Washington State Department of HEALTH

EMERGING CONTAMINANTS IN SMALL OR DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES (EC-SDC) GRANT PROGRAM

Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

Presenter

Emerging Contaminants in Small or Disadvantaged Communities (EC-SDC) Grant Program Administrator

Tara Moore

Tara.Moore@doh.wa.gov

@WADeptHealth

EC-SDC Background

- Federal grant program administered by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Assists small or disadvantaged communities experiencing emerging contaminants in drinking water by funding projects that ensure safe & reliable drinking water
- Program started in 2022 with EPA requesting Letters of Intent (LOI) for states and territories to participate in program
- EPA used the LOIs to allocate the funds according to a formula for the participating states and territories

EC-SDC Background Continued

- DOH received their initial grant award of $83,750,000 in January 2024
- DOH received additional funding, brining new total award up to **$89,096,000**
- Initially only provided funds to **public water systems** -- *amended* in 2024 to allow **individual wells** to receive funding
- Current grant is set to expire in **September 2028**; however, anticipating an extension through 2031

EC-SDC Eligibility Overview

1. **Contaminants**
   - PFAS
   - Manganese
   - Cyanotoxins
2. **Communities**
   - Small AND/OR
   - Disadvantaged
3. **Water Systems**
   - Group A
     - Comm
     - NTNC
     - TNC*
   - Group B*
   - Individual Wells*

** TNCs, Group Bs, and Individual Wells must be located in an area of concern*

“Area of Concern” Criteria

- Group Bs, individual wells, and Transient non-community water systems (TNC) may be eligible for EC-SDC funding if **within an area of concern**:
  - Within one mile of a fire station or fire training facility
  - Within one mile of a landfill
  - Within one mile of a wastewater treatment plant outfall or large on-site sewage system drain field
  - Within one mile of a public water system (PWS) source with a known PFAS detection
  - Within two miles of a United States Department of Defense site
  - Within two miles of an airport

Eligible Contaminants

Eligible Compound	Primary MCL	SAL or HAL
PFOA	4.0 ppt	4.0 ppt
PFOS	4.0 ppt	4.0 ppt
PFHxS	10 ppt	10 ppt
PFNA	10 ppt	10 ppt
HFPO-DA	10 ppt	10 ppt
PFBS	See Hazard Index info below	See Hazard Index info below
Hazard Index	1* (unitless ratio)	N/A
Manganese	0.05 mg/L (secondary) OR->	0.3 mg/L
Cylindrospermopsin	N/A	0.7 µg/L
Microcystins	N/A	0.3 µg/L
Anatoxin-a	N/A	0.3 µg/L**

EPA explains the PFAS MCL including the hazard index provision in the EPA fact sheet at Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) | US EPA.

Eligible Communities

- **Small Communities:**
  - Serve less than 500 maximum total population
  - OR serve less than 10,000 people (total maximum population) and do not have an approved planning document, such as Water System Plan or Small Water System Management Program
- **Disadvantaged Communities (DAC):**
  - WAC 246-296-020, PWS meets DAC criteria outlined in the *DWSRF Construction Loan Guidelines*, Appendix B 331-196 (PDF).*
  - Federally recognized tribes serving residential connections

**Disadvantaged Community Map* may be used by interested parties as a guide for potential DAC qualification, but PWSs owned and operated by federally recognized tribes are not mapped, as this data is not available.*

Program Categories

- EC-SDC program is broken up into 3 categories:

Sampling	Short-Term Mitigation	Long-Term Remediation
Free **initial** PFAS sampling (sign up via this form: Department of Health, Office of Drinking Water PFAS Free Sampling Enrollment Form)	Pitcher filters & filter replacements (12–18 month supply)	Planning & Engineering: ○ Water system planning documents ○ Alternatives analysis ○ Treatment design ○ Etc. Construction: ○ Consolidation ○ New Water Source ○ Treatment

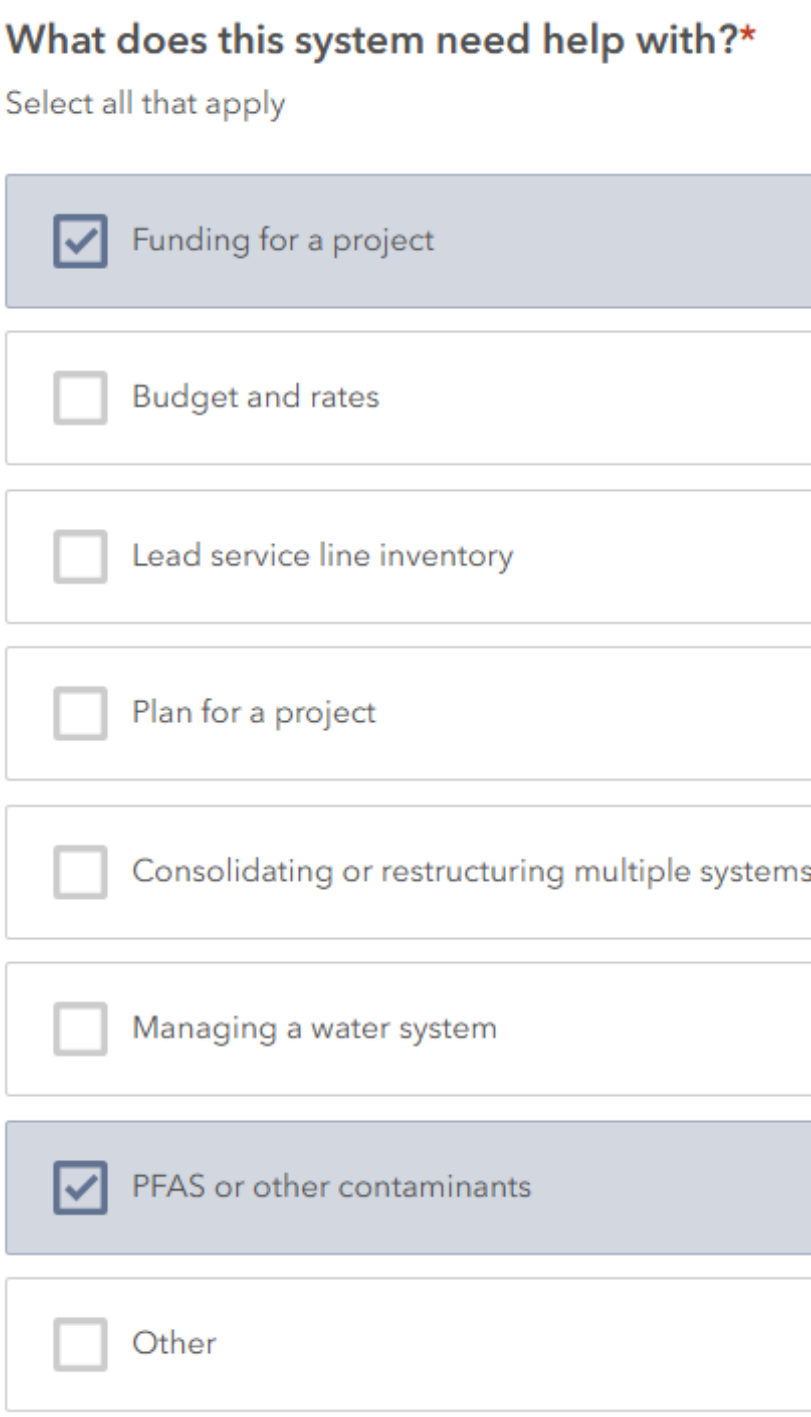
Prioritization

- Prioritization of **Water System Type**:
  1. Community water systems
  2. NTNC
  3. TNC
- Prioritization of **Contaminants**:
  1. PFAS
  2. Mn
  3. Cyanotoxins
- Prioritization of **Communities**:
  1. Small AND disadvantaged/Tribal communities
  2. Disadvantaged communities
  3. Small communities
- Prioritization of **Project Type**:
  1. Consolidation
  2. New source development
  3. Treatment

Alternatives Analysis to determine which option is most appropriate!

How to Get Started

1. Submit a technical assistance request
2. DOH reaches out to discuss needs
3. DOH reviews eligibility & which funding source to use for the project
4. System advised to submit a Planning & Engineering or Construction application via WALT OR will be placed on the Planning & Engineering Technical Assistance Waitlist



QUESTIONS?

Relevant Contact Information:

- EC-SDC Grant Administrator: Tara.Moore@doh.wa.gov
- General DWSRF questions: dwsrf@doh.wa.gov
- DWSRF Program Manager: Chris.Pettit@doh.wa.gov

Relevant Links and Resources:

- EC-SDC Fact Sheet | WA DOH
- Technical Assistance Request Form | WA DOH
- Emerging Contaminants in Small and Disadvantaged Communities (EC-SDC) Grant Implementation Guidance Document | WA DOH
- Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Webpage | WA DOH

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