BORDER ENVIRONMENT COOPERATION COMMISSION

EPA Region 9
BEIF/PDAP PRIORITIZATION PROCESS
PRIORITIZATION FOR DRINKING WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

EPA Region 9 PROJECT APPLICATION

For Official Use Only:

Date Received by BECC: BECC Log Number:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Border Water Infrastructure Program supports both the Project Development Assistance Program (PDAP), administered by the Border Environment Cooperation Commission (BECC) and the Border Environment Infrastructure Fund (BEIF), administered by the North American Development Bank (NADB). The purpose of the PDAP/BEIF program is to identify and fund drinking water and wastewater infrastructure projects, which will address the most urgent needs and the most severe public health and environmental conditions existing in the border region, defined as 100 kilometers north and south of the U.S.-Mexico border. ***Projects located in Mexico must provide a U.S.-side benefit.***

Projects are selected for PDAP funding through a prioritization process established to help accomplish environmental and public health strategic goals for the Border region of (1) protecting the health of people in the U.S.-Mexico border area by increasing the number of people in the region with access to potable water and wastewater collection and treatment systems, and (2) improving water quality in shared and transboundary waters. The information provided in this Project Application will be evaluated for the purpose of prioritizing projects for available PDAP funding resources to support project planning and design. Once a project has completed planning and final design, it may be considered for BEIF construction funding based upon available resources.

The project proposed for PDAP/BEIF funding shall complete project development activities including planning, environmental clearance, final design, including a proposed financial structure for the project, within 2 years of receiving notification of project selection. The project must be able to complete construction within a 3-year period after signing a NADB sub-grant agreement for construction funding. In addition, the construction cost of any project shall not exceed US$30 million and the BEIF grant cannot exceed US$8 million. The determination of the BEIF amount for any project shall be based on the NADB affordability analysis, which reviews the project revenue sources such as user rates, to financially contribute to the project through loan or equity, These time and cost/funding requirements should be considered when defining the project proposed in this application.

A Project Application shall be completed for each independent project, defined as a mutually exclusive construction activity that can be funded, constructed, and fully function independent of another project. The project must be intended to serve an existing population and shall not be developed to provide service to future populations or to induce growth. Multiple Project Applications may be submitted by a project sponsor. The application requests information about the available documentation related to the project; these documents may be requested during the evaluation phase or as part of the selection process. Although not an exhaustive list, the following documents may be helpful to have access to in order to complete the application:

Applicant Information:	***Project Information:***	
• *Formal incorporation/ authorization to provide service* • *Utility performance reports (i.e. number of accounts/users, water production/use)* • *Audited financial statements and current operations budget* • *Rate structure*	• *Map* • *Property ownership documents* • *Preliminary Engineering Report* • *Environmental information* • *Final Design* • *Project Cost* • *Existing permits*	• *Lab results for drinking water or wastewater discharge quality* • *Documentation related to deficiencies or problem to be resolved by proposed project (work orders, pictures, health reports).* • *Other funding applications/ responses*

If submitting the application in physical form, application packets should be received at the BECC offices no later than 5 p.m. (MST), or if in electronic form, no later than 11:59 p.m. (MST), on August 1, 2017 *for review in an initial ranking process. After the initial project application evaluation, ranking and selection process, the application cycle is expected to remain open with evaluations occurring on a periodic basis and the ranked project list updated. Project selection will depend on the availability of funding.*

SECTION A
GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name:

2. Is the project located within Border Region (100 km (62 miles) from the border)? ❑ YES ❑ NO

3. Mark **only one project type** and the construction type.

Project Type				Construction Type	
Drinking Water Distribution	❑	Drinking Water Distribution & Treatment	❑	New Infrastructure	❑
Drinking Water Treatment	❑				
Wastewater Collection	❑	Wastewater Collection & Treatment	❑	Rehabilitation	❑
Wastewater Treatment	❑				

ities or distribution/collection system; whereas,

SECTION B
IDENTIFICATION OF EXISTING CONDITIONS

4. Describe the existing water infrastructure problem(s) that will be addressed by the proposed project. Choose only one item below. If you do not find the existing condition that applies to your project, do not mark any of the choices and provide a description in Question 5, below.

Mark YES for the specific condition to be addressed by the proposed project and answer any related questions.

			Yes
	Drinking water service is currently unavailable to an existing population.		❑
	What is the current drinking water source(s) for the unserved area?	Hauled Water by: water trucks ❑ bulk water purchase with self-storage ❑ Communal water tap ❑ Deficient Individual Well(s) ❑ Other (explain below) ❑	
	Drinking water does not comply with US EPA primary drinking water standards, or equivalent Mexican standards (NOM-127-SSA1-1994). [1]		❑
	What primary MCL is not met?	Is there a formal non-compliance violation issued by a regulatory agency? ❑ YES ❑ NO	
	Exposure to untreated sewage discharges due to the absence of wastewater collection infrastructure.		❑
	# of homes with cesspools, latrines and/or direct discharge of wastewater.	Total # of residential homes directly benefited by the project.	
	Is there adequate treatment capacity to handle the additional flows? ❑ YES ❑ NO		
	Untreated sewage discharges in or to the US.		❑
	Volume of wastewater without treatment.	Where is the untreated wastewater discharged?	
	What is the cause of untreated discharges?	No WWTP ❑ Other ❑ Treatment bypassed ❑	
	Untreated/inadequately treated wastewater discharges are contaminating the drinking water supply.		❑
	What contaminants have been identified in the drinking water source?	Is there a formal non-compliance violation issued by a regulatory agency? ❑ YES ❑ NO	

[1] MCL standards are presented in Exhibit A of the *FY11-12 Prioritization Criteria for Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Projects* available on www.cocef.org.

	A public health emergency has been declared by a US agency due to inadequate drinking water or wastewater infrastructure.	❑
	What agency published the health emergency?	
	What is the date of the declaration?	
	Wastewater infrastructure (non-compliant, failing on-site treatment systems or inadequate centralized wastewater collection infrastructure) causes an immediate and significant threat to the environment.	❑
	If centralized wastewater collection infrastructure exists, what problems are being experienced?	
	Is there a formal non-compliance violation issued by a regulatory agency? ❑ YES ❑ NO # of homes with failed on-site systems .	
	What conditions result from on-site system failures? (surface pooling, back-up, frequent pumping, etc)	
	On-site system failures should not be attributable to lack of maintenance but may be caused by factors including poor soils, insufficient setback distances, inadequate design or substandard installation and may be a seasonal occurrence.	
	Non-compliant wastewater effluent discharge to surface waters classified as impaired or equivalent in Mexico and/or discharge quality exceeds acute aquatic standards and/or impacts threatened or endangered species.	❑
	What surface water body is impacted by the non-compliant effluent discharge?	
	What effluent water quality parameter is not currently being met? Is there a formal non-compliance violation issued by a regulatory agency? ❑ YES ❑ NO	
	Intermittent water service occurs for existing populations due to insufficient capacity in the water treatment or distribution system and <u>not</u> attributable to operational issues or lack of fire flow storage.	❑
	Frequency of water outages? (# times/month, # times/year) Average duration of water outages? (# hours/day, # days/month, # months/year)	
	Describe the cause of the water outages including a description of insufficient treatment and/or piping capacity.	
	Intermittent service is defined as chronic outages and may range from regularly scheduled service interruption to outages reoccurring on a seasonal basis.	
	Untreated wastewater is discharged in a transboundary watershed. A transboundary watershed is defined as an area which drains into a common river, river system, or other body of water that crosses or exists across the U.S.-Mexico boundary.	❑
	What is the cause of untreated discharges?	
	What transboundary watershed is being impacted? Is there a formal non-compliance violation issued by a regulatory agency? ❑ YES ❑ NO	
	New or improved infrastructure will reduce demands on potable water resources.	❑
	How will the project reduce demands on potable water resources?	
	What volume of water demand will be displaced by the project? For re-use projects, is there an existing contract for use of this new water source? ❑ YES ❑ NO	
	Improves wastewater treatment in transboundary watershed.	❑
	What are the system deficiencies?	
	Are existing permit limits being met?	
	What transboundary watershed is being impacted? Is there a formal non-compliance violation issued by a regulatory agency? ❑ YES ❑ NO	

	The drinking water system does not comply with an enforceable standard.		❑
	What drinking water standard is not met?	Is there a formal non-compliance violation issued by a regulatory agency? ❑ YES ❑ NO	
	The treated wastewater effluent quality does not meet current effluent discharge limits.		❑
	What effluent requirement(s) is not currently being met?	Is there a formal non-compliance violation issued by a regulatory agency? ❑ YES ❑ NO	
	New or improved infrastructure will reduce demands on energy consumption.		❑
	How will the project reduce demands on energy?		
	What volume of energy demand will be displaced by the project?	For renewable energy projects, will the infrastructure be owned by the project sponsor? ❑ YES ❑ NO	

5. Describe the Existing Problem(s) or Infrastructure Deficiency:

Add any information about the existing problem(s) to supplement the responses provided above and to clearly explain the existing problem that will be addressed by the proposed project.

SECTION C
PROJECT RELATED INFORMATION

6. **Direct Project Beneficiaries**

Population served by the existing system:	_____	Existing People
Population Directly Benefited by the proposed project:	_____	Existing People
Homes or Service Connections Directly Benefited by the proposed project:	_____	Existing Connections

Information Source:

7. **PROJECT COST.** Provide the estimated cost and the availability of funds for each task:

	Estimated Cost	Are other funds currently available to support this activity?
Total Planning Cost	$US	❑ YES ❑ NO Source:
Design Cost	$US	❑ YES ❑ NO Source:
Cost of Land[2]	$US	❑ YES ❑ NO Source:
Construction Cost	$US	❑ YES ❑ NO Source:
Other Costs	$US	❑ YES ❑ NO Source:
Cost Estimate Source:		

Special Notes: ***Documentation to support the cost estimates and funding sources described above should be available for submittal to BECC/NADB upon request.*** ***Planning costs*** *include Facility Plan, Preliminary Engineering, Environmental Study, etc. Only 50% of design costs and no more than $500,000 can be supported by PDAP grant funds, therefore, a matching source should be identified.* ***Construction costs*** *should include construction contingencies, and construction oversight/supervision as well as applicable taxes and can not exceed US$30 million.* ***Other costs*** *inherent in the project include soft costs (non-construction) such as legal and financial.*

Comments:

[2]The cost of land cannot be funded by or considered as a match to BEIF construction funds. These costs may be supported by a NADB loan or other funding source.

8. **PROJECT STATUS.** Check the box if the activity is complete and if the activity is not complete, leave blank.

Activity	Completion Date (Month/Year)
Project Sponsor has the authority to construct, operate and maintain the proposed infrastructure project.	❑ Yes ❑ No If no, please provide a brief explanation below.
❑ Facility Plan/ Preliminary Engineering Report	_____/ 20____
❑ Under Development Date Initiated:_____	
❑ US EPA NEPA Process	_____/ 20____
❑ Final Design Completed	_____/ 20____
Project Sponsor has applied for other funding sources to support the proposed project?	❑ Yes ❑ No **If yes**, please provide a description of the source, amount and status of the application below.

Comments:

SECTION D
UTILITY INFORMATION

Supporting documentation of this data may be requested during the application evaluation process.

9. **Current Billing Efficiency:** _____ %

Billing Efficiency is defined as the volume of water billed to the customer divided by the volume of water distributed

10. **Current Collection Efficiency:** _____ %

Collection Efficiency is defined as the total amount collected from customers divided by the total amount billed to customers

11. **Service Coverage:** # of Drinking Water connections _____

# of Sewer connections _____ # of connections with access to Wastewater Treatment _____

12. **System Age:**

Drinking Water _____ years Sewer _____ years

13. **Average Annual Residential Bill and Annual Residential Use:** Combined Bill (water/sewer) _____ US$/Year

If only one service is available or individual water and sewer bills are available, please provide the information for each:

Individual Billing: Drinking Water _____ $US/Yr. Sewer _____ US$/Yr.

Annual Residential Use: Drinking Water _____ _____ (units) Sewer _____ _____ (units)

14. **Median Household Income (MHI):*** _____ US$/Year

MHI Source:

**A response is not required from projects in Mexico. The MHI will be calculated using available sources.*

PROJECT DOCUMENTATION

Please indicate the availability and/or applicability of documents for the proposed project. *Documentation will be requested during the application evaluation process. Please have this information prepared for submittal upon request.*

	Information/Document	YES	NO	N/A	Comments
1.	Project Location:				
	a. Project Map	☐	☐	☐	
	b. Property ownership documentation including project site, rights-of-way, easements, and/or land use permits	☐	☐	☐	
	c. Organizational structure including summary of qualifications/experience of key management and operations personnel.	☐	☐	☐	
	d. Utility Performance Data (i.e. number of accounts/users, influent/effluent data, water production/use, pre-treatment program activities	☐	☐	☐	
2.	Environmental Clearance or Authorization:				
	a. Environmental studies (environmental information document; site assessment; cultural, archeological, or biological surveys, etc.)	☐	☐	☐	
	b. Local, State, or Federal environmental findings/permits	☐	☐	☐	
3.	Technical Documents:				
	a. Planning document (alternative analysis)	☐	☐	☐	
	b. Formal non-compliance notice or enforcement action (i.e. Notice of Violation, Administrative Order, Cease and Desist Order)	☐	☐	☐	
	c. Other documentation related to lack of infrastructure or infrastructure deficiency (repair work orders, public notification of water quality, maintenance logs, photos of conditions, inspection reports)	☐	☐	☐	
	d. Facility plan, Preliminary Engineering Report or similar	☐	☐	☐	
	e. Operational or other permits.	☐	☐	☐	
	f. Lab results for drinking water or wastewater quality; consumer reports.	☐	☐	☐	
	g. Applicable design criteria and assumptions	☐	☐	☐	
	h. Geotechnical Report	☐	☐	☐	
	i. Final Plans/Drawings	☐	☐	☐	
	j. Technical Specifications	☐	☐	☐	
	k. Project Cost Estimate	☐	☐	☐	
4.	Financial Documentation:				
	a. Audited financial statements previous year	☐	☐	☐	
	b. Financial information (i.e. operations budget current year)	☐	☐	☐	
	c. Rate structure along with billing and collection efficiencies for the previous fiscal year or 12 month period.	☐	☐	☐	
	d. Operation and Maintenance Costs - Current and fw pject(10(yaDr)3( )				

	e. Project funding commitments or application documentation for other sources	☐	☐	☐	
5	Sustainability Practices				
	a. Evidence of high efficiency equipment	☐	☐	☐	
	b. Program documents for Leak Detection or other water conservation programs	☐	☐	☐	
	c. Reuse practices	☐	☐	☐	
	d. Pre-treatment Program documents	☐	☐	☐	