

2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Money Coming to Idaho

The State of Idaho will be receiving economic stimulus funds through the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) that will be used to fund drinking water and wastewater infrastructure projects.

Idaho will receive \$19,500,000 in Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) funding and \$19,239,100 in Clean Water SRF funding, for a combined total of \$38.7m. These funds are in addition to the yearly loan funding received through the EPA.

The ARRA funds come with a number of conditions. The primary condition of receipt of the ARRA funds is that all projects be ready to proceed to construction or have all of their project funds under contract by February 16, 2010. The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality will be directing the ARRA funding subsidies to those entities that can document economic need (i.e. user rates in excess of 1.5% of median household income). Also, 20% of the ARRA funding must be directed to those entities that have water conservation, energy efficiencies or other green infrastructure aspects of their projects.

Additional Congressional requirements include:

1. Davis-Bacon wage scales must be paid and documented. The Idaho Department of Commerce has a list of Council of Governments and contractors around the state, that are experienced in administrating Davis-Bacon wage provisions. Compliance with Davis-Bacon provisions will be the responsibility of the ARRA recipient.
2. All iron, steel and manufactured goods must be American made, unless American made goods are not available, cannot be acquired in a timely fashion, or add more than 25% to the cost of the project.
3. In keeping with the Congressional goals of transparent government, ARRA funded activities will be closely monitored through detailed project reporting.
4. Each ARRA fund recipient must have established a Dun and Bradstreet Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number. If you are selected to receive ARRA funds, DEQ will direct you on how to establish a DUNS number if you don't already have one.
5. Each entity must designate a single point of contact that will be knowledgeable of all aspects of the project.

For more information on the ARRA funds, contact Tim Wendland at Tim.Wendland@deq.idaho.gov or by phone at 208.373.0439.