hearing to receive public comments.
5. If the Authority reaffirms or revises a decision according to subsection (I), the Authority shall provide public notice of that fact by publishing the notice as a legal notice at least once, in one or more newspapers of general circulation in the county or counties concerned.

Historical Note

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3).
Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Section repealed; new Section made by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3). Section repealed; new R18-15-106 renumbered from R18-15-107 and amended at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-107. Disputes

- A.** Any interested party having a substantial financial interest in or suffering a substantial adverse financial impact from an action taken under this Chapter, excluding actions taken under R18-15-503, R18-15-504, and R18-15-505, may file a formal letter of dispute with the executive director according to subsections (B), (C), (D), and (E). Any interested party having a substantial financial interest in or suffering a substantial adverse financial impact from an action taken under R18-15-503, R18-15-504 or R18-15-505 shall proceed under R18-15-503(H), R18-15-504(H) or R18-15-505(H), as applicable.
- B.** The interested party shall file the formal letter of dispute with the executive director within 30 days of the action and provide a copy to each member of the Board or Committee. The formal letter of dispute shall include the following information:
 1. The name, address, and telephone number of the interested party;
 2. The signature of the interested party or the interested party's representative;
 3. A detailed statement of the legal and factual grounds of the dispute including:
 - a. Copies of relevant documents, and
 - b. The nature of the substantial financial interest or the nature of the substantial adverse financial impact of the interested party; and
 4. The form of relief requested.
- C.** Within 30 days of receipt of a dispute letter, the Authority shall issue a preliminary decision in writing, to be forwarded by certified mail to the party.

- D. Any party filing a dispute under subsection (B) that disagrees with a preliminary decision of the Authority may file a formal letter of appeal, explaining why the party disagrees with the preliminary decision, with the Board, provided the letter is received by the executive director not more than 15 days after the receipt by the party of the preliminary decision.
- E. The Board shall issue a final decision on issues appealed under subsection (D) not more than 60 days after receipt of the formal letter of appeal.

Historical Note

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3).
Amended effective June 4, 1998 (Supp. 98-2). Former R18-15-107 renumbered to R18-15-106; new R18-15-107 renumbered from R18-15-112 and amended by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-108. Repealed**Historical Note**

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3).
Amended effective June 4, 1998 (Supp. 98-2). Section repealed; new Section R18-15-108 renumbered from R18-15-109 by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Section repealed by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-109. Repealed**Historical Note**

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3).
Former Section R18-15-109 renumbered to R18-15-108; new Section R18-15-109 renumbered from R18-15-110 by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Section repealed by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-110. Repealed**Historical Note**

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3).
Former Section R18-15-110 renumbered to R18-15-111; new Section adopted effective June 4, 1998 (Supp. 98-2).
Former Section R18-15-110 renumbered to R18-15-109; new Section R18-15-110 renumbered from R18-15-111 and amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Section repealed by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-111. Repealed**Historical Note**

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3).
Former Section R18-15-111 renumbered to R18-15-112; new Section R18-15-111 renumbered from R18-15-110 and amended effective June 4, 1998 (Supp. 98-2).
Section R18-15-111 renumbered to R18-15-110; new Section R18-15-111 renumbered from R18-15-112 and amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Section repealed by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-112. Renumbered**Historical Note**

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3).
Former Section R18-15-112 renumbered to R18-15-113;

new Section R18-15-112 renumbered from R18-15-111 (Supp. 98-2). Former Section R18-15-112 renumbered to R18-15-111; new Section R18-15-112 renumbered from R18-15-113 and amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4).
Former R18-15-112 renumbered to R18-15-107 by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-113. Renumbered**Historical Note**

Section R18-15-113 renumbered from R18-15-112 (Supp. 98-2). Section R18-15-113 renumbered to R18-15-112 by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4).

ARTICLE 2. CLEAN WATER REVOLVING FUND**R18-15-201. Clean Water Revolving Fund Financial Assistance Eligibility Criteria**

To be eligible to receive financial assistance from the Clean Water Revolving Fund, the applicant shall demonstrate the applicant is a governmental unit requesting financial assistance for a purpose as defined in A.R.S. § 49-1223(A); the proposed project is to design, construct, acquire, improve, or refinance a publicly owned wastewater treatment facility, or for any other purpose permitted by the Clean Water Act including nonpoint source projects; and the proposed project appears on the Clean Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List developed under R18-15-203.

Historical Note

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3).
Amended effective June 4, 1998 (Supp. 98-2). Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-202. Clean Water Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan

- A. The Authority annually shall develop and publish a Clean Water Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan that identifies the intended uses of funds available in the Clean Water Revolving Fund Program. The Intended Use Plan shall include the project priority list according to R18-15-203. If the Intended Use Plan is to be submitted as one of the documents required to obtain a federal capitalization grant under Title VI of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1381 to 1387, the Intended Use Plan shall include any additional information required by federal law.
- B. The Authority shall provide for a public review and written comment period of the draft Clean Water Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan for a minimum of 14 calendar days. The Authority shall summarize all written comments submitted and prepare responses for Board review. After review of the summary, the Board shall make any appropriate changes to the Plan and then adopt the Clean Water Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan at a public meeting.

Historical Note

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3).
Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Section repealed; new R18-15-202 renumbered from R18-15-203 and amended by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-203. Clean Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List

- A. The Authority annually shall prepare a Clean Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List as part of the Intended Use Plan described in R18-15-202. The Board may waive the require-

ment to develop a Clean Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List if funds are not adequate to assist any projects or if the Board determines that no financial assistance will be offered for the annual funding cycle.

- B. An applicant pursuing financial assistance from the Authority for a project shall request to have the project included on the Clean Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List. The applicant may request that multiple projects be placed on the Clean Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List. An applicant shall make a request for placement of a project on the Clean Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List on or before a date specified by the Authority and in an application format specified by the Authority. The Authority shall include with the project priority list application form the criteria under each ranking category in R18-15-204(A), by which the project will be evaluated and the relative importance of each of the criterion.
- C. In preparing the Clean Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List, the Authority shall consider all project priority list applications submitted under subsection (B), all projects requested by regulatory authorities, and all plans prepared according to the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1251 to 1387. The Authority shall evaluate the merits of each project with respect to water quality issues and determine the priority value of each project according to R18-15-204. At a minimum, the Clean Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List shall identify:
 1. The applicant,
 2. Project title,
 3. Type of project,
 4. The amount requested for financial assistance,
 5. The subsidy rate index according to R18-15-204(C),
 6. Whether the project is within the fundable range according to R18-15-205, and
 7. The rank of each project by the priority value determined according to R18-15-204.
- D. After adoption of the annual Intended Use Plan and project priority list according to R18-15-202, the Board may allow:
 1. Updates and corrections to the adopted Clean Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List, if the updates and corrections are adopted by the Board after an opportunity for public comment at a public meeting; or
 2. Additions to the Clean Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List, if the additions are adopted by the Board after an opportunity for public comment at a public meeting.
- E. After an opportunity for public comment at a public meeting, the Board may remove a project from the Clean Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List under one or more of the following circumstances:
 1. The recipient has received all financial assistance identified in the executed financial assistance agreement with the Authority;
 2. The project was financed with long-term indebtedness from another source;
 3. The project is no longer an eligible project;
 4. The applicant requests removal;
 5. The applicant is no longer an eligible applicant; or
 6. The applicant did not update, modify, correct or resubmit a project that remained on the project priority list for more than 365 days.

Historical Note

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3). Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Former R18-15-203 renumbered to R18-15-202; new Section made by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-204. Clean Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List Ranking

- A. The Authority shall rank each project on the Clean Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List based on the priority value of each project. The Authority shall consider the following categories to determine the priority value of each project:
 1. The Authority shall evaluate the current conditions of the project, including existing environmental, structural, and regulatory integrity and the degree to which the project is consistent with the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1251 to 1387.
 2. The Authority shall evaluate the degree to which the project improves or protects water quality.
 3. The Authority shall evaluate the degree to which the project addresses water or energy efficiency or environmentally innovative approaches.
 4. The Authority shall evaluate the degree to which the project promotes any of the following:
 - a. Consolidation of facilities, operations, and ownership;
 - b. Extending service to existing areas currently served by another facility; or
 - c. A regional approach to operations, management, or new facilities.
 5. The Authority shall determine whether the project received assistance from the Authority in a previous funding cycle.
 6. The Authority shall evaluate the applicant's local fiscal capacity.
- B. If two or more projects have the same rank according to subsection (A), the Authority shall give priority to the project with the highest current condition value under subsection (A)(1). If projects remain tied, priority will be given to the project with the highest water quality improvement value under subsection (A)(2). If projects remain tied, this process shall continue through the categories under subsections (A)(3) through (6), sequentially. If projects continue to have the same priority value, the Board shall determine the priority of the tied projects.
- C. The Authority shall determine the subsidy rate index for each project on the Clean Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List based on the applicant's local fiscal capacity value under subsection (A)(6) and the overall priority value of the project. The Authority shall incorporate the subsidy rate index in the financial assistance agreement.

Historical Note

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3). Amended effective June 4, 1998 (Supp. 98-2). Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-205. Clean Water Revolving Fund Fundable Range for Financial Assistance

- A. Prior to adoption by the Board of the Clean Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List, the Authority shall determine which projects are within the fundable range.
- B. In determining the fundable range, the Authority shall evaluate each project for evidence that the project is ready to proceed. The Authority shall consider the following indicators when evaluating whether the project is within the fundable range:
 1. Evidence of debt authorization according to R18-15-104(B);
 2. Evidence that the applicant has obtained applicable local, state, or federal project permits, as applicable;

3. Evidence of approval by the appropriate authority of project plans and specifications; and
4. Evidence that the applicant has initiated the bid or solicitation process.

Historical Note

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3). Section repealed; new Section R18-15-205 renumbered from R18-15-206 and amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-206. Clean Water Revolving Fund Application for Financial Assistance

- A. The Authority shall accept an application for financial assistance from an eligible applicant for a project that appears on the Clean Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List and is determined to be in the fundable range. At the Authority's discretion, the Authority may accept an application for financial assistance prior to the project appearing on a Board-adopted Clean Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List.
- B. The Authority shall not forward an application to the Board for consideration until all the following conditions are met:
 1. The project is on the Clean Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List;
 2. The applicant has provided supporting documentation according to R18-15-205(B);
 3. The applicant has demonstrated legal capability, financial capability, technical capability, and managerial capability as described in R18-15-104;
 4. For nonpoint source projects, the applicant has provided evidence that the project is consistent with Section 319 and Title VI of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1329, 1381 to 1387;
 5. The applicant has obtained or is in the process of obtaining all permits and approvals required by federal, state, and local authorities; and
 6. The proposed project is consistent with the Certified Water Quality Management Plan.
- C. The application criteria required under subsections (A) and (B) shall not apply to financial assistance requests for short-term emergency loans under A.R.S. § 49-1269.

Historical Note

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3). Amended effective June 4, 1998 (Supp. 98-2). Former Section R18-15-206 renumbered to R18-15-205; new Section R18-15-206 made by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-207. Clean Water Revolving Fund Application Review for Financial Assistance

- A. The Authority shall evaluate and summarize each application received and develop an analysis that provides recommendations to the Board. The analysis shall at a minimum include:
 1. The scope, size, and budget of the proposed project, including as much cost detail as possible;
 2. A summary of the applicant's legal capability including authorization to enter into long-term indebtedness and to pledge the specified dedicated revenue source for repayment;
 3. A summary of the applicant's technical capability including its ability to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed project;

4. A summary of the applicant's managerial capability, including the experience of elected officials and management team in managing similar organizations and similar projects;
 5. A summary of the applicant's financial capability, including:
 - a. The amount of money collected through the dedicated revenue source for repayment for each of the previous three fiscal years,
 - b. An estimate of the amount of money that will be collected through the dedicated revenue source for repayment for the current fiscal year, and
 - c. A projection of the amount of money that will be collected through the dedicated revenue source for repayment for each of the next five fiscal years;
 6. The applicant's history of compliance with, as applicable, the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1251 to 1387, related Arizona statutes, and related rules, regulations, and policies; and
 7. A summary of any previous assistance provided by the Authority to the applicant.
- B. The Board shall make a determination regarding the applicant's request for financial assistance at a public meeting. The Board shall base this determination on the information provided in the application, the analysis prepared by the Authority, and any other information provided at the public meeting. The Authority shall inform the applicant of the Board's determination, which may include recommended modifications to any of the following:
 1. The proposed project,
 2. The applicant's legal structure and organization,
 3. The dedicated revenue source for repayment, or
 4. The structure of the financial assistance request.
 - C. If the Board determines at any time during a funding cycle that funds are limited or are not available to provide financial assistance, the Authority shall notify applicants on the current Clean Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List that the Authority is no longer accepting applications. The Board shall determine the amount of funding available, if any, to provide financial assistance for the applications already accepted by the Authority. The Board shall consider each application in the order the project appears within the fundable range on the current Clean Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List. The Board shall make a determination as described in subsection (B) on each application until the available funds are committed.
 - D. Upon Board approval of the applicant's request for financial assistance, the Authority shall prepare a financial assistance agreement for execution by the applicant and the Authority.

Historical Note

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3). Amended effective June 4, 1998 (Supp. 98-2). Section repealed; new Section made by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-208. Clean Water Revolving Fund Requirements

- A. The duly authorized agent, principal or officer of the applicant shall certify that the applicant has not violated any federal, state, or local law pertaining to fraud, bribery, graft, kickbacks, collusion, conflict of interest, or other unlawful or corrupt practices relating to or in connection with facilities planning, design, or construction work on a wastewater treatment facility project.

- B. All projects shall comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, P.L. 88-352, 42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq., and all other applicable federal laws.

Historical Note

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3).
Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

ARTICLE 3. DRINKING WATER REVOLVING FUND

R18-15-301. Drinking Water Revolving Fund Financial Assistance Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to receive financial assistance from the Drinking Water Revolving Fund, the applicant shall demonstrate that the applicant is a drinking water facility as defined by A.R.S. § 49-1201 requesting financial assistance for a purpose as defined in A.R.S. § 49-1243(A); the proposed project is to plan, design, construct, acquire, or improve a drinking water facility or refinance an eligible drinking water facility; and the proposed project appears on the Drinking Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List developed under R18-15-303.

Historical Note

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3).
Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-302. Drinking Water Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan

- A. The Authority annually shall develop and publish a Drinking Water Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan that identifies the intended uses of funds available in the Drinking Water Revolving Fund Program. The Intended Use Plan shall include the project priority list according to R18-15-303. If an Intended Use Plan is to be submitted as one of the documents required to obtain a federal capitalization grant under the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. 300f to 300j-26, the Intended Use Plan shall include any additional information required by federal law.
- B. The Authority shall provide for a public review and written comment period of the draft Drinking Water Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan for a minimum of 14 calendar days. The Authority shall summarize all written comments submitted and prepare responses for Board review. After review of the summary, the Board shall make any appropriate changes to the Plan and then adopt the Drinking Water Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan at a public meeting.

Historical Note

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3).
Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Section repealed; new R18-15-302 renumbered from R18-15-303 and amended by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-303. Drinking Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List

- A. The Authority annually shall prepare a Drinking Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List as part of the Intended Use Plan described in R18-15-302. The Board may waive the requirement to develop an annual Drinking Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List if funds are not adequate to assist any projects or if the Board determines that no financial assistance will be offered for the annual funding cycle.

- B. An applicant pursuing financial assistance from the Authority for a project shall request to have the project included on the Drinking Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List. The applicant may request that multiple projects be placed on the Drinking Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List. An applicant shall make a request for placement of a project on the Drinking Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List on or before a date specified by the Authority and in an application format specified by the Authority. The Authority shall include with the project priority list application form the criteria under each ranking category in R18-15-304(A) by which the project will be evaluated and the relative importance of each of the criterion.
- C. In preparing the Drinking Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List, the Authority shall consider all project priority list applications submitted under subsection (B), all projects requested by regulatory authorities, and all plans prepared under the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. 300f to 300j-26. The Authority shall evaluate the merits of each project with respect to water quality issues and determine the priority value of each project according to R18-15-304. At a minimum, the Drinking Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List shall identify:
1. The applicant;
 2. Project title;
 3. Type of project;
 4. Population of service area;
 5. The amount requested for financial assistance;
 6. The subsidy rate index according to R18-15-304(C);
 7. Whether the project is within the fundable range according to R18-15-305; and
 8. The rank of each project by the priority value, determined according to R18-15-304.
- D. After adoption of the annual Intended Use Plan and project priority list according to R18-15-302, the Board may allow:
1. Updates and corrections to the adopted Drinking Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List, if the updates and corrections are adopted by the Board after an opportunity for public comment at a public meeting; or
 2. Additions to the Drinking Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List, if the additions are adopted by the Board after an opportunity for public comment at a public meeting.
- E. After an opportunity for public comment at a public meeting, the Board may remove a project from the Drinking Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List under one or more of the following circumstances:
1. The recipient has received all financial assistance identified in the executed financial assistance agreement with the Authority;
 2. The project was financed with long-term indebtedness from another source;
 3. The project is no longer an eligible project;
 4. The applicant requests removal;
 5. The applicant is no longer an eligible applicant; or
 6. The applicant did not update, modify, correct or resubmit a project that remained on the project priority list for more than 365 days.

Historical Note

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3).
Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Former R18-15-303 renumbered to R18-15-302; new Section made by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-304. Drinking Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List Ranking

- A. The Authority shall rank each project listed on the Drinking Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List based on the priority value of each project. The Authority shall consider the following categories to determine the priority value of each project:
1. The Authority shall evaluate the current conditions of the system through the system's rank on the Department's master priority list.
 2. The Authority shall evaluate the degree to which the project will result in improvement to the water system.
 3. The Authority shall evaluate the degree to which the project addresses water or energy efficiency or environmentally innovative approaches.
 4. The Authority shall evaluate the degree to which the project promotes any of the following:
 - a. Consolidation of facilities, operations, and ownership;
 - b. Extending service to existing areas currently served by another facility; or
 - c. A regional approach to operations, management, or new facilities.
 5. The Authority shall determine whether the project received assistance from the Authority in a previous funding cycle.
 6. The Authority shall evaluate the applicant's local fiscal capacity.
- B. If two or more projects have the same rank according to subsection (A), the Authority shall give priority to the project with the highest current condition value under subsection (A)(1). If projects remain tied, priority will be given to the project with the highest water system improvement value under subsection (A)(2). If projects remain tied, this process shall continue through the categories under subsections (A)(3) through (6), sequentially. If projects continue to have the same priority value, the Board shall determine the priority of the tied projects.
- C. The Authority shall determine the subsidy rate index for each project on the Drinking Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List based on the applicant's local fiscal capacity value and the overall priority value of the project. The Authority shall incorporate the subsidy rate index in the financial assistance agreement.

Historical Note

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3).
Amended effective June 4, 1998 (Supp. 98-2). Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-305. Drinking Water Revolving Fund Fundable Range for Financial Assistance

- A. Prior to adoption by the Board of the Drinking Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List, the Authority shall determine which projects are within the fundable range.
- B. In determining the fundable range the Authority shall evaluate each project for evidence that the project is ready to proceed. The Authority shall consider the following indicators when evaluating whether the project is within the fundable range:
1. Evidence of debt authorization according to R18-15-104(B);
 2. Evidence that the applicant has obtained applicable local, state, or federal project permits, as applicable;
 3. Evidence of approval by the appropriate authority of project plans and specifications; and

4. Evidence that the applicant has initiated the bid or solicitation process.

Historical Note

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3).
Amended effective June 4, 1998 (Supp. 98-2). Former Section R18-15-305 repealed; new Section R18-15-305 renumbered from R18-15-306 and amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-306. Drinking Water Revolving Fund Application for Financial Assistance

- A. The Authority shall accept an application for financial assistance from an eligible applicant for a project that appears on the Drinking Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List and is determined to be within the fundable range. At the Authority's discretion, the Authority may accept an application for financial assistance prior to the project appearing on a Board-adopted Drinking Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List.
- B. The Authority shall not forward an application to the Board for consideration until all the following conditions are met:
1. The project is on the Drinking Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List;
 2. The applicant has provided supporting documentation according to R18-15-305(B);
 3. The applicant has demonstrated legal capability, financial capability, technical capability and managerial capability as described in R18-15-104; and
 4. The applicant has obtained or is in the process of obtaining all permits and approvals required by federal, state, and local authorities.
- C. The application criteria required under subsections (A) and (B) shall not apply to financial assistance requests for short-term emergency loans under A.R.S. § 49-1269.

Historical Note

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3).
Amended effective June 4, 1998 (Supp. 98-2). Former Section R18-15-306 renumbered to R18-15-305; new Section R18-15-306 made by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-307. Drinking Water Revolving Fund Application Review for Financial Assistance

- A. The Authority shall evaluate and summarize each application received and develop an analysis that provides recommendations to the Board. At a minimum, the analysis shall include:
1. The scope, size, and budget of the proposed project, including as much cost detail as possible;
 2. A summary of the applicant's legal capability, including authorization to enter into long-term indebtedness and to pledge the specified dedicated revenue source for repayment;
 3. A summary of the applicant's technical capability, including its ability to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed project;
 4. A summary of the applicant's managerial capability, including the experience of elected officials and management team in managing similar organizations and similar projects;
 5. A summary of the applicant's financial capability, including:

- a. The amount of money collected through the dedicated revenue source for repayment for each of the previous three fiscal years,
 - b. An estimate of the amount of money that will be collected through the dedicated revenue source for repayment for the current fiscal year, and
 - c. A projection of the amount of money that will be collected through the dedicated revenue source for repayment for each of the next five fiscal years;
6. The applicant's history of compliance with, as applicable, the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. 300f to 300j-26, related Arizona statutes, and related rules, regulations and policies; and
 7. A summary of any previous assistance provided by the Authority to the applicant.

- B. The Board shall make a determination regarding the applicant's request for financial assistance at a public meeting. The Board shall base this determination on the information provided in the application, the analysis prepared by the Authority, and any other information provided at the public meeting. The Authority shall inform the applicant of the Board's determination, which may include recommended modifications to any of the following:
 1. The proposed project,
 2. The applicant's legal structure and organization,
 3. The dedicated revenue source for repayment, or
 4. The structure of the financial assistance request.
- C. If the Board determines at any time during a funding cycle that funds are limited or are not available to provide financial assistance, the Authority shall notify applicants on the current Drinking Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List that the Authority is no longer accepting applications. The Board shall determine the amount of funding available, if any, to provide financial assistance for the applications already accepted by the Authority. The Board shall consider each application in the order the project appears within the fundable range on the current Drinking Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List. The Board shall make a determination as described in subsection (B) on each application until the available funds are committed.
- D. Upon Board approval of the applicant's request for financial assistance, the Authority shall prepare a financial assistance agreement for execution by the applicant and the Authority.

Historical Note

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3).
Amended effective June 4, 1998 (Supp. 98-2). Section repealed; new Section made by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4).
Amended by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-308. Drinking Water Revolving Fund Requirements

- A. The duly authorized agent, principal or officer of the applicant shall certify the applicant has not violated any federal, state, or local law pertaining to fraud, bribery, graft, kickbacks, collusion, conflict of interest, or other unlawful or corrupt practices relating to or in connection with facilities planning, design, or construction work on a project.
- B. All projects shall comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, P.L. 88-352, 42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq., and all other applicable federal laws.

Historical Note

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3).
Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rule-

making at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

ARTICLE 4. WATER SUPPLY DEVELOPMENT REVOLVING FUND

R18-15-401. Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Financial Assistance Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to receive financial assistance from the Water Supply Development Revolving Fund, the applicant shall demonstrate the applicant is a water provider as defined by A.R.S. § 49-1201(14) requesting financial assistance for a purpose as defined in A.R.S. § 49-1273(A); the water provider meets the requirements of A.R.S. § 49-1273(C); and the proposed project appears on the Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Project Priority List developed under R18-15-403.

Historical Note

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3).
Amended by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-402. Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan

- A. The Authority annually shall develop and publish a Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan that identifies the intended uses of funds available in the Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Program. The Intended Use Plan shall include the project priority list according to R18-15-403 and specify whether funds are available to subsidize the projects. The Authority is not required to prepare a Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan if funds are not adequate to assist any projects or if the Committee determines that no financial assistance will be offered for the annual funding cycle.
- B. The Authority shall provide for a public review and written comment period of the draft Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan for a minimum of 14 calendar days. The Authority shall summarize all written comments submitted and prepare responses for Committee review. After review of the summary, the Committee shall make any appropriate changes to the Plan and then adopt the Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan at a public meeting.

Historical Note

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3). Section repealed; new Section made by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-403. Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Project Priority List

- A. The Authority annually shall prepare a Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Project Priority List as part of the Intended Use Plan described in R18-15-402. The Authority is not required to prepare a Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Project Priority List if funds are not adequate to assist any projects or if the Committee determines that no financial assistance will be offered for the annual funding cycle.
- B. An applicant pursuing financial assistance from the Authority for a water supply development project shall request to have the project included on the Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Project Priority List. The applicant may request that multiple projects be placed on the Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Project Priority List. An applicant shall make a request for placement of a project on the Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Project Priority List on or before a date specified by the Authority and in an

application format specified by the Authority. The Authority shall include with the project priority list application form the criteria under each ranking category in R18-15-404(A) by which the project will be evaluated and the relative importance of each of the criterion.

- C. In preparing the Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Project Priority List, the Authority shall consider all project priority list applications submitted under subsection (B). The Authority shall evaluate the merits of each project with respect to water supply development issues and determine the priority value of each project according to R18-15-404. At a minimum, the Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Project Priority List shall identify:
1. The applicant;
 2. Project title;
 3. Type of project;
 4. Population of water provider's service area;
 5. The amount requested for financial assistance;
 6. The subsidy rate index according to R18-15-404(C);
 7. Whether the project is within the fundable range according to R18-15-405; and
 8. The rank of each project by the priority value, determined according to R18-15-404.
- D. After adoption of the annual Intended Use Plan and Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Project Priority List according to R18-15-402, the Committee may allow:
1. Updates and corrections to the adopted Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Project Priority List, if the updates and corrections are adopted by the Committee after an opportunity for public comment at a public meeting; or
 2. Additions to the Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Project Priority List, if the additions are adopted by the Committee after an opportunity for public comment at a public meeting.
- E. After an opportunity for public comment at a public meeting, the Committee may remove a project from the Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Project Priority List under one or more of the following circumstances:
1. The recipient has received all financial assistance identified in the executed financial assistance agreement with the Authority;
 2. The project was financed with long-term indebtedness from another source;
 3. The project is no longer an eligible project;
 4. The applicant requests removal;
 5. The applicant is no longer an eligible applicant; or
 6. The applicant did not update, modify, correct or resubmit a project that remained on the project priority list for more than 365 days.

Historical Note

Adopted effective September 18, 1997 (Supp. 97-3).
Amended effective June 4, 1998 (Supp. 98-2). Section repealed by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). New Section made by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-404. Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Project Priority List Ranking

- A. The Authority shall rank each project listed on the Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Project Priority List based on the priority value of each project. The Authority shall consider the following categories to determine the priority value of each project.

1. The Authority shall evaluate the existing, near-term, and long-term water demands of the water provider as compared to the existing water supplies of the water provider.
 2. The Authority shall evaluate the existing and planned conservation and water management programs of the water provider.
 3. The Authority shall evaluate the current conditions of the water provider's facilities and the water provider's water supply needs, and evaluate how effectively the project will benefit the infrastructure or water supply needs.
 4. The Authority shall evaluate the sustainability of the water supply to be developed through the project.
 5. The Authority shall evaluate the applicant's local fiscal capacity.
- B. If two or more projects have the same rank according to subsection (A), the Authority shall give priority to the project with the highest water demand value under subsection (A)(1). If projects remain tied, priority will be given to the project with the highest conservation and water management value under subsection (A)(2). If projects remain tied, this process shall continue through the categories under subsections (A)(3) through (5), sequentially. If projects continue to have the same priority value, the Committee shall determine the priority of the tied projects.
- C. If monies are available to provide a subsidy to the project, the Authority shall determine the subsidy rate index for each project on the Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Project Priority List based on the applicant's local fiscal capacity value and the overall priority value of the project. The Authority shall incorporate the subsidy rate index in the financial assistance agreement.

Historical Note

New Section made by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-405. Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Fundable Range for Financial Assistance

- A. Prior to adoption by the Committee of the Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Project Priority List, the Authority shall determine which projects are within the fundable range.
- B. In determining the fundable range the Authority shall evaluate each project for evidence that the project is ready to proceed. The Authority shall consider any of the following indicators when evaluating whether the project is within the fundable range:
1. Evidence of debt authorization according to R18-15-104(B);
 2. Evidence that the applicant has obtained applicable local, state, or federal project permits, as applicable;
 3. Evidence of approval by the appropriate authority of project plans and specifications; and
 4. Evidence that the applicant has initiated the bid or solicitation process.

Historical Note

New Section made by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-406. Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Application for Financial Assistance

- A. The Authority shall accept an application for financial assistance from an eligible applicant for a project that appears on the Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Project Priority List and is determined to be within the fundable range. At the Authority's discretion, the Authority may accept an application for financial assistance prior to the project appearing on

- a Committee-adopted Water Supply Development Fund Project Priority List.
- B.** The Authority shall not forward an application for financial assistance to the Committee for consideration until all the following conditions are met:
1. The water supply development project has been prioritized;
 2. The applicant has provided supporting documentation according to R18-15-405(B);
 3. The applicant has demonstrated legal capability, financial capability, technical capability, and managerial capability under R18-15-104;
 4. The applicant has obtained or is in the process of obtaining all permits and approvals required by federal, state, and local authorities; and
 5. The applicant has demonstrated the ability to meet any applicable environmental requirements imposed by federal, state, or local agencies.

Historical Note

New Section made by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-407. Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Application Review for Financial Assistance

- A.** The Authority shall evaluate and summarize each application for financial assistance received and develop an analysis that provides recommendations to the Committee. The analysis shall at a minimum include:
1. The scope, size, and budget of the proposed project, including as much cost detail as possible;
 2. A summary of the applicant's legal capability including authorization to enter into long-term indebtedness and to pledge the specified dedicated revenue source for repayment;
 3. A summary of the applicant's technical capability, including its ability to construct, operate and maintain the proposed project;
 4. A summary of the applicant's managerial capability, including the experience of elected officials and management team in managing similar organizations and similar projects;
 5. A summary of the applicant's financial capability, including:
 - a. The amount of money collected through the dedicated revenue source for repayment for each of the previous three fiscal years,
 - b. An estimate of the amount of money that will be collected through the dedicated revenue source for repayment for the current fiscal year, and
 - c. A projection of the amount of money that will be collected through the dedicated revenue source for repayment for each of the next five fiscal years;
 6. A summary of any previous assistance provided by the Authority to the applicant; and
 7. A summary of the applicant's ability to meet any applicable permitting and environmental requirements imposed by federal, state, or local agencies.
- B.** The Committee shall make a determination regarding the applicant's request for financial assistance at a public meeting. The Committee shall base this determination on the information provided in the application, the analysis prepared by the Authority, and any other information provided at the public meeting. The Authority shall inform the applicant of the Committee's determination, which may include recommended modifications to any of the following:
1. The proposed project,

2. The applicant's legal structure and organization,
 3. The dedicated revenue source for repayment, or
 4. The structure of the financial assistance request.
- C.** If the Committee determines at any time during a funding cycle that funds are limited or are not available to provide financial assistance, the Authority shall notify applicants on the current Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Project Priority List that the Authority is no longer accepting applications. The Committee shall determine the amount of funding available, if any, to provide financial assistance for the applications by the Authority. The Committee shall consider each application in the order the project appears within the fundable range on the current Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Project Priority List. The Committee shall make a determination as described in subsection (B) on each application until the available funds are committed.
- D.** Upon Committee approval of the applicant's request for financial assistance, the Authority shall prepare a financial assistance agreement for execution by the applicant and the Authority.

Historical Note

New Section made by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-408. Water Supply Development Revolving Fund Requirements

The duly authorized agent, principal or officer of the applicant shall certify the applicant has not violated any federal, state, or local law pertaining to fraud, bribery, graft, kickbacks, collusion, conflict of interest, or other unlawful or corrupt practices relating to or in connection with facilities planning, design, or construction work on a project.

Historical Note

New Section made by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

ARTICLE 5. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

R18-15-501. Technical Assistance

The Authority may provide Clean Water technical assistance, Drinking Water technical assistance, and Water Supply Development technical assistance if funding is approved in the Technical Assistance Intended Use Plan according to R18-15-502. The Authority shall provide technical assistance in compliance with A.R.S. § 49-1203(B)(16) and (17).

Historical Note

New Section adopted by final rulemaking at 6 A.A.R. 2116, effective May 16, 2000 (Supp. 00-2). Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Former R18-15-501 renumbered to R18-15-502; new Section made by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-502. Technical Assistance Intended Use Plan

- A.** The Authority annually shall develop and publish one or more Technical Assistance Intended Use Plans that identify intended uses of funds available for Clean Water technical assistance and Drinking Water technical assistance. The Authority shall develop a Water Supply Development Technical Assistance Intended Use Plan if funds are available or if the Committee determines that Water Supply Development technical assistance will be offered. The Intended Use Plan shall identify whether funds are available and the amount of funds available for planning and design assistance grants, staff assistance, and professional assistance for Clean Water, Drinking Water, and Water Supply Development. The Authority may develop Technical Assistance Intended Use Plans separately for Clean

Water, Drinking Water, and Water Supply Development or as parts of the Intended Use Plans required under R18-15-202, R18-15-302, and R18-15-402. If the Technical Assistance Intended Use Plan is to be submitted as a document required to obtain a federal capitalization grant, the Technical Assistance Intended Use Plan shall include any additional information required by federal law. The Authority is not required to prepare a Water Supply Development Technical Assistance Intended Use Plan if funds are not adequate to assist any projects or if the Committee determines that no Water Supply Development technical assistance will be offered for the annual funding cycle.

- B.** The Authority shall provide for a public review and written comment period of any draft Technical Assistance Intended Use Plan for a minimum of 14 calendar days. The Authority shall summarize all written comments received and prepare responses. The Authority shall provide a summary of the written comments and the Authority's responses regarding the Clean Water and Drinking Water Technical Assistance Intended Use Plans to the Board and provide a summary of the written comments and the Authority's responses regarding any Water Supply Development Technical Assistance Intended Use Plan to the Committee. After review of the comments and the Authority's responses to comments received during the public review and written comment period, the Board or the Committee, as applicable, shall adopt the applicable Technical Assistance Intended Use Plan or Plans at a public meeting with any changes made in response to public comments or comments by members of the Board or Committee.

Historical Note

New Section adopted by final rulemaking at 6 A.A.R. 2116, effective May 16, 2000 (Supp. 00-2). Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Section repealed; new R18-15-502 renumbered from R18-15-501 and amended by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-503. Clean Water Planning and Design Assistance Grants

- A.** Planning and design assistance grants to a specific wastewater treatment facility shall assist that system to achieve or enhance its legal, financial, technical, or managerial capability to facilitate the design, construction, acquisition, improvement, or consolidation of the wastewater treatment facility. The Board shall approve funds available for planning and design assistance grants in the annual Clean Water Technical Assistance Intended Use Plan. The Board may determine that no assistance will be offered for the annual funding cycle.
- B.** To be eligible to receive a planning and design assistance grant under the Clean Water Technical Assistance Program, the grant applicant shall demonstrate the applicant is a governmental unit that owns a wastewater treatment facility, or a non-governmental unit requesting technical assistance specifically for the purpose of forming a political subdivision. An eligible grant applicant shall apply for a planning and design assistance grant on or before a date specified by the Authority and on a grant application form specified by the Authority.
- C.** A grant applicant shall commit to a matching contribution toward the total project cost as specified in the Request for Grant Applications. The matching contribution may include cash contributions or in-kind contributions. The Board may waive or modify the grant applicant's match requirement according to criteria established in the Request for Grant Applications.

- D.** The Authority shall solicit, evaluate, and award planning and design assistance grants in accordance with A.R.S. § 41-2702.
- E.** The Authority shall evaluate the grant applications received to determine which projects are eligible under the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1381 to 1387. Eligible grant applications shall specify a demonstrated need of the grant applicant for assistance in securing financial assistance for development and implementation of a wastewater capital improvement project.
- F.** The Authority shall determine planning and design assistance grant awards based on the amount of funding available. If funding is limited, all eligible projects may not be funded. The Authority shall provide the planning and design assistance grant award recommendations to the Board for review and approval at a public meeting. The Board may adopt, modify, or reject the Authority's recommendations in whole or in part.
- G.** Within 30 days after the adoption of the planning and design assistance grant awards at a public meeting, the Authority shall notify all grant applicants whether or not they received an award.
- H.** An unsuccessful grant applicant may submit an appeal in writing in accordance with A.R.S. § 41-2704.
- I.** The Authority and the grant applicant shall enter into a planning and design assistance grant agreement that shall include at a minimum:
1. A scope of work,
 2. The amount of the grant awarded,
 3. The amount of the local match required,
 4. A final project budget and timeline, and
 5. Reporting requirements.
- J.** Project costs incurred prior to execution of a planning and design assistance grant agreement shall not be eligible for grant funding.
- K.** The Authority shall release grant proceeds subject to a disbursement request if the request is consistent with the planning and design assistance grant agreement and the disbursement schedule.
1. The grant recipient shall request each disbursement on the forms provided by the Authority. Each disbursement request shall include a certification and signature document, a cost-incurred report, and a DBE report. The Authority shall not process a disbursement until the applicant provides a completed disbursement form.
 2. The grant recipient shall include copies of invoices, canceled checks, or other documents that show proof of eligible costs incurred with each disbursement request.

Historical Note

New Section adopted by final rulemaking at 6 A.A.R. 2116, effective May 16, 2000 (Supp. 00-2). Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-504. Drinking Water Planning and Design Assistance Grants

- A.** Planning and design assistance grants to a specific drinking water facility, excluding a nonprofit noncommunity water system, shall assist that facility to achieve or enhance its legal, financial, technical, or managerial capability to facilitate the design, construction, acquisition, improvement, or consolidation of a community water system. The Board shall approve funds available for planning and design assistance grants in the annual Drinking Water Technical Assistance Intended Use Plan. The Board may determine that no assistance will be offered for the annual funding cycle.
- B.** To be eligible to receive a planning and design assistance grant under the Drinking Water Technical Assistance Program, the

grant applicant shall demonstrate the applicant owns a drinking water facility, excluding a nonprofit noncommunity water system. An eligible grant applicant shall apply for a planning and design assistance grant on or before a date specified by the Authority and on a grant application form specified by the Authority.

- C. A grant applicant shall commit to a matching contribution toward the total project cost as specified in the Request for Grant Applications. The matching contribution may include cash contributions or in-kind contributions. The Board may waive or modify the grant applicant's match requirement according to criteria established in the Request for Grant Applications.
- D. The Authority shall solicit, evaluate, and award planning and design assistance grants in accordance with A.R.S. § 41-2702.
- E. The Authority shall evaluate the grant applications received to determine which projects are eligible under the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. 300f to 300j-26. Eligible grant applications shall specify a demonstrated need of the grant applicant for assistance in securing financial assistance for development and implementation of a drinking water capital improvement project.
- F. The Authority shall determine planning and design assistance grant awards based on the amount of funding available. If funding is limited, all eligible projects may not be funded. The Authority shall provide the planning and design assistance grant award recommendations to the Board for review and approval at a public meeting. The Board may adopt, modify, or reject the Authority's recommendations in whole or in part.
- G. Within 30 days after the adoption of the planning and design assistance grant awards at a public meeting, the Authority shall notify all grant applicants whether or not they received an award.
- H. An unsuccessful grant applicant may submit an appeal in writing according to A.R.S. § 41-2704.
- I. The Authority and the grant applicant shall enter into a planning and design assistance grant agreement that shall include at a minimum:
 1. A scope of work,
 2. The amount of the grant awarded,
 3. The amount of the local match required,
 4. A final project budget and timeline, and
 5. Reporting requirements.
- J. Project costs incurred prior to execution of a planning and design assistance grant agreement shall not be eligible for grant funding.
- K. The Authority shall release grant proceeds subject to a disbursement request if the request is consistent with the planning and design assistance grant agreement and the disbursement schedule.
 1. The grant recipient shall request each disbursement on the forms provided by the Authority. Each disbursement request shall include a certification and signature document, a cost-incurred report, and a DBE report. The Authority shall not process a disbursement until the applicant provides a completed disbursement form.
 2. The grant recipient shall include copies of invoices, canceled checks, or other documents that show proof of eligible costs incurred with each disbursement request.

Historical Note

New Section adopted by final rulemaking at 6 A.A.R. 2116, effective May 16, 2000 (Supp. 00-2). Former Section R18-15-504 repealed; new Section R18-15-504 renumbered from R18-15-505 and amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001

(Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-505. Water Supply Development Planning and Design Assistance Grants

- A. Planning and design assistance grant funding to a water provider shall assist the water provider in the planning or design of a water supply development project. A single planning and design assistance grant award shall not exceed \$100,000. The Committee shall approve funds available for planning and design assistance grants in the annual Water Supply Development Technical Assistance Intended Use Plan. The Committee may determine that no assistance will be offered for the annual funding cycle.
- B. To be eligible to receive a planning and design assistance grant under the Water Supply Development Technical Assistance Program, the grant applicant shall demonstrate the applicant is a water provider as defined in A.R.S. § 49-1201 and meet the requirements of A.R.S. § 49-1273(C). An eligible grant applicant shall apply for a planning and design assistance grant on or before a date specified by the Authority and on a grant application form specified by the Authority.
- C. A grant applicant shall commit to a matching contribution toward the total project cost as specified in the Request for Grant Applications. The matching contribution may include cash contributions or in-kind contributions. The Board may waive or modify the grant applicant's match requirement according to criteria established in the Request for Grant Applications.
- D. The Authority shall solicit, evaluate, and award planning and design assistance grants in accordance with A.R.S. § 41-2702.
- E. The Authority shall evaluate the grant applications received to determine which projects are eligible. Eligible grant applications shall specify a demonstrated need of the grant applicant for assistance in securing financial assistance for planning and design of a water supply capital improvement project.
- F. The Authority shall determine planning and design assistance grant awards based on the amount of funding available. If funding is limited, all eligible projects may not be funded. The Authority shall provide the planning and design assistance grant award recommendations to the Committee for review and approval at a public meeting. The Committee may adopt, modify, or reject the Authority's recommendations in whole or in part.
- G. Within 30 days after the adoption of the planning and design assistance grant awards at a public meeting, the Authority shall notify all grant applicants whether or not they received an award.
- H. An unsuccessful grant applicant may submit an appeal in writing according to A.R.S. § 41-2704.
- I. The Authority and the grant applicant shall enter into a planning and design assistance grant agreement that shall include at a minimum:
 1. A scope of work,
 2. The amount of the grant awarded,
 3. The amount of the local match required,
 4. A final project budget and timeline, and
 5. Reporting requirements.
- J. Project costs incurred prior to execution of a planning and design assistance grant agreement shall not be eligible for grant funding.
- K. The Authority shall release grant proceeds subject to a disbursement request if the request is consistent with the planning and design assistance grant agreement and the disbursement schedule.
 1. The grant recipient shall request each disbursement on the forms provided by the Authority. Each disbursement

request shall include a certification and signature document, and a cost-incurred report. The Authority shall not process a disbursement until the applicant provides a completed disbursement form.

2. The grant recipient shall include copies of invoices, canceled checks, or other documents that show proof of eligible costs incurred with each disbursement request.

Historical Note

New Section adopted by final rulemaking at 6 A.A.R. 2116, effective May 16, 2000 (Supp. 00-2). Former Section R18-15-505 renumbered to R18-15-504; new Section R18-15-505 made by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-5-506. Repealed

Historical Note

New Section adopted by final rulemaking at 6 A.A.R. 2116, effective May 16, 2000 (Supp. 00-2). Section repealed; new Section made by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Section repealed by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-507. Repealed

Historical Note

New Section adopted by final rulemaking at 6 A.A.R. 2116, effective May 16, 2000 (Supp. 00-2). Section repealed; new Section made by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Section repealed by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-508. Repealed

Historical Note

New Section made by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Section repealed by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-509. Repealed

Historical Note

New Section made by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Section repealed by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-510. Repealed

Historical Note

New Section made by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Section repealed by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-511. Repealed

Historical Note

New Section made by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Section repealed by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

ARTICLE 6. HARDSHIP GRANT FUND PROGRAM

R18-15-601. Hardship Grant Fund Administration

- A. The Authority shall establish a separate account or accounts for the Hardship Grant Fund Program from any monies

received according to A.R.S. § 49-1267(A). The Authority shall only use the monies from the Hardship Grant Fund Program for:

1. Providing hardship grants to political subdivisions or Indian tribes to plan, design, acquire, construct or improve wastewater collection and treatment facilities; and
 2. Providing training and technical assistance related to operation and maintenance of wastewater treatment facilities.
- B. The Authority shall identify any funding available for financial assistance under the Hardship Grant Fund Program in the annual Clean Water Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan described in R18-15-202 and any funding available for technical assistance in the Clean Water Technical Assistance Intended Use Plan described in R18-15-502. If the Board determines no funding is available for the Hardship Grant Fund Program, the Authority shall not evaluate any applications for financial assistance or grant applications for technical assistance for funding from the Hardship Grant Fund Program.

Historical Note

New Section adopted by final rulemaking at 6 A.A.R. 2116, effective May 16, 2000 (Supp. 00-2). Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Section repealed; new Section made by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-602. Hardship Grant Fund Financial Assistance

- A. If funding is available in the Hardship Grant Fund Program, the Authority shall determine if any of the applicants requesting placement on the Clean Water Revolving Fund Project Priority List meet the requirements according to A.R.S. § 49-1268(A)(2). In addition to meeting the requirements of A.R.S. § 49-1268(A)(2), the applicant shall meet the following:
 1. On the date the applicant applies for financial assistance, the per capita annual income of the community's residents does not exceed 80% of national per capita income as reported by the U.S. Census Bureau.
 2. On the date the applicant applies for financial assistance, the community's local unemployment rate exceeds by one percentage point or more the most recently reported average yearly national unemployment rate as reported by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.
- B. The Authority shall make the determination of applicant's eligibility for the Hardship Grant Fund Program during the ranking of the project under R18-15-204. Of the applicants eligible to receive financial assistance from the Hardship Grant Fund Program, the Authority shall award the hardship grant monies based on an applicant's financial capability and ability to generate sufficient revenues to pay for debt service.
- C. The Authority shall proceed according to Article 2 of this Chapter for any applicant meeting the eligibility requirements for the Hardship Grant Fund Program. In addition to proceeding under R18-15-207, the Authority shall identify any applicant that qualifies for Hardship Grant Fund Program financial assistance and shall make a recommendation to the Board regarding the amount of funding to provide the applicant from the Hardship Grant Fund Program.

Historical Note

New Section adopted by final rulemaking at 6 A.A.R. 2116, effective May 16, 2000 (Supp. 00-2). Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

R18-15-603. Hardship Grant Fund Technical Assistance

- A. If funding is available in the Hardship Grant Fund Program, the Authority shall identify in the Request for Grant Applications prepared according to A.R.S. § 41-2702(B) the amount of funding for technical assistance available from the Hardship Grant Fund Program.
- B. The Authority shall make the determination of grant applicant's eligibility for the Hardship Grant Fund Program during the ranking of the project under R18-15-503. Of the grant applicants eligible to receive technical assistance from the Hardship Grant Fund Program, the Authority shall award the hardship grant monies based on the financial capability of a grant applicant.
- C. The Authority shall proceed according to R18-15-503 for any grant applicant requesting assistance for operation and maintenance for a wastewater treatment facility. In addition to proceeding under R18-15-503(F), the Authority shall identify any grant applicant that qualifies for Hardship Grant Fund Program technical assistance and shall make a recommendation to the Board regarding the amount of funding to provide the grant applicant from the Hardship Grant Fund Program.

Historical Note

New Section adopted by final rulemaking at 6 A.A.R. 2116, effective May 16, 2000 (Supp. 00-2). Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4,

2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).

ARTICLE 7. INTEREST RATE SETTING AND FORGIVABLE PRINCIPAL

R18-15-701. Interest Rate Setting and Forgivable Principal

- A. The Authority shall prescribe the rate of interest, including interest rates as low as 0% on Authority loans, bond purchase agreements, and linked deposit guarantees based on the applicant's local fiscal capacity under R18-15-204(A)(6), R18-15-304(A)(6), or R18-15-404(A)(5), and an applicant's ability to generate sufficient revenues to pay debt service.
- B. The Authority may forgive principal on Authority loans, bond purchase agreements, and linked deposit guarantees made to local units of government to plan, acquire, construct, or improve drinking water facilities based on:
 - 1. An applicant's local fiscal capacity under R18-15-304(A)(6), and
 - 2. An applicant's ability to generate sufficient revenues to pay debt service.

Historical Note

New Section adopted by final rulemaking at 6 A.A.R. 2116, effective May 16, 2000 (Supp. 00-2). Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5956, effective December 4, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 16 A.A.R. 1709, effective October 9, 2010 (Supp. 10-3).