Water Treatment

Agency	***Assistance Provided***
Department of Agriculture, NRCS	Staff Technical Assistance Funding
Environmental Protection Agency	Staff Technical Assistance, Field Training
Indian Health Service	Grant Funding, Staff Technical Assistance, Classroom Training, Field Training, Cost Sharing
Bureau of Indian Affairs	Funding
Army Corps of Engineers	Cost Sharing, Field Training, Staff Technical Assistance, Classroom Training, Grant Funding
Bureau of Reclamation	Grant Funding, Staff Technical Assistance, Classroom Training, Field Training, Cost Sharing
Montana State University Northern	Classroom Training

revised May,1998

revised May 1998

Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention *(Small Watershed Program; PL-566 Operations Phase)*

Water Treatment

USDA

Natural Resources Conservation Service

AUTHORIZATION: Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act, Public Law 83-566, 68 Stat. 666, as amended; Public Law 84-1018, 70 Stat. 1088; Public Law 85-624, 72 Stat. 563; Public Law 85-865, 72 Stat. 1605; Public Law 86-468, .74 Stat. 131, 132; Public Law 86-545, 74 Stat. 254; Public Law 87-170, 75 Stat. 408; Public Law 87-703, 76 Stat. 608; Public Law 89-337, 79 Stat. 1300; Public Law 90-361, 82 Stat. 250; Public Law 92-419, 86 Stat. 667; Public Law 95-113, 91 Stat. 913; Public Law 97-98, 95 Stat. 1213; Public Law 99-662, 100 Stat. 4196; Public Law 101-624, 104 Stat. 3359.

OBJECTIVES: To provide technical and financial assistance in carrying out works of improvement to protect, develop, and utilize the land and water resources in small watersheds.

TYPES OF ASSISTANCE: Project Grants; Advisory Services and Counseling.

USES AND USE RESTRICTIONS: Technical assistance is provided in designing, and installing watershed works of improvement. Financial assistance is provided for sharing costs of measures for watershed protection, flood prevention, agricultural water management, sedimentation control, public water based fish, wildlife, recreation; and in extending long term credit to help local interests with their share of the costs. Watershed area must not exceed 250,000 acres. Capacity of a single structure is limited to 25,000 acre-feet of total capacity and 12,500 acre-feet of floodwater detention capacity.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

Applicant Eligibility: Any State agency, county or groups of counties, municipality, town or township, soil and water conservation district, flood prevention or flood control district, Indian tribe or tribal organization, or any other nonprofit agency with authority under State law to carry out, maintain, and operate watershed works of improvement may apply for assistance.

Beneficiary Eligibility: Any State agency, county or groups of counties, municipality, town or township, soil and water conservation district, flood prevention or flood control district, Indian tribe or tribal organization, or any other nonprofit agency with authority under State law to carry out, maintain, and operate watershed works of improvement may apply for assistance. This program is available in Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the Mariana Islands, and the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands.

Credentials/Documentation: Applications must designate the proposed project area, be properly signed and attested to by all applicants, and set forth the need for the proposed project. Costs will be determined in accordance with OMB Circular No. A-87 for State and local governments.

APPLICATION AND AWARD PROCESS:

Preapplication Coordination: Potential applicants must notify State(s) Single Point of Contact for Federal assistance that they intend to apply for assistance. Up to 60 days is allowed for review. The standard application forms, as furnished by the Federal agency and required by OMB Circular No. A-102, must be used for this program. Environmental impact statements required for many Public Law 83-566 projects approved for operations after January 1, 1970, which, on the basis of environmental evaluations, are determined to be major Federal actions significantly affecting the environment. In projects approved before January 1, 1970, need for environmental impact statements are decided on case-by-case basis; those with channel modification generally require statements. Environmental assessments are required for all other projects. This program is eligible for coverage under E.O. 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs." An applicant should consult the office or official designated as the Single Point of Contact in his or her State for more information on the process the State requires to be followed in applying for assistance, if the State has selected the program for review.

revised May,1998

Application Procedure: Application forms and information are available in all NRCS offices and from designated State agencies. This program is excluded from coverage under OMB Circular No. A-110.

Award Procedure: Details of the procedure are available from the State and field offices of the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Deadlines: None.

Range of Approval/Disapproval Time: Receipt of the application is acknowledged as soon as it is determined to be valid.

Appeals: Not applicable.

Renewals: Not applicable.

ASSISTANCE CONSIDERATIONS:

Formula and Matching Requirements: Technical and financial assistance under which program funds provide certain prescribed services and costs and a percentage of other costs on the basis of a contract vary according to purpose of the works of improvement. For example, for construction costs under the Act, program funds may pay 100 percent for flood prevention; up to 50 percent of agricultural water management, public recreation and fish and wildlife purposes; and none of the costs for certain other nonagricultural water management purposes. All of the applicants' installation costs are eligible for program loans. Reimbursable advances are available for preservation of sites and future municipal water supply.

Length and Time Phasing of Assistance: Continues until all works of improvement are installed or their installation is terminated by mutual agreement.

POST ASSISTANCE REQUIREMENTS:

Reports: Annual operation and maintenance inspection and report.

Audits: In accordance with the provisions of OMB Circular No. A-128, "Audits of State and Local Governments," State and local governments that receive financial assistance of $100,000 or more within the State's fiscal year shall have an audit made for that year. State and local governments that receive between $25,000 and $100,000 w~thin the State's fiscal year shall have an audit made in accordance with Circular No. A-128, or in accordance with Federal laws and regulations governing the programs in which they participate.

Records: Records of operation and maintenance activities are maintained for the life of the project.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Obligations: (Grants watershed and flood prevention operations) FY 96 $26,323,479; FY 97 est $39,600,000; and FY 98 est $40,000,000. (Salaries and expenses-watershed and flood prevention operations) FY 96$55,566,575; FY 97 est $53,400,000; and FY 98 est $60,000,000.

Range and Average of Financial Assistance: (per State) $0 to $2,164,000; $650,000.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS: In fiscal year 1996, 13 projects were approved for Operations. A total of 532 projects were at the-construction stage. Projects with construction completed under the program totaled 893. In fiscal year 1997, it is estimated that 14 projects will be approved for operations, 523 projects will be at the construction stage, and construction on 915 projects will be completed under the program.

REGULATIONS, GUIDELINES, AND LITERATURE: "What is a Watershed," PA-420; "Flood Plain Management "Why We Need It," PA-1276; "Multiple-Purpose Watershed Projects," PA-575; and "Small Watershed Projects," PA-1354.

INFORMATION CONTACTS:

Regional or Local Office: Consult the local telephone directory where your land is located for location of the USDA service center.

Headquarters Office: Deputy Chief for Natural Resource Conservation Programs, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 2890, Washington, DC 20013. Telephone: (202) 720-4527.

revised May,1998

RELATED PROGRAMS: 10.664, Cooperative Forestry Assistance; 10.765, Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Loans; 10.902, Soil and Water Conservation; 10.903, Soil Survey; 10.905, Plant Materials for Conservation; 10.906, Watershed Surveys and Planning; 10.907, Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecasting; 12.104, Flood Plain Management Services.

EXAMPLES OF FUNDED PROJECTS: To date, Federal assistance for installation has been authorized on 1,604 watershed projects. This program provides technical and financial assistance to State agencies and units of local government in solving problems caused by flooding, erosion and sediment damage, conservation, development, utilization, and disposal of water, including the development of multipurpose facilities for such uses as recreation, improvement of fish and wildlife habitat, irrigation, and water supply to municipal and industrial users.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTING PROPOSALS: 1) The watershed must meet the requirements of the law; 2) an approved watershed has been prepared; 3) the local sponsors should indicate willingness to carry out a watershed project; 4) the project has environmental, economic and social benefits exceed the costs for a favorable benefit-cost ratio; and 5) no critical environmental issues exist.

revised May,1998

Watershed Surveys and Planning *(Small Watershed Program; PL-566; Watershed Surveys and Planning)*

Water Treatment

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

AUTHORIZATION: Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act, Public Law 83-566, 68 Stat. 666, as amended: Public Law 84-1018, 70 Stat. 1088; Public Law 85-624, 72 Stat. 563; Public Law 85-865, 72 Stat. 1605; Public Law 86-468, 74 Stat. 131, 132; Public Law 86-545, 74 Stat. 254; Public Law 87-170, 75 Stat. 408; Public Law 87-703, 76 Stat. 608; Public Law 89-337, 79 Star. 1300; Public Law 90-361, 82 Star. 250; Public Law 97-98, 95 Stat. 1213; Public Law 99-662, 100 Stat. 4196; Public Law 101-624, 104 Stat. 3359.

OBJECTIVES: To provide planning assistance to Federal, State, and local agencies for the development of coordinated water and related land resources programs in watersheds and river basins. Priority will be given to studies which: (1) Contribute to achieving the National Conservation Program high priority objectives; (2) have a high likelihood of being implemented; (3) will be implemented with no or relatively little Federal assistance; (4) have State and local assistance in the study; and (5) are of short duration (2 to 4 years) and (6) low cost. Special priority is given to the (objectives of setting priorities in helping to solve problems of upstream rural community flooding, water quality improvement coming from agricultural nonpoint sources, wetland preservation and drought management for agriculture and rural communities. Special emphasis is given to assisting communities which desire to adopt floodplain management regulations to meet the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program and State agencies in developing a strategic water resource plan.

TYPES OF ASSISTANCE: Provision of Specialized Services; Advisory Services and Counseling.

USES AND USE RESTRICTIONS: Technical assistance is provided in planning activities to help solve water and related land resources problems. It is available through disciplines such as engineering, economics, social sciences, agronomy, range management, forestry, biology, hydrology, archaeology, landscape architecture, waste management, recreation, etc.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

Applicant Eligibility: Any local or State water resource agency or other Federal agency concerned with water and related land resource development, counties, municipalities, town or township, soil and water conservation district, flood prevention or flood control district, Indian tribe or tribal organization or nonprofit organization. USDA participation is based on a cooperative effort with a sponsoring organization(s). State and local agencies are expected to participate in the studies and to fund their own activities. This program is also available in Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Mariana Islands and the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands.

Beneficiary Eligibility: Any local or State water resource agency or other Federal agency concerned with water and related land resource development that can benefit from the development of alternative plans and recommendations.

Credentials/Documentation: Requests must designate the proposed study area, describe the basic planning and/or study objective, and indicate joint participation and be signed and attested to by all applicants.

APPLICATION AND AWARD PROCESS:

Preapplication Coordination: This program is eligible for coverage under E.O. 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs." An applicant should consult the office or official designated as the Single Point of Contact in his or her State for more information on the process the State requires to be followed in applying for assistance, if the State has selected the program for review.

revised May 1998

Application Procedure: Application materials and information are available in all NRCS offices. This program is excluded from coverage under OMB Circular No. A-110. The letter of request addressed to the appropriate State Conservation of the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Award Procedure: Not applicable.

Deadlines: None.

Range of Approval/Disapproval Time: Receipt of request is acknowledged when received by the State Conservationist.

Appeals: Not applicable.

Renewals: Not applicable.

ASSISTANCE CONSIDERATIONS:

Formula and Matching Requirements: Each cooperating agency is to fund its own participation. The extent of participation and funding are to be defined in a plan of work that establishes the basis for the study effort.

Length and Time Phasing of Assistance: The length of the study is defined in the plan of work. It is subject to some modification, depending on the availability of funds to each of the cooperating agencies. Federal assistance for planning is provided as rapidly as possible depending on availability of funds and personnel resources. Sponsors are encouraged to focus their studies on a limited number of critical problems of special concern nationally, such as flood damage reduction, erosion control, water conservation, preservation of wetlands, and water quality improvement. Short duration, low cost studies that support ongoing State and local programs are encouraged.

POST ASSISTANCE REQUIREMENTS:

Reports: Interim reports may be prepared during the study. Final reports are prepared at the completion of each study. Post study assistance may be provided through the operations phase of this program (see program no. 10.904).

Audits: Not applicable.

Records: Not applicable.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Account Identification: 12-1069-0-1-301.

Obligations: (Salaries and expenses) FY 96 $13,491,727; FY 97 est $16,000,000; and FY 98 est $5,000,000.

Range and Average of Financial Assistance: Not applicable.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS: USDA has cooperated with local, State, and concerned Federal agencies in the preparation and updating of State water resource plans and other water, land, and related studies for floodplain management and flood prevention. There have been over 16,000 watershed plans and 550 flood insurance studies, 597 floodplain management studies, (detailed studies) and 423 cooperative river basin studies (broad based studies) completed under this program since it was authorized in 1954.

REGULATIONS, GUIDELINES, AND LITERATURE: Regulations for the program are found in 7 CFR 621 and 622. Guidelines and policy is contained in the National Watersheds Manual (NWSM), National Basin and Area Planning Manual (NRBM), and NRCS General Manual (GM) 150-Basin and Area Planning, Part 401. Literature available through the NRCS include "What the Natural Resources Conservation Service Does," SCS-CI-3; "Local- State-Federal Watershed Projects," SCS-CI-4; "Multiple-Purpose Watershed Projects," PA-575.

INFORMATION CONTACTS:

Regional or Local Office: Consult the local telephone directory where your land is located for location of the USDA service center.

Headquarters Office: Deputy Chief For Natural Resource Conservation Programs, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 2890, Washington, DC 20013. Telephone: (202) 720-4527. FTS is not available.

RELATED PROGRAMS: 10.902, Soil and Water

revised May,1998

Conservation; 10.904, Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention; 12.110, Planning Assistance to States.

EXAMPLES OF FUNDED PROJECTS: 1) New York City Watershed Cooperative River Basin Study to assess agriculturally related nonpoint source pollution affecting the quality of water for half of New York's population. The State of New York will analyze the data collected and develop a comprehensive protection plan with strategies for addressing the water quality concerns. 2) In New Castle Counties Delaware, the Central Pencader flood plain management study was initiated to guide land use, zoning, and subdivision decisions to develop sound flood plain and storm water management practices. The local government will use the flood hazard analysis and flood plain information to direct major development activities in a responsible manner. 3) State strategic water management plan for N. D. has been instrumental in organizing a State water quality task force for prioritizing and addressing natural resource problems and opportunities on a watershed basis.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTING PROPOSALS: Not applicable.

STATE PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM SUPERVISION

Water Treatment

AUTHORIZATION: Public Health Service Act, as amended; Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, Public Law 93-523, as amended; Public Law 95-190; Public Law 96-16; Public Law 96-502, Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1986.

OBJECTIVES: To foster development and maintenance of State programs which implement the Safe Drinking Water Act.

TYPES OF ASSISTANCE: Formula Grants.

USES AND USE RESTRICTIONS: The funds are to be used to develop and implement a public water system supervision program adequate to enforce the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

Applicant Eligibility: State agencies designated by the Governor or Chief Executive Officer of one of the States of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, or an individual Indian Tribe treated as a State.

Beneficiary Eligibility: State agencies responsible for supervision of water supply within State will receive funds.

Credentials/Documentation: Costs will be determined in accordance with OMB Circular No. A-87 for State and local governments.

APPLICATION AND AWARD PROCESS:

Preapplication Coordination: Preapplication coordination with appropriate regional office recommended. The standard application forms as furnished by the Federal agency and required by OMB Circular No. A-102 must be used for this program. This program is eligible for coverage under E.G. 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs." An applicant should consult the office or official designated as the single point of contact in his or her State for more information on the process the State requires to be followed in applying for assistance, if the State has selected the program for review.

Application Procedure: The grant application including State Program Plan, must be submitted to the appropriate EPA Regional Admministrator. This program is excluded from coverage under OMB Circular A-110.

Award Procedure: State Program Plan is reviewed, and if approvable, signed by the Regional Administrator.

Deadlines: Applications must be submitted 60 days before the beginning of the agreed upon budget period.

Range of Approval/Disapproal Time: Maximum of 60 days.

Appeals: None.

Renewals: None.

revised May,1998

ASSISTANCE CONSIDERATIONS:

Formula and Matching Requirements: Funds appropriated each year are allotted on the basis of State population (20 percent) as contained in the most currently available Statistical Abstract; State land area (10 percent) as contained in the most currently available Statistical Abstract; the number of community and nontransient non-community water systems in the State (56 percent) and the number of transient non-community water systems in the State (14 percent); all water system inventories being provided by the States. No State except American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Trust Territories of the Pacific, and the Virgin Islands may be may be allotted less than 1 percent of the FY-89 appropriation. The five territories noted shall not be allotted less than 1/3 percent of the FY-89 appropriation. Three percent of the National total available grant funds are set aside for Indian land activities in accordance with the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1986. The formula factors and all of the weightings are Agency imposed. Federal assistance is limited to 75 percent of eligible costs, not to exceed the State allotment.

Length and Time Phasing of Assistance: Annual grants. There is no restriction placed upon the time permitted to spend the award. Awards released through letters of credit or reimbursement.

POST ASSISTANCE REQUIREMENTS:

Reports: Annual onsite evaluation, final financial and progress report as set forth in the grant agreement.

Audits: Grants are subject to inspection and audit by EPA, the Comptroller General of the U.S., or any authorized representative. Periodic audits should be made as part of the recipient's systems of financial management and internal control to meet terms and conditions of grants and other agreements. In accordance with the provisions of OMB Circular No. A-128, "Audits of State and Local Governments," State and local governments that receive financial assistance of $100,000 or more within the State's fiscal year shall have an audit made for that year. State and local governments that receive between $25,000 and $100,000 within the States fiscal year shall have an audit made in accordance with Circular No. A-128, or in accordance with Federal laws and regulations governing the programs in which they participate.

Records: Financial records including all documents to support entries on accounting records and to substantiate charges to each grant must be kept available to personnel authorized to examine EPA grant accountns.

revised May,1998

Tribal Grants

Water Treatment

AREAS OF CATEGORICAL (PROGRAM) FINANCIAL AND PROJECT ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FROM EPA

For additional information and program limitations please contact the EPA Regional Office serving your area. They are listed at the end of this section.

CLEAN AIR ACT (CAA)

Major Objective: To Protect public health and welfare from harmful effects of air pollution.

Grants:
•Section 105 Air Quality Program Development Implementation •Section 103 R & D, Pilot Projects and
* Requires EPA approval of Tribal eligibility financial assistance and Special Studies application for financial assistance

CLEAN WATER ACT (CWA)

Major Objective: To restore and maintain the "chemical, physical and biological integrity of the nation's waters" , primarily through eliminating or controlling the discharge of pollutants into water systems (oceans, rivers, streams, lakes, estuaries, aquifers, & wetlands).

Grants
•Section 106 Water Quality Assessment and Planning
•Section 314 Clean Lakes
•Section 319(h) Non-Point Source Program
•Section 205 State Revolving Loan Program / Construction Wastewater Facilities
•Section 104(b) (3) R & D, Pilot Projects & Special
•Studies Wetlands
•Non-Point Source
•Water Quality Management
•(Sludge & Wastewater Discharge Management)

*Requires EPA approval of Tribal eligibility application for financial assistance

SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT (SDWA)

Major Objective: To assure that the Nation's drinking water supply is safe for human consumption by regulating both public water supply systems and ground water supplies.

Grants:
•Section 1443(a) Drinking Water Programs - Public Water Supply Supervision (PWSS) Program Development and Implementation
•Section 1443(b) Underground Injection Control Program Development and Implementation
•Section 1442(b)(2) R & D, Pilot Projects & Special Studies PWSS Wellhead Protection

*Requires financial EPA approval assistance of Tribal eligibility application for financial assistance.

FEDERAL INSECTICIDE, FUNGICIDE, AND RODENTICIDE ACT (FIFRA)

Major Objective: To regulate the sale and use of pesticides to ensure the least risk possible to human health and the environment from pesticides.

Grants:
•Section 23(a)(1)
Pesticide Enforcement Program Development and Implementation including:
Endangered Species
Pesticides in Groundwater
Worker Protection & Safety
•Section 20 R & D, Pilot Projects & Special Studies

COMPREHENSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE COMPENSATION AND LIABILITY ACT (CERCLA - SUPERFUND)

Major Objective: To create a tax on the chemical and petroleum industries to support a trust fund to clean up abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste sites.

revised May,1998

Grants:
•Section 104(d) - Core Superfund Program and Response Activity
•Section 311 - R & D, Pilot Projects & Special Studies

*Requires EPA approval of Tribal eligibility application for financial assistance

SUPERFUND AMENDMENTS AND REAUTHORIZATION ACT (SARA)
TITLE III: EMERGENCY PLANNING AND THE COMMUNITY. RIGHT-TO-KNOW ACT

Major Objectives: To prepare local communities for emergencies arising from spills and releases of hazardous materials.

Grants:
•Section 305(a) Training Grants for Chemical Emergency Planning and Response
•TSCA Section 10 - SARA Tile III Innovative Technical Assistance Grants for Chemical Emergency Planning.

Funding available on a limited basis through Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

INDIAN ENVIRONMENTAL GENERAL ASSISTANCE ACT

Major Objective: To provide funding for tribes to build tribal capacity to plan, develop and, establish environmental protection programs.

GRANTS AWARDED UNDER THIS ACT WILL BE SIMILAR TO THE MULTI-MEDIA ASSISTANCE WHICH EPA AWARDED IN FY91-93.

THIS ACT ALLOWS FOR:
- Congress can appropriate up to $15M per year.
- No assistance granted shall be for less than $75,000.
- Eligible recipients are Federally recognized tribes or consortia of two or more eligible tribes.

POLLUTION PREVENT ION ACT

Major Objective: To prevent or reduce pollution at the source whenever possible (i.e. source reduction, recycling, treatment to minimize human and environmental exposure).

Grants:
•Section 6005 Pollution Prevention Incentives for States (PPIS) (includes state universities and all federally recognizes Indian Tribes) •Also CWA-Section 104(b)(3); SDWA-Section 1442(b)(3); RCRA- Section 8001; CAA-Section 103(b)(3); TSCA- Section 10(a); FIFRA-Section 20(a); CERC!LA-Section 111(c) (1O)

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ACT

Major Objective: To support the design and implementation of environmental education programs that enhance critical thinking and problem solving skills to ensure informed responsible decisions are made to protect the environment.

Grants:
•Section 6 Environmental Education Grant Program

POINTS OF CONTACT:

EPA Region 6 (serves New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Louisiana)

EPA Region 6 Main Office
1445 Ross Avenue
Suite 1200
Dallas, Texas 75202
(214) 665-2200

EPA Region 7 (serves Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa, and Missouri)

EPA Region 7 Main Office
726 Minnesota Avenue
Kansas City, Kansas 66101
(800) 223-0425
(913) 551-7003

EPA Region 8 (serves Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, Utah, and Colorado)

EPA Region 8 Main Office
999-18th Street, Suite 500
Denver, Colorado 80202-2466
(800) 227-8917 (Region 8 states only)
(303) 312-6312

revised May,1998

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE DIVISION OF SANITATION FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION

Water Treatment

ENVIRONMENTAL AREA: Sanitation facilities construction and utility organization technical assistance

CONTACTS:

Curtis C. Bossert, Director-DSFC
Aberdeen Area Indian Health Service
115 4th Avenue SE, Room 309
Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401
[605] 226-7451

Richard C. Oksness, P.E.
Billings Area Indian Health Service
P.O. Box 2143
Billings, Montana 59103
[406] 247-7096

Oklahoma Area Indian Health Service
3625 N.W. 56th Street, 5 Corporate Plaza
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112
[405] 951-3882

OBJECTIVES: Through Public Law 86-12 1, to construct, improve, extend, or otherwise provide essential sanitation facilities, including domestic and community water supplies and facilities, sewage and waste disposal facilities, and solid waste disposal facilities, together with necessary appurtenances and fixtures, for Indian homes, communities, and lands.

TYPES OF ASSISTANCE: Project grants through Congressional allocations.

USE AND USE RESTRICTIONS: Funds are utilized through contracts [with approved contractors or Federally recognized Tribes] or contributions with Federally recognized Tribes to address identified sanitation facilities needs as outlined in the objectives section above. Funds cannot be used to obtain rights-of-way, operate or maintain constructed sanitation facilities, etc.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS: Any Federally recognized Tribe, band, group, or community of American Indians/Alaska Native persons who are within the scope of the IHS program as determined by the policies, standards, and procedures set forth in Part 11, Chapter I, of the IHS manual. Individual American Indians/Alaska Natives are eligible but request for service must be made by the Tribal government. Each IHS Area has local eligibility requirements in addition to national criteria common to all Areas. IHS funding has mandated restrictions on types of housing that can be supported.

APPLICATION AND AWARD PROCESS: Tribes submit project proposals to the, IHS Area Office requesting financial and technical assistance with the provision of sanitation facilities. Funding is received from Congress and distribution of funds made at the Area level depending on funding levels received and amount of funding requested from the Tribes. To receive consideration for funding on a fiscal year basis, requests from Tribes should be received in the Area Office by July of the preceding year.

MATCHING REQUIREMENTS: No matching requirements

RANGE OF ASSISTANCE: $10,000 to $1,000,000+

RELATED PROGRAMS: Division of Environmental Health Services, Division of Facilities Management.

revised May,1998

SELF DETERMINATION GRANTS-INDIAN TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS

Water Treatment

AUTHORIZATION: Public Law 93-638, Section 103, as amended, 88 Stat. 2203.

OBJECTIVES: To provide financial assistance to tribal governments so that they can improve their capacity to: (1) plan, conduct and administer Federal programs with special emphasis on improving their ability to contract; and (2) put special emphasis on strengthening and improving tribal governments with respect to their fiscal and managerial capabilities. This special program emphasis is intended to complement the Aid to Tribal Government Program.

TYPES OF ASSISTANCE: Project Grants.

USES AND USE RESTRICTIONS: Strengthen and improve administration of tribal government, planning, training, evaluation or other activities designed to improve the capacity of a tribe to enter into contracts; acquisition of land for these purposes; planning, designing, monitoring, and evaluating Federal programs serving the Indian tribes. Projects primarily for tribal economic development or enterprises or tribal profit making activities are not considered consistent with Section 103(a) of the Act (i.e., a grant for the purpose of determining the feasibility or subsidizing tribally owned construction company). Projects involving the funding of tribal scholarships or charitable programs are normally not consistent with the purposes for which grants are authorized.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

Applicant Eligibility: Only governing bodies of federally recognized Indian tribes are eligible to apply for self-determination grants.

Beneficiary Eligibility: Federally recognized Indian tribes.

Credentials/Documentation: The Bureau of Indian Affairs will not make a grant unless specifically and officially requested to do so by a tribal governing body. This request may be in the form of a resolution, or such other forms as the tribal constitution or current practices require. Costs will be determined in accordance with OMB Circular No. A-87, except as noted in appendix A of the regulations.

APPLICATION AND AWARD PROCESS:

Preapplication Coordination: Informal preapplication conference is recommended. The standard application forms as furnished by the Federal agency and required by OMB Circular No. A-102 must be used for this program. Assistance is available from the Bureau to aid in preparation of the application. This program is excluded from coverage under E.O. 12372.

Application Procedure: Submit the following to BIA Agency Superintendent: (1) Part I - Public Law 93-638 Grant Application, (2) Part II - Narrative Statement; (3) Part III - Budget Data; (4) Part IV (Construction Program Only); (5) Must be accompanied by Tribal Resolution. (Contact Agency Office for forms and instructions.) This program is excluded from coverage under OMB Circular No. A-110.

Award Procedure: Grant application approved or disapproved by Area Director within 60 days. Notification in writing to tribal governing body, followed by final grant agreement negotiation and approval.

Deadlines: Announced annually by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Range of Approval/Disapproval Time: 60 days.

Appeals: In accordance with 25 CFR Part 2.

Renewals: Subject to availability of funds.

revised May,1998

ASSISTANCE CONSIDERATIONS:

Formula and Matching Requirements: Not applicable; grants awarded on competitive basis.

Length and Time Phasing of Assistance: 1 year renewals. Small grants may be awarded in lump sum, larger grants use Treasury advance, cost reimbursement or a Letter of Credit.

POST ASSISTANCE REQUIREMENTS:

Reports: (1) Report of Federal Cash Transactions due within 15 days following the end of each quarter unless otherwise specified in grant agreement; (2) Performance report required along with Financial Status report; and, (3) Final Expenditure report due 90 days after end of grant period.

Audits: In accordance with the provisions of OMB Circular No. A-128, "Audits of State and Local Governments," State and local governments that receive financial assistance of $100,000 or more within the State's fiscal year shall have an audit made for that year. State and local governments that receive between $25,000 and $100,000 within the State's fiscal year shall have an audit made in accordance with Circular No. A-128, or in accordance with Federal laws and regulations governing the program in which they participate.

Records: Records to be maintained for a period of 3 years after completion of grant assistance.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Account Identification: 14-2100-0-1-452.

Obligations: (Grants) FY 95 $0; FY 96 are $0; and FY 97 est $0.

Range and Average of Financial Assistance: Up to $35,000 per grant.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Tribes have accomplished a variety of projects to provide orientation and training of tribal leaders in the implementation of Public Law 93-638. Tribes have provided specialized technical assistance to tribal managers, program directors, accountants and other administrative staff, and have provided specialized assistance to aid tribes in contracting and for related purposes essential to tribal self-detemination. This program received no funding during fiscal year 1995.

REGULATIONS, GUIDELINES, AND LITERATURE: 25 CFR 272, 278; Procedural Guidelines for the Self-Determination Grants Program; Handbook for Decision Makers.

INFORMATION CONTACTS:

Regional or Local Office: Contact Superintendent at nearest BIA Agency Office.

Headquarters Office: Division Chief, James J. Thomas, Office of Indian Services, Code 480, Division of Self-Determination Services, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20240. Telephone: (202) 208-5727. Use the same number for FTS.

RELATED PROGRAMS: None.

EXAMPLES OF FUNDED PROJECTS: A tribe commences a youth counseling service to reduce delinquency and improve its law and other programs. A tribe revises its constitution and by-laws to improve its government structure. A tribe updates its membership rules as basis for service. A tribe conducts service and evaluation of BIA programs in order to prepare program modifications.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTING PROPOSALS: All eligible proposals funded for an amount not exceeding the tribe's program allocation.

revised May,1998

TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE - INDIAN TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS

(Self-Determination Training and Technical Assistance)

Water Treatment

AUTHORIZATION: Public Law 93-638, Section 103, as amended, 88 Stat. 2203.

OBJECTIVES: To aid Indian Tribes to exercise self-determination in accord with Public Law 93-638.

TYPES OF ASSISTANCE: Project Grants (Contracts); Advisory Services and Counseling; Provision of Specialized Services; Training.

USES AND USE RESTRICTIONS: Use is restricted to activities which further Indian Self-Determination according to Public Law 93-638 and implementing regulations: Provide training and technical assistance options; enhance tribes' understanding of the Act; help develop skills needed to utilize options; enhance capability to contract for Bureau and other Federal programs; strengthen tribal government; utilize Personnel use options; and improve capabilities to direct Bureau and other Federal programs. The Bureau is obligated to offer a tribe training and technical assistance to overcome grounds for declining to contract with a tribe. Also, regulations mandate other instances in the contracting and grant process where technical assistance is offered to tribes. In all instances, tribes are free to accept or reject such offers. Counseling and advisory services are dependent upon availability of Bureau/Federal personnel. Financial assistance is dependent upon funds available within each Area and establishment of tribal priority needs within the Area.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

Applicant Eligibility: Governing body of any federally recognized Indian tribe.

Beneficiary Eligibility: Federally recognized Indian tribes.

Credentials/Documentation: A tribal request in the form of a resolution or some other form in accord with the tribal constitution or current practice shall accompany the request. For construction contracts, Federal Acquisition Regulations or Contract procedures of Public Law 93-638 may apply; for grants, costs will be determined in accordance with OMB Circular No. A-87, except as noted in Appendix A of 25 CFR.

APPLICATION AND AWARD PROCESS:

Preapplication Coordination: Informal preapplication conference is recommended. The standard application forms, as furnished by the Federal agency and required by OMB Circular No. A-102, must be used for this program. This program is excluded from coverage under E.O. 12372.

Application Procedure: Submit the following to BIA Agency Superintendent: (1) Part I - Public Law 93-638 Grant Application; (2) Part II - Narrative Statement; (3) Part III - Budget Data; (4) Part IV-(Construction Program Only): (5) Must be accompanied by Tribal Resolution. (Contact Agency Office for forms and instructions. This program is excluded from coverage under OMB Circutar No. A-110.

Award Procedure: Grant application approved or disapproved by Area Director within 60 days. Notification in writing to tribal governing body, followed by final grant agreement negotiation and approval.

Deadlines: Announced annually by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Range of Approval/Disapproval Time: 60 days.

Appeals: In accordance with 25 CFR Part 2.

Renewals: Subject to availability of funds.

revised May,1998

ASSISTANCE CONSIDERATIONS:

Formula and Matching Requirements: Not applicable; grants awarded on a competitive basis.

Length and Time Phasing of Assistance: 1 year renewals. Small grants may be awarded in lump sum, larger grants use treasury advance, cost reimbursement or a Letter of Credit.

POST ASSISTANCE REQUIREMENTS:

Reports: 1) Report of Federal Cash Transactions due within 15 days following the end of each quarter unless otherwise specified in grant agreement; (2) Performance report required along with Financial Status report; and, (3) Final Expenditure report due 90 days after end of grant period.

Audits: In accordance with the provisions of OMB Circular No. A-128, "Audits of State and Local Governments," State and local governments that receive financial assistance of $100,000 or more within the State's fiscal year shall have an audit made for that year. State and local governments that receive between $25,000 and $100,000 within the State's fiscal year shall have an audit made in accordance with Circular No. A-128, or in accordance with Federal laws and regulations governing the program in which they participate.

Records: Records to be maintained for 3 years after completion of project activity.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Account Identification: 14-2100-0-1-452.

Obligation: (Grants) FY 95 $O; FY 96 est $O; and FY 97 est $O.

Range and Average of Financial Assistance: Up to $35,000 per grant.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Tribes have accomplished a variety of projects to provide orientation and training of tribal leaders in the implementation of Public Law 93-638; tribes have provided specialized technical assistance to tribal managers, program directors, accountants and other administrative staff, and provided specialized assistance to aid tribes in contracting and for related purposes essential to tribal self-detemination. This program received no funding during FY 1995.

REGULATIONS, GUIDELINES, AND LITERATURE: 25 CFR 272, 278; Procedural Guidelines for the Self-Determination Grants Program; Handbook for Decision Makers.

]INFORMATION CONTACTS:

Regional or Local Office: Contact Superintendent at nearest BIA Agency Office.

Headquarters Office: Division Chief, James J. Thomas, Office of Indian Services, Code 480, Division of Self-Detemination Services, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20240. Telephone: (202) 208-5727. Use the same number for FTS.

RELATED PROGRAMS: None.

EXAMPLES OF FUNDED PROJECTS: A tribe commences a youth counseling service to reduce delinquency and improve its law and other programs. A tribe revises in constitution and by-laws to improve its government structure. A tribe updates its membership rules as basis for service. A tribe conducts service and evaluation of BIA programs in order to prepare program modifications.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTING PROPOSALS: Eligible proposal, funded up to the allocated program amount for each tribal government.

revised May,1998

REIMBURSABLE SUPPORT

Water Treatment

US Army Corps of Engineers

OVERVIEW:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is authorized by Congress to provide reimbursable assistance to Native American governments as well as other Federal agencies, state/local/territorial governments, private firms and international organizations. Under this program the Corps manages approximately $700,000,000 of work each year by providing quality engineering, environmental, construction management, real estate, research and development and related services.

Customers or sponsors provide full funding for the effort, and retain control and legal responsibility for their program. The Corps executes within the terms of a mutually agreed scope of work, while helping to ensure timely project completion within budget.

Supporting others enables the Corps to maintain and enhance its capabilities. The diversity of work allows us to apply design and construction expertise in new and innovative ways.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) recognizes the value of the work performed by the Corps and supports the program by providing full-time-equivalent (FTE) resourcing specifically for this mission. The Administration considers this program an example of a business-like practice and supports it in the National Performance Review with the recommendation to "maximize the use of the Corps planning, engineering and contract management capabilities in support of other Federal agency programs."

GOALS:

The goal of the program is to apply Corps capabilities to assist others in the execution of their missions, not to take away their work. Many agencies do not possess technical expertise to fulfill the in-house engineering needs of their programs. Furthermore, many do not have the staff to effectively manage environmental, engineering or construction work being conducted by private firms under contract. The Corps can fill that void.

The Corps commits to support a customer only after making certain that adequate resources and technical skills are available to ensure absolute customer satisfaction.

The Corps negotiates an interagency agreement (IA) or memorandum of agreement (MOA) with the customer before starting work. Customer's needs are the main focus in developing and tailoring the agreements and executing the work. Additionally, customers have no obligation to provide work to the Corps. The customer decides whether or not to use the Corps and to what extent. This provides extra incentive for the Corps to provide quality service.

One of the main goals is to conduct this program in partnership, not in competition, with the private sector. The Corps relies heavily on the talents of private firms to execute this mission. While relying on the private sector for technical expertise, the Corps functions as an extension of the agency's staff providing expert government presence and oversight to protect the customer's interests. This capability relieves the agency of the burden of hiring and training specialists to perform these functions. As a result, the customer gains the Corps proven contract management experience and effectiveness in the execution of their missions while saving them money and work force.

More information about this program is available from the regional Corps District office.

revised May 1998

PLANNING ASSISTANCE TO THE STATES AND INDIAN TRIBES

Water Treatment

US Army Corps of Engineers

OVERVIEW:

The Planning Assistance to States (and Indian Tribes) Program, also known as the Section 22 Program, is authorized by Section 22 of the 1974 Water Resources Development Act. This program authorizes the Corps to use its technical expertise in management of water and related land resources to help States and Indian Tribes deal with their water resource problems. Upon request, the Corps of Engineers will cooperate with States and Indian Tribes in the preparation of plans for the development, utilization, and conservation of water and related land resources located within the boundaries of the State or reservation. Assistance is given within the limits of available appropriations, however, $500,000 is the maximum available annually to any State or Indian Tribe. Studies must be cost shared 50-50 with one (or more) non-Federal sponsor and are usually completed within 12 months from the initiation of the study (or sooner if negotiated with the sponsor(s). Larger studies may be divided into phases, with each phase completed within 12 months or less.

OBJECTIVES:

The objective of the Planning Assistance to States (and Indian Tribes) Program is to support the states and tribes in their comprehensive planning for the development, utilization and conservation of water and related land resources. The program can also be used to assist States and Tribes in developing or revising a State or Tribal Water Plan. The State's or Tribe's annual request for assistance in addressing these resource problems is used to develop the Corps study program for that year. A State's or Tribe's eligibility for planning assistance is determined by comparing the requested work items to the State's or Tribe's water and related land resources plan.

TYPES OF ACTIVITIES:

Typical activities studied under this Program are flood damage reduction, flood warning plans, water quality, water supply, erosion, hydropower, backwater restoration, wetlands analysis, recreation, and navigation. Studies vary in scope from environmental investigations for an individual reservoir to a comprehensive study to establish a State or Tribal Water Budget.

STUDY PROCEDURES:

1. Mutually understood goals for a work item and conformance to State or Tribal plan are agreed upon before the Corps begins planning assistance. The State or Tribe participates in developing the scope of work, cost estimate, and coordinates state and local agency involvement in accomplishing work items.

2. A State or Tribal work request should be regional and comprehensive in scope or be a part of a larger study being performed by the State or Tribe.

3. Planning assistance may include review and update of information from authorized studies not currently funded, provided the assistance conforms to the State or Tribal plan. The assistance may not be used to further ongoing or pending Corps programs, such as comprehensive studies, feasibility studies, or small projects under continuing authorities. If a study identifies a potential construction project with Federal interest, the study will be transferred to the appropriate Corps program.

4. The Planning Assistance To States and Indian Tribes Program may help States or Tribes in support of the Coastal Zone Management Act or the Flood Plain Management Services Program when the primary purpose is to supplement basin-wide or regional State or Tribal planning for the coastal zone or flood plains.

REQUEST FOR PLANNING ASSISTANCE:

revised May,1998

Local and regional officials who are interested in assistance for their communities and who are willing to share the study costs should contact their State or Tribal water resources agency. All requests must be requested through the State or Tribal coordinator for the program. The coordinator compiles the requests in accordance with Corps guidance for the yearly submission. The Corps District then accommodates as many studies as possible within the funding allotment and negotiates agreements including arrangements for 50 percent of the study cost with the non-Federal sponsors requesting the assistance.

Reclamation Programs

Water Treatment

ENVIRONMENTAL AREA: The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) has technical programs in two main areas: Resource Management and Resource Development. The primary authorization for Reclamation's programs is the Reclamation Act of 1902, as amended, though there are a large number of other laws that authorize specific programs and activities. Many of the programs under Reclamation are constrained by the need to seek specific Congressional authorizations and appropriations for individual projects and activities. It should be understood that though many Reclamation programs are already authorized, Congress does not always appropriate funds for them.

Under Resource Management, Reclamation has a number of programs that provide technical assistance to and/or partnership activities with State, Tribal, and local entities and with other Federal agencies. These programs are in keeping with Reclamation's mission as a major Federal water management agency.

RANGE AND TYPES OF ASSISTANCE: The main program specific to Tribal entities is the Native American Affairs Program (NAAP). This program has two primary activities - the Department of Interior (DOI) Water Rights Settlement Federal Teams, and Reclamation's Technical Assistance to Tribes. Reclamation participates on DOI's water rights settlement teams in both a technical and leadership capacity. Also within NAAP, technical assistance is provided to tribes to facilitate their water and water-related resources management efforts on reservations and in communities. A wide range of technical assistance activities have been accomplished in support of tribes, many of which will be covered in more detail later in this (text). One of the main activity areas has been providing technical assistance to tribes in assessing their water supply and treatment needs and then identifying potential solutions to those needs. Planning studies and investigations, such as Needs Assessments and Appraisal and Technical Studies, are accomplished through partnerships with the tribe. On-site water and wastewater infrastructure assessments are also accomplished by Reclamation technical specialists in concert with tribal resource managers.

Reclamation has a group of programs known as Water Management and Conservation Programs (WM&C). Within this group, the following types of assistance are available:

- Challenge Grants program
- Technical Assistance
- Workshops
- Assessments and Evaluations

Reclamation provides drought assistance, per P.L. 102-250, to rural and urban communities and other entities to help them with planning and implementation of drought mitigation measures. This is accomplished through grants and loans and through direct technical assistance by Reclamation technical specialists. This program is not funded on a permanent basis and funding may not be available in a given fiscal year.

The Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Studies Act (Title XVI, P.L. 102-575), authorizes Reclamation to perform Appraisal and Feasibility Studies for communities pertaining to application of water recycling technology to recycle wastewater and thereby extend use of limited surface and ground water supplies. Identified solutions may include treatment of wastewater for later use as water supply for industrial and other uses. Identified treatment technology may range from use of constructed wetlands to advanced physical/chemical treatment of the wastewater. Funding must be pursued on an individual study and/or project basis.

revised May,1998

OBJECTIVES: One of Reclamation's historic missions has been the operations and maintenance (O&M) of its many natural resources and existing facilities. These include: water storage and distribution facilities, hydropower facilities, recreational facilities, lands and natural habitats. The Reclamation Act of 1902, as amended, provides the original authority for its O&M Programs. Congress also directs Reclamation to provide O&M of specific facilities through passage of water project authorization legislation. Reclamation can only act on those authorities after Congress has appropriated funds for those O&M activities.

Reclamation's O&M of its facilities and resources are accomplished in two ways. Either Reclamation personnel accomplish the work or through contract/agreement with water districts and/or other entities for their personnel to perform the work.

Reclamation also provides technical assistance and training to other agencies and entities in the O&M area. This includes O&M of: hydropower generation and transmission facilities; water storage and distribution facilities; water treatment facilities; and water-related recreation facilities.

In order for Reclamation to ensure that its facilities are operated and maintained at a high level of structural and operational safety, regular technical reviews are conducted by Reclamation specialists of Reclamation's facilities. As authorized by P.L. 95-578, Reclamation conducts safety evaluations of existing dams (SEED program) and accomplishes corrections of identified safety deficiencies through its Safety of Dams (SOD) program. Because of its expertise in these areas, Reclamation is also DOI's lead bureau for these activities, and through funding from BIA conducts these activities on many dams on tribal lands.

Being a Federal agency, Reclamation is also active in meeting the requirements set forth by Congress for all Federal agencies. In the cultural resources management area, under the guidance of such laws as the National Historic Preservation Act, the American Indian Religious Freedom Act, the Archaeological Resources Protection Act, and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, Reclamation has been active in managing cultural resources on its lands and facilitating the management of cultural resources on other lands. Though Reclamation is primarily concerned with its own lands, technical assistance can be given to other agencies and entities in their own efforts.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (FWCA) also require Federal agencies to comply with certain environmental and coordination requirements. Reclamation accomplishes NEPA compliance activities for a wide range of Federal actions, and can assist other agencies and entities with their NEPA compliance activities.

The other main program area for Reclamation, Resource Development, is associated with construction and development of resources activities. One program, the Wetlands Development Program is accomplished in response to the North American Wetlands Conservation Act and Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act. This program includes wetlands/riparian habitat restoration, enhancement and development, and wetlands/riparian habitat evaluation and management. Reclamation has provided technical assistance to many other agencies and entities in these areas and currently works in partnership with others as well.

Reclamation's original mission, as directed by the Reclamation Act of 1902, was the development of water resources in the arid West, which effectively translated into construction of water storage dams, diversion dams, and water distribution systems for agricultural and domestic water supplies. Reclamation is recognized around the world for its expertise in development and construction of these kinds of facilities.

Though Reclamation's main mission is now resources management, rather than resources development, it still has several major construction projects going on today. The Mni Wiconi Project in South Dakota and on the Pine Ridge Reservation is currently being constructed, and there are distribution facilities (municipal, rural and industrial) being constructed on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation. The Animas-La Plata Project in Colorado and the Navajo Indian Irrigation Projects in the Four Corners area are also in various stages of construction. An example of an already constructed and operating water supply project is the WEB project in north-central South Dakota.

revised May,1998

Prior to actual construction of water projects, adequate planning and then feasibility analyses must be accomplished to the satisfaction of Congress before it will authorize a project. Once construction is authorized by specific legislation of Congress, construction still can not begin until Congress appropriates funds. Funds are appropriated on a yearly basis and are not guaranteed.

Reclamation is also involved in the planning and construction of municipal water recycling facilities, per Title XVI of P.L. 102-575. Construction of temporary technology demonstration projects is authorized under Title XVI and Reclamation is currently involved with several municipal and state partners in the planning and construction of these facilities.

As part of Reclamation's early development of water resources in the arid West, and because of increased demands for electricity by an rapidly expanding population, Reclamation has also constructed a large number of hydropower generation facilities on a number of its dams.. Some regional examples include Yellowtail Dam (Wyoming and Montana) and Boysen Dam (Wyoming).

This construction experience has enabled Reclamation to provide technical assistance, project construction management and oversight in those areas to other agencies and entities, including other countries around the world.

CONTACT: Additional Reclamation program information specific to tribes is available in the Reclamation Resource Manual issued in cooperation with the Mni Sose Intertribal Water Rights Coalition. Local office contacts and the areas they serve can also be found in the Reclamation Resource Manual or can be obtained from:

Mr. Ronald J. Eggers
Great Plains Regional Directors Office,
Special Assistant for Native American Affairs, P.O. Box 36900
Billings, Montana 59107-6900

phone (406) 247-7606.

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Water Quality Technology / Environmental Health degrees at Montana State University Northern

Water Treatment

Montana State University Northern

Havre, Montana

The Water Quality Technology/Environmental Health major at Montana State University - Northern is available for both Associate of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees. This program, the only one of its kind in Montana, is designed to prepare students to become a certified operator of a water treatment plant, a wastewater treatment plant or a water distribution system. Most who complete the degree become certified in all 3 areas. Over 90% of our students are successful at passing their state certification exams on their first try. Several states have reciprocal agreements with Montana to accept these certificates as valid in that state.

In addition, the program prepares students for careers as laboratory technicians or assistants to engineers, scientists or agencies working with water quality related issues. The program is designed to meet the multiple-entry multiple-exit needs of individuals who wish to upgrade their skills or complete a particular portion of the program as it fits their schedule. Students may transfer credits from any accredited college and have the option of requesting that non-resident tuition fees be waived in certain cases when those fees would create a hardship and they wish to pursue a degree which is not available near their home such as Water Quality Technology.

MSU-Northern is also home to the Montana Environmental Training Center (METC) which is housed at the Great Falls campus. METC is a cooperative effort between the University and the Montana Department of Environmental Quality. MSU-Northern and METC maintain a state-of-the-art laboratory on the Havre campus which was recently remodeled and furnished with over one-half million dollars in water testing equipment. The water quality program provides hands-on training as well as an opportunity for practical experience through the summer internship program.

Through our agreements with municipalities statewide and in other states, students earn six credits while working as an intern, usually with pay, at a public water treatment plant, wastewater treatment plant or water distribution system.

The geographic area served by Northern contains four Indian Reservations, and approximately one of every eight students at Northern is Native American, the highest percentage of any nontribal college in Montana. Many water quality majors are nontraditional students with an average age of about 30. MSU-N provides a comprehensive array of student support services, including counseling, tutoring, and job placement. The University also offers a unique Veterans Upward Bound program where military veterans can attend classes at no cost for 6 weeks in the summer and earn the first 4 credits of their water quality degree. All room, board, books, fees and tuition are covered.

Havre is a town of about 11,000 which serves as a regional center for northern Montana and southern Canada with the same services available as cities much larger in size. However, Havre is one of the least expensive towns in Montana in which to live, and has no shortage of housing.

Students come from many states and tribes. MSU-Northern's national reputation in the water quality program has attracted students recently from as far away as Alaska, Florida, and Hawaii. Graduates of the program are in high demand and many recent graduates have had several job offers from which to choose, with starting salaries for operators of up to fourteen dollars per hour. Interviews with employers and those students who have completed the program indicate a high degree of satisfaction by both. A good example is a 1996 graduate, Duane Gopfier, who earned a Bachelor of Science degree and has now returned to his home, the Rocky Boy Reservation in north central Montana. He is employed by the Chippewa-Cree Tribe in its

revised May,1998

water resources program and when asked about his experience at Northern stated, “This is really a versatile program that allows you to do a number of things.” Duane’s success is the result of his self-discipline and his determination to succeed in a flexible program provided by a caring faculty who make students their highest priority.

If you would like further information about the Water Quality degrees offered by MSU-Northern, please contact Dr. Gregg Hester, Hagener Science Center, MSU-Northern, P. 0. Box 7751, Havre, Montana, or call (406) 265-4125.

revised May,1998