

IDAPA 58 – DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Water Quality Division

58.01.20 – Rules for Administration of Drinking Water Loan Program

To whom does this rule apply?

This rule applies to public drinking water system owners and operators such as municipalities, homeowners associations, consulting engineers, and funding agencies.

What is the purpose of this rule?

This rule provides administrative procedures and requirements for establishing, implementing, and administering a state loan program to provide financial assistance to qualifying entities of public water system facilities. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency provides annual capitalization grants to the state of Idaho for this program. Financial assistance projects must be in conformance with the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. Section 300f et seq.).

What is the legal authority for the agency to promulgate this rule?

This rule implements the following statutes passed by the Idaho Legislature:

Health and Safety -

- [Chapter 1, Title 39, Idaho Code](#) – Environmental Quality
- [Chapter 76, Title 39, Idaho Code](#) – Public Drinking Water System Loans
- [Section 39-3627\(4\), Idaho Code](#) – Loan fee to offset costs of administering loan program

Who do I contact for more information on this rule?

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58.01.20 – RULES FOR ADMINISTRATION OF DRINKING WATER LOAN PROGRAM

000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.

The Idaho State Board of Environmental Quality, pursuant to authority granted in Chapters 1 and 76, Title 39, Idaho Code, adopted the following rules for the administration of a Drinking Water Loan Program in Idaho. (3-20-20)T

001. TITLE AND SCOPE.

01. Title. These rules are titled, IDAPA 58.01.20, “Rules for Administration of Drinking Water Loan Program.” (3-20-20)T

02. Scope. The provisions of these rules shall establish administrative procedures and requirements for establishing, implementing, and administering a state loan program to provide financial assistance to qualifying entities of public water system facilities. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency provides annual capitalization grants to the state of Idaho for this program. Financial assistance projects must be in conformance with the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. Section 300f et seq.). (3-20-20)T

002. WRITTEN INTERPRETATIONS.

As described in Idaho Code Section 67-5201(19)(b)(iv), the Department of Environmental Quality may have written statements which pertain to the interpretation of these rules. If available, such written statements can be inspected and copied at cost at the Department of Environmental Quality, 1410 N. Hilton, Boise, Idaho 83706-1255. (3-20-20)T

003. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS.

Persons may be entitled to appeal agency actions authorized under these rules pursuant to IDAPA 58.01.23, “Rules of Administrative Procedure Before the Board of Environmental Quality.” (3-20-20)T

004. POLICY.

It is the policy of the Idaho Board of Environmental Quality, through the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, to administer the Drinking Water Loan Program. The Drinking Water Loan Program provides assistance to eligible public drinking water systems for the planning, design, and construction of facilities to ensure safe and adequate drinking water. It is also the intent of the Idaho Board of Environmental Quality to assign a priority rating to those projects which shall facilitate the compliance of any eligible public water system with national primary drinking water regulations applicable to the system or to otherwise significantly further the health protection objectives of these rules and the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. Section 300f et seq.). (3-20-20)T

005. INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE AND AVAILABILITY OF REFERENCED MATERIAL.

01. Incorporation by Reference. These rules do not contain documents incorporated by reference. (3-20-20)T

02. Availability of Referenced Material. The “Drinking Water Loan Handbook of Procedures” (Handbook) is available at the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, Water Quality Division Loan Program, 1410 N. Hilton, Boise, ID 83706-1255, (208)373-0502, www.deq.idaho.gov. (3-20-20)T

006. CONFIDENTIALITY.

Information obtained by the Department under these rules is subject to public disclosure pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 1, Title 74, Idaho Code, and IDAPA 58.01.21, “Rules Governing the Protection and Disclosure of Records in the Possession of the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality.” (3-20-20)T

007. SYSTEM ELIGIBILITY.

01. Eligible Systems. Public and private community water systems and nonprofit noncommunity water systems. (3-20-20)T

02. Systems Not Eligible. The following public drinking water systems will not be considered eligible for project loans: (3-20-20)T

a. Systems that do not have the technical, managerial, and financial capability to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Idaho Rules for Public Drinking Water Systems (IDAPA 58.01.08) and the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. Section 300f et seq.); (3-20-20)T

b. Systems in significant noncompliance with any requirement of the Idaho Rules for Public Drinking Water Systems (IDAPA 58.01.08) and the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. Section 300f et seq.); (3-20-20)T

c. Systems under disapproval designation as outlined in the Idaho Rules for Public Drinking Water Systems (IDAPA 58.01.08); (3-20-20)T

d. Systems under current drinking water enforcement action by the Department; or (3-20-20)T

e. Systems delinquent in payment of the annual state drinking water fee assessment. (3-20-20)T

03. Assistance to Ensure Compliance. Public water systems not eligible for project loans as described in Subsections 006.02.a. through 006.02.d. may receive assistance if: (3-20-20)T

a. The use of the assistance will ensure compliance; (3-20-20)T

b. The owner or operator of the system agrees to undertake feasible and appropriate changes in operations (including ownership, management, accounting, rates, maintenance, consolidation, alternative water supply, or other procedures); (3-20-20)T

c. The Department determines that the measures are necessary to ensure that the system has the technical, managerial, and financial capability to comply with state and federal drinking water requirements over the long term; and (3-20-20)T

d. Prior to providing assistance under this section to a public water system that is in significant noncompliance with any requirement of the Idaho Rules for Public Drinking Water Systems (IDAPA 58.01.08) and the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. Section 300f et seq.), the Department conducts a review to determine whether this section applies to the system. (3-20-20)T

008. -- 009. (RESERVED)

010. DEFINITIONS.

For the purpose of the rules contained in this chapter, the following definitions apply: (3-20-20)T

01. Applicant. Any qualifying entity making application for Drinking Water loan funds. (3-20-20)T

02. Board. The Idaho Board of Environmental Quality. (3-20-20)T

03. Categorical Exclusion (CE). Category of actions which do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment and for which, therefore, neither an environmental information document nor an environmental impact statement is required. (3-20-20)T

04. Close or Closing. The date on which the loan recipient issues and physically delivers to the Department the bond or note evidencing the loan to the loan recipient, specifically determining the principal, interest and fee amounts that shall be repaid and the schedule for payment. (3-20-20)T

05. Community Water System. A public drinking water system that: (3-20-20)T

a. Serves at least fifteen (15) service connections used by year round residents of the area served by the system; or (3-20-20)T

b. Regularly serves at least twenty-five (25) year-round residents. (3-20-20)T

06. Construction. The building, erection, acquisition, alteration, reconstruction, improvement, or extension of public drinking water system facilities, including preliminary planning to determine the economic and engineering feasibility of public drinking water system facilities, the engineering, architectural, legal, fiscal, and economic investigations, reports and studies, surveys, designs, plans, working drawings, specifications, procedures, other action necessary in the construction of public water system facilities, the inspection and supervision of the construction, and start-up of the associated facilities. (3-20-20)T

07. **Contaminant.** Any physical, chemical, biological, or radiological substance or matter in water. (3-20-20)T
08. **Department.** The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. (3-20-20)T
09. **Director.** The Director of the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality or the Director's designee. (3-20-20)T
10. **Disadvantaged Community.** The service area of a public water system that meets affordability criteria established by the Department of Environmental Quality after public review and comment. (3-20-20)T
11. **Disadvantaged Loans.** Loans made to a disadvantaged community. (3-20-20)T
12. **Distribution System.** Any combination of pipes, tanks, pumps, and other equipment which delivers water from the source(s), treatment facility(ies), or a combination of source(s) and treatment facility(ies) to the consumer. Chlorination may be considered as a function of a distribution system. (3-20-20)T
13. **Eligible Costs.** Costs which are necessary for planning, designing, and/or constructing public water system facilities. To be eligible, costs must also be reasonable and not ineligible costs. The determination of eligible costs shall be made by the Department pursuant to Section 041. (3-20-20)T
14. **Eligible Systems.** Public and private community water systems and nonprofit noncommunity water systems. (3-20-20)T
15. **Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).** A document prepared by the applicant when the Department determines that the proposed drinking water construction project will significantly affect the environment. The major purpose of the EIS will be to describe fully the significant impacts of the project and how these impacts can be either avoided or mitigated. The Environmental Review Procedures contained in Chapter 5 of the Handbook may be used as guidance when preparing an EIS. (3-20-20)T
16. **Environmental Information Document (EID).** Any written environmental assessment prepared by the applicant describing the environmental impacts of a proposed drinking water construction project. This document will be of sufficient scope to enable the Department to assess the environmental impacts of the proposed project and ultimately determine if an environmental impact statement (EIS) is warranted. (3-20-20)T
17. **Financial Management System.** Uniform method of recording, summarizing, and analyzing financial information about the public water system facility. (3-20-20)T
18. **Finding Of No Significant Impact (FONSI).** A document prepared by the Department presenting the reasons why an action, not otherwise excluded, will not have a significant effect on the human environment and for which an environmental impact statement (EIS) will not be prepared. It shall include the environmental assessment or a summary of it and shall note any other environmental documents related to it. (3-20-20)T
19. **Handbook.** "Drinking Water Loan Handbook of Procedures." (3-20-20)T
20. **Ineligible Costs.** Costs which are not eligible for funding pursuant to these rules. (3-20-20)T
21. **Loan Recipient.** An applicant who has been awarded a loan. (3-20-20)T
22. **Managerial Capability.** The capabilities of the qualified entity to support the proper financial management and technical operation of the system. (3-20-20)T
23. **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL).** The maximum permissible level of a contaminant in water which is delivered to any user of a public water system. (3-20-20)T
24. **Noncommunity Water System.** A public water system that is not a community water system. (3-20-20)T

- 25. Nonprofit Noncommunity Water System.** A public water system that is not a community water system and is governed by Section 501 of the U. S. Internal Revenue Code and includes but is not limited to: state agencies, municipalities, and nonprofit organizations such as churches and schools. (3-20-20)T
- 26. Nontransient Noncommunity Water System.** A public water system that is not a community water system and that regularly serves at least 25 (twenty-five) of the same persons over six (6) months per year. (3-20-20)T
- 27. Operation and Maintenance Manual.** Operation and Maintenance Manual is a guidance and training manual outlining the optimum operation and maintenance of the public water system facility or its components. (3-20-20)T
- 28. Person.** An individual, corporation, company, association, partnership, state agency, municipality, or federal agency (and includes officers, employees, and agents of any corporation, company, association, state agency, municipality, or federal agency). (3-20-20)T
- 29. Planning Document.** A document which describes the condition of a public drinking water system and presents a cost effective and environmentally sound alternative to achieve or maintain regulatory compliance. Engineering reports and facility plans are examples of such planning documents. The planning documents shall be prepared by or under the responsible charge of an Idaho licensed professional engineer and shall bear the imprint of the engineer's seal. Requirements for planning documents prepared using loan funds are provided in Section 030 of these rules and in the Handbook. (3-20-20)T
- 30. Plan of Operation.** A schedule of specific actions and completion dates for construction, start-up, and operation of the public water system facility. (3-20-20)T
- 31. Priority List.** A list of proposed drinking water projects rated by severity of risk to public health, the necessity to ensure compliance with IDAPA 58.01.08, "Idaho Rules for Public Drinking Water Systems," and the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. Section 300f et seq.), population affected, and need on a household basis for protection of Idaho's public drinking water. (3-20-20)T
- 32. Public Drinking Water System/Public Water System/Water System.** A system for the provision to the public of water for human consumption through pipes or, after August 5, 1998, other constructed conveyances, if such system has at least fifteen (15) service connections, regardless of the number of water sources or configuration of the distribution system, or regularly serves an average of at least twenty-five (25) individuals daily at least sixty (60) days out of the year. Such term includes: any collection, treatment, storage, and distribution facilities under the control of the operator of such system and used primarily in connection with such system; and any collection or pretreatment storage facilities not under such control which are used primarily in connection with such system. Such term does not include any "special irrigation district." A public water system is either a "community water system" or a "noncommunity water system." (3-20-20)T
- 33. Qualifying Entity.** Any county, city, special service district, nonprofit or investor-owned corporation, or other governmental entity, or a combination thereof, which owns or operates a public water system or irrigation system and which establishes and maintains a dedicated loan repayment source. (3-20-20)T
- 34. Rehabilitation.** The repair or replacement of segments of drinking water facilities. (3-20-20)T
- 35. Reserve Capacity.** That portion of the system in the planned facilities to handle future drinking water demand. (3-20-20)T
- 36. State.** The state of Idaho. (3-20-20)T
- 37. Supplier or Provider of Water.** Any person who owns and/or operates a public water system. (3-20-20)T
- 38. Suspension.** An action by the Director to suspend a loan contract prior to project completion for a

specified cause. Suspended contracts may be reinstated. (3-20-20)T

39. Sustainability. Sustainability will include efforts for energy and water conservation, extending the life of capital assets, green building practices, and other environmentally innovative approaches to infrastructure repair, replacement and improvement. (3-20-20)T

40. Technical Capability. The ability of the public drinking water system to comply with existing and expected drinking water rules. (3-20-20)T

41. Termination. An action by the Director to permanently terminate a loan contract prior to project completion for a specific cause. Terminated contracts shall not be reinstated. (3-20-20)T

42. User Charge System. A system of rates and service charges applicable to specific types of users, including any legal enforcement mechanism as may be required, which provides sufficient reserves and/or revenues for debt retirement, operation and maintenance, and replacement of the public water system. (3-20-20)T

43. Water System Protection Ordinance. An ordinance adopted pursuant to Chapter 32, Title 42, Idaho Code, or other applicable law which requires new connections to be properly designed and constructed, which prohibits cross-connections with non-potable water sources (and in all ways protects the water system from injection of contaminants), and which provides for fees for service from users or classes of users. (3-20-20)T

44. Water Treatment Plant. That portion of the public drinking water system whose primary purpose is to remove contaminants. (3-20-20)T

011. FINANCIAL TECHNICAL AND MANAGEMENT CAPABILITY ANALYSIS.

No loans shall be awarded for the construction of projects unless the applicant has demonstrated and certified that it has the legal, technical, institutional, managerial, and financial capabilities to ensure construction, operation and maintenance (including equipment replacement of the proposed public water system facility), and to repay principal and interest which would be due on a loan from the state revolving loan fund. (3-20-20)T

01. Information Needed. Before an application shall be considered complete, the applicant must submit all necessary information on a form prescribed by the Department along with an analysis of that information. The information shall include, but not be limited to, demographic information of the applicant, estimated construction costs, annual operating costs, and information regarding the financing of the project, including the legal debt limit of the applicant and the existence and amount of any outstanding bonds or other indebtedness which may affect the project. (3-20-20)T

02. Incorporated Nonprofit Applicants. (3-20-20)T

a. In addition to all other information required to be submitted by these rules and regulations, an incorporated nonprofit applicant must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Department by its articles of incorporation and/or bylaws, that: (3-20-20)T

i. The corporation is nonprofit and lawfully incorporated pursuant to Chapter 03, Title 30, Idaho Code; (3-20-20)T

ii. The corporation is authorized to incur indebtedness to construct, improve, or repair public water systems facilities; (3-20-20)T

iii. The corporation is authorized to secure indebtedness by pledging corporation property, including any revenues raised through a user charge system; (3-20-20)T

iv. The corporation exists either perpetually or for a period long enough to repay a public water system facility loan; and (3-20-20)T

v. The corporation is capable of raising revenues by fixing and collecting user charges. (3-20-20)T

b. The Department may impose conditions on the making of a public water system facility loan to an incorporated nonprofit applicant which are necessary to carry out the provisions of these rules and regulations and the provisions of Chapter 76, Title 39, Idaho Code. (3-20-20)T

03. Cost Allocation. An applicant proposing to construct public water system facilities designed to serve two (2) or more qualifying entities must show how the costs shall be allocated among the participating entities. Such applicants must provide an executed inter-organizational service agreement which, at a minimum, incorporates the following information: (3-20-20)T

a. The basis upon which the costs are allocated; (3-20-20)T

b. The formula by which the costs are allocated; and (3-20-20)T

c. The manner in which the cost allocation system shall be implemented. (3-20-20)T

04. Waivers. The requirement in Subsection 011.03 may be waived by the Department if the applicant can demonstrate: (3-20-20)T

a. Such an agreement is already in place; (3-20-20)T

b. There is documentation of a service relationship in the absence of a formal agreement; or (3-20-20)T

c. The entity providing public drinking water exhibits sufficient financial strength to continue the project if one (1) or more of the entities supplying drinking water fails to participate. (3-20-20)T

012. -- 019. (RESERVED)

020. PRIORITY RATING SYSTEM.

Projects are identified for placement on priority lists by surveying eligible entities directly on an annual basis. Information is also received from the Department and consulting engineers. Loan funds are awarded to projects based on priority ratings. Projects are rated by the Department on a standard priority rating form using public health criteria, sustainability criteria, water quality criteria, and condition of the existing system. (3-20-20)T

01. Purpose. A priority rating system shall be utilized by the Department to annually allot available funds to projects determined eligible for funding assistance under the Drinking Water Loan Program in accordance with these rules. Projects considered for priority rating shall first be evaluated by Department regional staff. (3-20-20)T

02. Priority Rating. The priority rating system shall be based on a numerical points system. Priority criteria shall contain the following points: (3-20-20)T

a. Public Health Hazard. Any condition which creates, or may create, a danger to the consumer's health, which may include any one or more of the following, may be awarded a maximum of one hundred (100) points: (3-20-20)T

i. Documented unresolved violations of the primary drinking water standards including maximum contaminant levels, action levels, and treatment techniques (to include maximum contaminant levels for acute and chronic contaminants); (3-20-20)T

ii. Documented unresolved violations of pressure requirements; (3-20-20)T

iii. Documented reduction in source capacity that impacts the system's ability to reliably serve water; (3-20-20)T

or

iv. Documented significant deficiencies (e.g., documented in a sanitary survey) in the physical system that is causing the system to not reliably serve safe drinking water. (3-20-20)T

b. General Conditions of Existing Facilities. Points shall be given based on deficiencies (which would not constitute a public health hazard) for pumping, treating, and delivering drinking water. (up to sixty (60) points) (3-20-20)T

c. Sustainability Efforts (e.g., prospective efforts at energy conservation, water conservation, extending the life of capital assets, green building practices, and other environmentally innovative approaches to infrastructure repair, replacement and improvement). (up to fifty (50) points). (3-20-20)T

d. Consent Order, Compliance Agreement Schedule, or Court Order. Points shall be given if the system is operating under and in compliance with a Consent Order, Compliance Agreement Schedule, or Court Order and the proposed construction project will address the Consent Order, Compliance Agreement Schedule, or Court Order. (up to thirty (30) points) (3-20-20)T

e. Incentives. Bonus points shall be awarded to systems that promote source water protection, conservation, economy, proper operation maintenance, and monitoring. (up to ten (10) points) (3-20-20)T

f. Affordability. Points shall be given when current system user charges exceed state affordability guidelines. (ten (10) points) (3-20-20)T

03. Rating Forms. Rating criteria for Subsection 020.02 is set forth in a rating form that is available in the Handbook. (3-20-20)T

04. Priority List. A list shall be developed from projects rated according to Subsection 020.02. Such list shall be submitted for public review and comment, and shall thereafter be submitted to the Board for approval and adoption. (3-20-20)T

a. Priority Reevaluation. Whenever significant changes occur, which in the Department's judgment would affect the design parameters or treatment requirements by either increasing or decreasing the need for, or scope of any project, a reevaluation of that priority rating shall be conducted. (3-20-20)T

b. Priority Target Date. A qualifying entity, whose project is on the adopted priority list, and for which funding is available, shall be contacted by the Department and a target date for submission of a completed loan application shall be established. (3-20-20)T

c. Project Bypass. A project that does not or shall not meet the project target date or a Department schedule that allows for timely utilization of loan funds may be bypassed, substituting in its place the next highest ranking project or projects that are ready to proceed. An eligible applicant that is bypassed shall be notified in writing of the reasons for being bypassed. (3-20-20)T

05. Amendment of Priority List. The Director may amend the Integrated Priority List as set forth in Section 995 of these rules. (3-20-20)T

021. DISADVANTAGED LOANS.

Disadvantaged Loan Awards. In conjunction with the standard loans, the Department may award disadvantaged loans to applicants deemed disadvantaged using the following criteria: (3-20-20)T

01. Qualifying for a Disadvantaged Loan. In order to qualify for a disadvantaged loan, a loan applicant must have an annual user rate for drinking water service for residential customers which exceeds one and one-half percent (1½%) of the applicant community's median household income. The annual user rate would be based on all operating, maintenance, replacement, and debt service costs (both for the existing system and for upgrades). If the applicant's service area is not within the boundaries of a municipality, or if the applicant's service area's median household income is not consistent with the municipality as a whole, the applicant may use the census data for the county in which it is located or may use a representative survey, conducted by a Department approved, objective third party, to verify the median household income of the applicant's service area. (3-20-20)T

02. Adjustment of Loan Terms. DEQ will equally apportion funds available for principal forgiveness

to all prospective disadvantaged loan recipients. Consistent with achieving user rates of one and one-half percent (1½%) of the applicant community’s median household income, and where possible with available funds, loan terms may be adjusted in the following order: increasing the repayment period, decreasing the interest rate, and providing principal forgiveness. (3-20-20)T

a. Increasing Repayment Period. The length of the loan repayment may be extended in increments of years from twenty (20) years up to a maximum of thirty (30) years until the annual user rate equals one and one-half percent (1½%) of median household income. (3-20-20)T

b. Decreasing Interest Rate. If at a thirty (30) year repayment, the annual user rate still exceeds one and one-half percent (1½%) of the median household income, the loan interest rate may be reduced from the rate established by the Director for standard loans to a rate that results in an annual user rate equal to one and one-half percent (1½%) of median household income. The interest rate may be reduced to as low as zero percent (0%). (3-20-20)T

c. Principal Forgiveness. If even at zero percent (0%) interest and a thirty (30) year repayment, the annual user rate per residential user still exceeds one and one-half percent (1½%) of median household income, the principal which causes the user charge to exceed one and one-half percent (1½%) may be reduced except the principal reduction cannot exceed fifty percent (50%) of the total loan. Principal forgiveness terms may be revised (from initial estimates established in the annual Intended Use Plan) based upon final construction costs, such that loan terms do not result in user rates that are below one and one-half percent (1½%) of the applicant community’s median household income. (3-20-20)T

022. -- 029. (RESERVED)

030. PROJECT SCOPE AND FUNDING.

Loan funds awarded under this program may be used to prepare a drinking water facility planning document which identifies the cost effective and environmentally sound alternative to achieve or maintain compliance with IDAPA 58.01.08, “Idaho Rules for Public Drinking Water Systems,” and the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C., Sections 300f et seq., and which is approvable by the Department. Loan funds may also be used for design and construction of the chosen alternative. (3-20-20)T

01. Project Step Funding. Projects may be funded in steps: (3-20-20)T

a. Step 1. Planning document prepared by an Idaho licensed professional engineer who carries professional liability insurance in accordance with Subsection 050.05.d., and in a format prescribed by the Department; (3-20-20)T

b. Step 2. Design, which includes the preparation by an Idaho licensed professional engineer of the detailed engineering plans and specifications necessary for the bidding and construction of the project; (3-20-20)T

c. Step 3. Construction, which includes bidding and actual construction of the project; or (3-20-20)T

d. Step 4. A combination of Step 2 and Step 3. (3-20-20)T

02. Combination Step Funding. Projects may be funded in any combination of the steps with approval of the Department. Separate loans may be awarded for Step 1 or Step 2 projects. If a Step 1 or Step 2 project proceeds to construction, either the Step 1 or Step 2 loan, or both, may be consolidated with the Step 3 loan. If a project does not proceed to construction, outstanding Step 1 and Step 2 loans shall be amortized and a repayment schedule prepared by the Department. (3-20-20)T

03. Requirements for Awarding a Loan. Step 2, Step 3, or Step 4 loans shall not be awarded until a final cost effective and environmentally sound alternative has been selected by the Step 1 planning document and approved by the Department. If the planning document has not been completed pursuant to IDAPA 58.01.22, “Rules for Administration of Planning Grants for Drinking Water Facilities,” then the loan recipient shall provide an opportunity for the public to comment on the draft planning document. The public comment period shall be held after alternatives have been developed and the Department has approved the draft planning document. The loan recipient

shall provide written notice of the public comment period and hold at least one (1) public meeting within the jurisdiction of the loan recipient during the public comment period. At the public meeting, the draft planning document shall be presented by the loan recipient with an explanation of the alternatives identified. The cost effective and environmentally sound alternative selected shall consider public comments received from those affected by the proposed project. After the public meeting and public comment period, the final alternative will be selected and the Environmental Information Document will be prepared. (3-20-20)T

04. Funding for Reserve Capacity. Funding for reserve capacity of a drinking water system shall not exceed a twenty (20) year population growth except that distribution and transmission lines which may be planned for a forty (40) year useful life. (3-20-20)T

031. LIMITATION OF PRE-LOAN ENGINEERING REVIEWS.

Department staff may review engineering or facility planning documents for any drinking water system. However, in order for the costs of preparation of pre-loan engineering documents to be loan eligible, the consulting engineer must submit a certificate of professional liability indemnification in accordance with Subsection 050.05.d. (3-20-20)T

032. LOAN FEE.

01. Loan Fee. The Department may elect to impose a loan fee when necessary to offset the costs of administering the loan program, to provide planning assistance, or to otherwise facilitate the operation of the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) effort. The Department may impose a loan fee on loans scheduled to close after December 2, 2009. The loan fee shall not exceed one percent (1%) of the unpaid balance of the loan at the time each loan payment is due. (3-20-20)T

02. Determination of Loan Fee. The Department shall determine the amount of the loan fee on a yearly basis and shall assess a loan fee based upon each loan recipient's total interest rate. The amount of the loan fee shall be included in the Intended Use Plan, as described by Section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. Section 300j-12). In determining the amount of the loan fee, the Department shall consider: (3-20-20)T

a. The Department's anticipated costs of administering the loan program for the upcoming fiscal year, including salaries and overhead; (3-20-20)T

b. Any Department costs related to providing technical assistance for the loan program for the upcoming fiscal year; (3-20-20)T

c. The amount of money generated from loan fees in previous fiscal years available for use in the upcoming fiscal year; and (3-20-20)T

d. The anticipated demand for planning assistance to supplement regular appropriations and other related needs to support the DWSRF loan program. (3-20-20)T

03. Effect on Loan Interest Rate. The loan interest rate, as described in Subsection 050.05, will be reduced by the corresponding percentage of the loan fee. (3-20-20)T

04. Payment of Loan Fee. The loan fee shall be due and payable concurrently with scheduled loan principal and interest repayments over the repayment period. (3-20-20)T

033. -- 039. (RESERVED)

040. LOAN APPLICATION AND REVIEW.

01. Submission of Application. The applicant shall submit to the Department, a completed application on a form as prescribed by the Department. (3-20-20)T

02. Application Requirements. Applications shall contain the following documentation, as applicable: (3-20-20)T

- a.** A lawful resolution passed by the governing body authorizing an elected official or authorized individual of the qualifying entity to execute a loan contract and sign subsequent loan disbursement requests; and (3-20-20)T
- b.** Contracts for engineering services or other technical services and the description of costs and tasks set forth therein shall be in sufficient detail for the Department to determine whether the costs associated with the tasks are eligible costs pursuant to Section 041; and (3-20-20)T
- c.** Justification for the engineering firm selected. An engineering firm selected by the applicant must at a minimum: (3-20-20)T
- i.** As applicable, be procured through the selection guidelines and procedures prescribed under Section 67-2320, Idaho Code; and (3-20-20)T
- ii.** Be a registered professional engineer currently licensed by the Idaho Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors; and (3-20-20)T
- iii.** Not be debarred or otherwise prevented from providing services under another federal or state financial assistance program; and (3-20-20)T
- iv.** Be covered by professional liability insurance in accordance with Subsection 050.05.d. A certification of liability insurance shall be included in the application; and (3-20-20)T
- d.** A description of other costs, not included in the contracts for engineering or other technical services, for which the applicant seeks funding. The description of the costs and tasks for such costs must be in sufficient detail for the Department to determine whether the costs are eligible costs pursuant to Section 041; and (3-20-20)T
- e.** A demonstration that the obligation to pay the costs for which funding is requested is the result or will be the result of the applicant's compliance with applicable competitive bidding requirements and requirements for professional service contracts, including without limitation, the requirements set forth in Sections 67-2801 et seq., 67-2320, 59-1026, and 42-3212, Idaho Code. (3-20-20)T
- f.** In the case of a privately owned system, demonstrate that there is adequate security for the repayment of the loan. (3-20-20)T
- g.** Step 1. Engineering Report or Facility Plan. Plan of study describing the work tasks to be performed in the preparation of the planning document, a schedule for completion of the work tasks, and an estimate of staff hours and costs to complete the work tasks. (3-20-20)T
- h.** Step 2. Design. (3-20-20)T
- i.** Planning document including a final environmental document and decision in accordance with Section 042; (3-20-20)T
- ii.** Financial, technical, and management capability analysis as provided in Subsection 011.01; (3-20-20)T
- iii.** Inter-organizational service agreements between all qualifying entities within the scope of the project, if applicable; and (3-20-20)T
- i.** Step 3. Construction. (3-20-20)T
- i.** Documented evidence of all necessary easements and land acquisition. (3-20-20)T
- ii.** Biddable plans and specifications of the approved public water system facility alternative; (3-20-20)T

- iii. A plan of operation and project schedule; (3-20-20)T
- iv. A water system protection ordinance and financial management system; and (3-20-20)T
- v. A staffing plan and budget. (3-20-20)T
- j.** Step 4. Design and Construction. Loan applicants must submit all documentation specified in Subsection 040.02.d. prior to advertising for bids on construction contracts. (3-20-20)T

03. Determination of Completeness of Application. The Department shall review the application to determine whether it includes all of the information required by Subsection 040.02. (3-20-20)T

04. Notification of Incompleteness of Application. Written notification if an application is incomplete, including an explanation of missing documentation shall be sent to the applicant. The applicant may provide the missing documentation. (3-20-20)T

05. Reapplication for Loan. The action of disapproving, recalling, or terminating a loan in no way precludes or limits the former applicant from reapplying for another loan when the project deficiencies are resolved and project readiness is secured. (3-20-20)T

041. DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY OF COSTS.

The Department shall review the application, including any contracts required to be submitted with the application, to determine whether the costs are eligible costs for funding. (3-20-20)T

01. Eligible Costs. Eligible costs are those determined by the Department to be: (3-20-20)T

- a. Necessary costs; (3-20-20)T
- b. Reasonable costs; and (3-20-20)T
- c. Costs that are not ineligible as described in Subsection 041.05. (3-20-20)T

02. Necessary Costs. The Department shall determine whether costs are necessary by comparing the tasks for which the costs will be incurred to the scope of the project as described in the plan of study for facility planning, planning document, and any other relevant information in the application that describes the scope of the project to be funded. (3-20-20)T

03. Reasonable Costs. Costs shall be determined by the Department to be reasonable if the obligation to pay the costs is the result of or will be the result of the applicant's compliance with applicable competitive bidding requirements and requirements for professional service contracts, including without limitation, the requirements set forth in Sections 67-2801 et seq., 67-2320, 59-1026, and 42-3212, Idaho Code. (3-20-20)T

04. Examples of Costs That May Be Eligible. Examples of costs that may be eligible, if determined necessary, reasonable, and not ineligible costs include: (3-20-20)T

- a. Costs of salaries, benefits, and expendable material the qualified entity incurs in the project except ordinary operating expenses such as salaries and expenses of a mayor, city council members, board; or city, district, or board attorney; (3-20-20)T
- b. Costs under construction contracts bid and executed in compliance with state public works construction laws; (3-20-20)T
- c. Professional and consulting services utilizing a lump sum contract, an hourly rate contract, a time and materials contract or cost plus a fixed fee contract; (3-20-20)T
- d. Engineering directly related to the public water system facilities; (3-20-20)T

- e. Financial and management capability analysis if it ensures compliance; (3-20-20)T
- f. Preparation of construction drawings, specifications, estimates, and construction contract documents; (3-20-20)T
- g. Landscaping; (3-20-20)T
- h. Removal and relocation or replacement of utilities for which the qualifying entity is legally obligated to pay; (3-20-20)T
- i. Material acquired, consumed, or expended specifically for the project; (3-20-20)T
- j. A reasonable inventory of laboratory chemicals and supplies necessary to initiate plant operations; (3-20-20)T
- k. Preparation of an operation and maintenance manual; (3-20-20)T
- l. Preparation of a plan of operation; (3-20-20)T
- m. Start-up services; (3-20-20)T
- n. Project identification signs; (3-20-20)T
- o. Public participation for alternative selection; (3-20-20)T
- p. Development of user charge and financial management systems; (3-20-20)T
- q. Development of water system protection and backflow prevention ordinance or rule; (3-20-20)T
- r. Initial staffing plans and budget development; (3-20-20)T
- s. Site acquisition costs from a willing seller, including right of way and the site for public water system; and (3-20-20)T
- t. Certain direct and other costs as determined eligible by the Department. (3-20-20)T
- 05. Ineligible Project Costs.** Costs which are ineligible for funding include, but are not limited to: (3-20-20)T
 - a. Basin or area wide planning not directly related to the project; (3-20-20)T
 - b. Bonus payments not legally required for completion of construction before a contractual completion date; (3-20-20)T
 - c. Personal injury compensation or damages arising out of the project; (3-20-20)T
 - d. Fines or penalties due to violations of, or failure to comply with, federal, state, or local laws; (3-20-20)T
 - e. Costs outside the scope of the approved project; (3-20-20)T
 - f. Ordinary operating expenses such as salaries and expenses of a mayor, city council members, board, or city, district or board attorney; (3-20-20)T
 - g. Cost of land in excess of that needed for the proposed project; (3-20-20)T
 - h. Cost of condemnations; (3-20-20)T

- i. Engineering costs incurred without professional liability insurance; (3-20-20)T
- j. Reserve funds; (3-20-20)T
- k. Cost of refinancing existing indebtedness; and (3-20-20)T
- l. Costs incurred prior to the loan acceptance unless specifically approved in writing by the Department. (3-20-20)T

06. Notification Regarding Ineligible Costs. Prior to providing a loan offer, the Department shall notify the applicant if certain costs are not eligible for funding and the reasons for the Department's determination. If such costs are included in the engineering contract, the Department shall also provide notification to the engineer. The applicant may provide the Department additional information in response to the notice. (3-20-20)T

07. Eligible Costs and the Loan Offer. The loan offer shall reflect those costs determined by the Department to be eligible costs. The loan offer, however, may include estimates of some eligible costs that have not yet been set, such as construction costs. Actual eligible costs may differ from such estimated costs set forth in the loan offer. In addition, loan disbursements may be increased or decreased if eligible costs are modified as provided in Section 060. (3-20-20)T

042. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW.

01. Environmental Documentation. The loan recipient shall complete an environmental review as part of and in conjunction with a planning document. Guidance on how to complete an environmental review may be found in Chapter 5 of the Handbook. The loan recipient shall consult with the Department at an early stage in the loan process to determine the required level of environmental review. Based on review of existing information and assessment of environmental impacts, the loan recipient shall complete one (1) of the following per the Department's instruction: (3-20-20)T

- a. Submit a request for Categorical Exclusion (CE) with supporting backup documentation as specified by the Department; (3-20-20)T
- or
- b. Prepare an Environmental Information Document (EID) in a format specified by the Department; (3-20-20)T
- c. Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in a format specified by the Department. (3-20-20)T

02. Categorical Exclusions. If the loan recipient requests a CE, the Department shall review the request and, based upon the supporting documentation, take one (1) of the following actions: (3-20-20)T

- a. Determine if the action is consistent with categories eligible for exclusion whereupon the Department shall issue a notice of CE from substantive environmental review. Once the CE is granted for the selected alternative, the Department will publish a notice of CE in a local newspaper to inform the public of this action, following which the planning document can be approved and the loan award can proceed. (3-20-20)T
- b. Determine if the action is not consistent with categories eligible for exclusion and that issuance of a CE is not appropriate. If a CE is not issued, the Department shall notify the loan recipient to prepare an EID. (3-20-20)T

03. Environmental Information Document Requirements. When an EID is required, the loan recipient shall prepare the EID in accordance with the following Department procedures: (3-20-20)T

- a. Various laws and executive orders related to environmentally sensitive resources shall be considered as the EID is prepared. Appropriate state and federal agencies shall be consulted regarding these laws and executive orders. (3-20-20)T

b. A full range of relevant impacts, both direct and indirect, of the proposed project shall be discussed in the EID, including measures to mitigate adverse impacts, cumulative impacts, and impacts that shall cause irreversible or irretrievable commitment of resources. (3-20-20)T

c. The Department shall review the draft EID and either request additional information about one (1) or more potential impacts, or shall draft a “finding of no significant impact” (FONSI). (3-20-20)T

04. Final Finding of No Significant Impact. The Department shall publish the draft FONSI in a newspaper of general circulation in the geographical area of the proposed project and shall allow a minimum thirty (30) day public comment period. Following the required period of public review and comment and after any public concerns about project impacts are addressed, the FONSI shall become final. The Department shall assess the effectiveness and feasibility of the mitigation measures identified in the FONSI and EID prior to the issuance of the final FONSI and approval of the planning document. (3-20-20)T

05. Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Requirements. If an EIS is required, the loan recipient shall: (3-20-20)T

a. Contact all affected state agencies, and other interested parties, to determine the required scope of the document; (3-20-20)T

b. Prepare and submit a draft EIS to all interested agencies, and other interested parties, for review and comment; (3-20-20)T

c. Conduct a public meeting which may be in conjunction with a planning document meeting; and (3-20-20)T

d. Prepare and submit a final EIS incorporating all agency and public input for Department review and approval. (3-20-20)T

06. Final EIS. Upon completion of the EIS by the loan recipient and approval by the Department of all requirements listed in Subsection 042.05, the Department shall issue a record of decision, documenting the mitigative measures which shall be required of the loan recipient. The loan agreement can be completed once the final EIS has Department approval. (3-20-20)T

07. Partitioning the Environmental Review. Under certain circumstances, the building of a component/partition of a drinking water system may be justified in advance of all environment review requirements for the remainder of the system. The Department shall approve partitioning the environment review in accordance with established procedures. (3-20-20)T

08. Use of Environmental Reviews Conducted by Other Agencies. If environmental review for the project has been conducted by another state, federal, or local agency, the Department may, at its discretion, issue its own determination by adopting the document and public participation process of the other agency. (3-20-20)T

09. Validity of Review. Environmental reviews, once completed by the Department, are valid for five (5) years from the date of completion. If a loan application is received for a project with an environmental review which is more than five (5) years old, the Department shall reevaluate the project, environmental conditions, and public views and shall: (3-20-20)T

a. Reaffirm the earlier decision; or (3-20-20)T

b. Require supplemental information to the earlier Environmental Impact Statement, Environmental Information Document, or request for Categorical Exclusion. Based upon a review of the updated document, the Department shall issue and distribute a revised notice of Categorical Exclusion, finding of no significant impact, or record of decision. (3-20-20)T

10. Exemption From Review. Loan projects may be exempt from certain federal crosscutting

authorities at the discretion of the Department as long as in any given year the annual amount of loans, equal to the most recent federal capitalization grant, complies with all of the federal crosscutting authorities. (3-20-20)T

043. -- 049. (RESERVED)

050. LOAN OFFER AND ACCEPTANCE.

01. Loan Offer. Loan offers shall be delivered to successful applicants by representatives of the Department or by registered mail. (3-20-20)T

02. Acceptance of Loan Offer. Applicants have sixty (60) days in which to officially accept the loan offer on prescribed forms furnished by the Department. The sixty (60) day acceptance period commences from the date indicated on the loan offer notice. If the applicant does not accept the loan offer within the sixty (60) day period, the loan funds may be offered to the next project on the priority list. (3-20-20)T

03. Acceptance Executed as a Contract Agreement. Upon signature by the Director or the Director's designee and upon signature by the authorized representative of the qualifying entity, the loan offer shall become a contract. Upon accepting a loan offer, a qualifying entity becomes a loan recipient. The disbursement of funds, pursuant to a loan contract, is subject to a finding by the Director that the loan recipient has complied with all loan contract conditions and has prudently managed the project. The Director may, as a condition of disbursement, require that a loan recipient vigorously pursue any claims it has against third parties who shall be paid in whole or in part, directly or indirectly, with loan funds. No third party shall acquire any rights against the state or its employees from a loan contract. (3-20-20)T

04. Estimate of Reasonable Cost. All loan contracts shall include the eligible costs of the project. Some eligible costs may be estimated and disbursements may be increased or decreased as provided in Section 060. (3-20-20)T

05. Terms of Loan Offers. The loan offer shall contain such terms as are prescribed by the Department including, but not limited to: (3-20-20)T

a. Terms consistent with these rules, the project step to be funded under the loan offer, and Chapter 76, Title 39, Idaho Code; (3-20-20)T

b. Special clauses as determined necessary by the Department for the successful investigation, design, construction, and management of the project; (3-20-20)T

c. Terms consistent with applicable state and federal laws pertaining to planning documents, design, and construction (including the Public Works Contractors License Act (Idaho Code Sections 54-1901 through 54-1924)); the Public Contracts Bond Act (Idaho Code Sections 54-1925 through 54-1930); and the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. Section 300f et seq.) requirements for projects funded with loan moneys of federal origin; (3-20-20)T

d. Requirement for the prime engineering firm(s), retained for engineering services, to carry professional liability insurance to protect the public from negligent acts of the engineer and errors and omissions of a professional nature. The total aggregate of the professional liability of the engineer insurance shall be one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) or twice the amount of the fee of the engineer, whichever is greater. Professional liability insurance must cover all such services rendered for all project phases which are state funded; (3-20-20)T

e. The project shall be bid, contracted, and constructed according to the current edition of Idaho Standards for Public Works Construction and the Idaho Rules for Public Drinking Water Systems (IDAPA 58.01.08) unless the loan recipient has approved and adopted acceptable public works construction standards approved by the Department; (3-20-20)T

f. The loan interest rate for loans made during the state fiscal year beginning July 1 shall be established by the Director. The interest rate shall be a fixed rate in effect for the life of the loan. The rate may equal but shall not exceed the current market rate; (3-20-20)T

g. The loan fee pursuant to Section 032; (3-20-20)T

h. All loans, except disadvantaged loans, must be fully amortized within a period not to exceed twenty (20) years after project completion. Disadvantaged loans must be fully amortized within a period not to exceed thirty (30) years. The loan recipient may elect for either a schedule of semi-annual repayments or annual repayments at the time the loan is finalized; and (3-20-20)T

i. Repayment default shall occur when a scheduled loan repayment is thirty (30) days past due. If default occurs, the Department may invoke appropriate loan contract provisions and/or bond covenants. (3-20-20)T

051. ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING PROCEDURES.

Loan recipients must maintain project accounts in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. (3-20-20)T

052. -- 059. (RESERVED)

060. DISBURSEMENTS.

01. Loan Disbursements. The loan contract shall include a schedule of estimated disbursements to be made to the loan recipient. The schedule shall include the anticipated dates and amounts of disbursements. Requests to the Department for actual disbursement of loan proceeds shall be made by the loan recipient on forms provided by the Department. (3-20-20)T

02. Loan Increases. An increase in the loan amount as a result of an increase in eligible project costs shall be considered, provided funds are available. Documentation supporting the need for an increase must be submitted to the Department for approval prior to incurring any costs above the eligible cost ceiling. (3-20-20)T

03. Loan Decreases. If the actual eligible cost is determined by the Department to be lower than the estimated eligible cost, the loan amount shall be reduced proportionately. (3-20-20)T

04. Project Review to Determine Final Eligible Costs. A project review by the Department shall determine the final eligible costs. (3-20-20)T

05. Final Disbursement. The final loan disbursement consisting of five percent (5%) of the total loan amount shall not be made until final inspection, final review, and a final loan repayment schedule have been completed. (3-20-20)T

061. -- 079. (RESERVED)

080. SUSPENSION OR TERMINATION OF LOAN CONTRACTS.

01. Causes. The Director may suspend or terminate any loan contract prior to final disbursement for failure by the loan recipient or its agents including engineering firm(s), contractor(s), or subcontractor(s) to perform. A loan contract may be suspended or terminated for good cause including, but not limited to, the following: (3-20-20)T

a. Commission of fraud, embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, misrepresentation, conversion, malpractice, misconduct, malfeasance, misfeasance, falsification, or unlawful destruction of records, or receipt of stolen property, or any form of tortious conduct; (3-20-20)T

b. Commission of any crime for which the maximum sentence includes the possibility of one (1) or more years of imprisonment or any crime involving or affecting the project; (3-20-20)T

c. Violation(s) of any term of the loan contract; (3-20-20)T

d. Any willful or serious failure to perform within the scope of the project, plan of operation, project schedule, terms of engineering sub-agreements, or contracts for construction; or (3-20-20)T

e. Debarment of a contractor or subcontractor for good cause by any federal or state agency from working on public work projects funded by that agency. (3-20-20)T

02. Notice. The Director shall notify the loan recipient in writing, and forwarded by certified mail, of the intent to suspend or terminate the loan contract. The notice of intent shall state: (3-20-20)T

a. Specific acts or omissions which form the basis for suspension or termination; and (3-20-20)T

b. That the loan recipient may be entitled to appeal the suspension or termination pursuant to IDAPA 58.01.23, “Rules of Administrative Procedure Before the Board of Environmental Quality.” (3-20-20)T

03. Determination. A determination will be made by the Board pursuant to IDAPA 58.01.23, “Rules of Administrative Procedure Before the Board of Environmental Quality.” (3-20-20)T

04. Reinstatement of Suspended Loan. Upon written request by the loan recipient with evidence that the causes(s) for suspension no longer exist(s), the Director may, if funds are available, reinstate the loan contract. If a suspended loan contract is not reinstated, the loan shall be amortized and a repayment schedule prepared in accordance with provisions of the loan contract. (3-20-20)T

05. Reinstatement of Terminated Loan. No terminated loan shall be reinstated. Terminated loans shall be amortized and a repayment schedule prepared in accordance with provisions of the loan contract. (3-20-20)T

081. -- 994. (RESERVED)

995. WAIVERS.

01. Conditions for Waiver. Waiver from the requirements of these rules may be granted by the Department Director or the Director’s designee, on a case-by-case basis, upon full demonstration by the loan recipient requesting the waiver that the following conditions exist. See also Subsection 020.05 of these rules. (3-20-20)T

a. **Health Hazard.** A significant public health hazard exists; or (3-20-20)T

b. **Affordability Criteria Exceeded.** The project shall exceed affordability criteria adopted by the Department in the event the waiver is not granted. (3-20-20)T

02. Availability of Federal Funds. The waiver shall not affect the availability of federal funds for the project where such funding is required by the loan recipient requesting the waiver. (3-20-20)T

996. -- 999. (RESERVED)

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