DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, Environmental Health Administration

Program: Safe Drinking Water Revolving Fund

Award: $19,500,000

Project contact: Mr. Alain Carey

1. For each group/category or program/project for which ARRA funds have been obtained, please provide the following information:
    a. A brief summary of the program/project, including goals
    Funds associated with the EPA's Drinking Water Revolving Fund support infrastructure improvements to drinking water systems. The program also emphasizes providing funds to small and disadvantaged communities and to programs that encourage pollution prevention as a tool for ensuring safe drinking water. Specific projects include replacement and upgrade of water mains, and water tank and reservoir improvements across all counties.
    b. Whether funds were appropriated for expenditure by a federal agency, were awarded as a formula/block grant to a State or country agency, or were awarded on a competitive grant basis;
    Funds were appropriated by the Environmental Protection Agency as a formula/block grant to the State of Hawaii.
    c. Whether matching funds are required, and, if so:
        i. Are they available; N/A
        ii. Have they been secured; N/A
        iii. If they have not been secured, why not; and N/A
        iv. Will the State be required to continue that match or provide increased/full funding in the future in the future; N/A
    d. If there additional requirements to receive funds, what are they; N/A
    e. The amount of funds involved and the state/federal fiscal year within which the funds must be expended (e.g. SFY 2009 – 2010 or FFY 2009 – 2010);
    The award total was $19,500,000 and must be spent prior to 1Q 2010.
    f. What criteria were used to identify the program/project as a priority and how does the program/project meet them;
    Preference was given to shovel-ready projects. Projects that were under contract or started construction by June 17, 2009 received priority funding.
    g. Efforts undertaken to coordinate application for funds and administration of the program/project, including expenditure of funds, with other federal, state, and county agencies.
    DOH collaborated closely with county officials on to discuss program requirements and expectations.
    h. The criteria used to select activities for the program/project;

Individual counties were allowed to select the appropriate project based on local needs and readiness to proceed.

Efforts made to provide public notice and seek public comment/input or, if public comment/input was not sought, why;

The Intended Use Plan (IUP) for SFY 2009 was revised to include the ARRA grant and projects proposed to be funded by ARRA. A public notice for the revised IUP was published on March 27, 2009 with a 30 day public comment period ending on April 27, 2009.Efforts made during the bidding/award process to ensure that it was transparent and that the funds were awarded based on merit and in a prompt, fair, and reasonable manner. Additionally, normal state and county procurement practices were followed and duly documented.

i. Measures employed to 1) reduce duplication of efforts, 2) ensure that funds were used for authorized purposes, and 3) prevent cost overruns, fraud, waste, error, and abuse;

The Department of Health has published draft guidance for internal programs as well as an internal ARR Oversight Committee to assure timeliness and accuracy, and to scrutinize for waste, fraud, error, and abuse. This Committee convenes monthly or as needed. In turn, the Department of Accounting and General Services and the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism also provide oversight and guidance.

j. Current status of the program/project, including percentage of awarded funds that have been obtained, percentage of awarded funds encumbered and/or expended, and what part(s) of program/project have been completed; and

Contracts are being revised to accommodate recent changes to accounting procedures. All ARRA projects are under construction.

k. Actual or anticipated economic impact to the State of the program/project, including the number of jobs saved/created and the long-term public benefits of the program/project.

Jobs retained/created cannot be calculated at this time. The long-term public benefits of the projects include greater assurance of drinking water quality, public health and safety, and reliability of public works infrastructure as they relate to drinking water.