



April 24, 2023

Potential Drinking Water SRF Loan Recipients:

We are contacting communities on the Drinking Water SRF Project Priority List (PPL), as outlined in the SFY2023 Intended Use Plan (IUP). The PPL ranks potential projects that communities have identified for their respective water systems. The department is planning to fund eleven of the lower-ranked projects on the PPL that are ready to proceed at this time. In accordance with the bypass procedures adopted as part of the IUP, all applicants with higher-ranked projects must be notified before the bypass is completed.

The project applicants under consideration for a bypass at this time are the Town of Plains, Gore Hill Water District, the City of Fort Benton, Clearview Heights Water District, the City of Kalispell, the City of Glendive, the City of Choteau, the City of Lewistown, the Town Fairview, Coram Water and Sewer District, and the City of Cut Bank. The proposed SRF loan funds for each system are for the following projects:

- Plains - Distribution system improvements.
- Gore Hill Water District – New wells, rehabilitation of an existing tank, and new orthophosphate system.
- Fort Benton – Water storage tank and transmission main.
- Clearview Heights Water District – Distribution system improvements.
- Kalispell – New wells and water storage tank.
- Glendive – Distribution system improvements.
- Choteau – Distribution system improvements.
- Lewistown – Transmission main, disinfection, and distribution system improvements.
- Fairview - Distribution system improvements.
- Coram – Water storage tank.
- Cut Bank – Water storage tank and distribution system improvements.

Since some higher-ranked projects are not ready to proceed, the department is proposing to bypass these higher-ranked projects to fund the projects described above. The funding of these projects by the Drinking Water SRF program should in no way affect funding of your project. All known loan applications currently shown on the PPL can be funded with available funds, even with the bypass for the above projects.

When revising the list by this method, the department's policies require that we contact all affected applicants to solicit comments. We request, by copy of this letter, that any comments regarding the described changes be provided to this office within 15 days of the date of this letter. Changes will go into effect after the comment period if no unresolvable comments have been received.

Thank you and please contact me at (406) 444-6770 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sandie Koenig", is written over a horizontal line.

Sandie Koenig, P.E.
DWSRF Engineering Mgr.
Dept. of Environmental Quality

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