DWS Circular Letter #2017-04

TO: Community and Non-Profit Non-Community Public Water Systems

FROM: Lori Mathieu, Public Health Section Chief, Drinking Water Section

DATE: February 14, 2017

RE: Changes to the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) – Eligibility Applications for Funding May be Submitted at Any Time

The Drinking Water Section (DWS) has made changes to the DWSRF Program that will allow eligible public water systems (PWS) to submit Eligibility Applications for DWSRF funding at any time. The “Call for Projects” that has traditionally given PWS a 2-3 month window of opportunity every 2 years to submit Eligibility Applications will now be on-going. The DPH will continue to issue a Call for Projects notice but it will be issued annually rather than every two years. The notice will provide a deadline for submitting DWSRF Eligibility Applications for projects that a PWS wishes DPH to consider for the upcoming State Fiscal Year’s (SFY) Project Priority List (PPL). The PPL details the projects that DPH is expecting to commit the available DWSRF funds to for the year. Applications received after that deadline will be assigned appropriate priority points according to the recently revised Priority Ranking System and periodically (expected to be done quarterly) added to the DPH’s Comprehensive Project List (CPL). The CPL is essentially a “waiting list” for funding. Occasionally, projects on the PPL get delayed or withdrawn from funding which opens those funds up to projects on the CPL. The highest ranking project(s) on the CPL that are ready to proceed are then moved to the PPL to replace the delayed or withdrawn project(s). This change will allow PWSs with important drinking water projects that are not included on the PPL to apply for funding at any time and get on a waiting list. In the event that funding does not open up for a CPL project during the course of the year, all CPL projects will be considered for inclusion on the following year’s PPL if they are ready to proceed.

The Call for Projects notice for SFY 2018 is available on the DPH website with a deadline of April 28, 2017 to submit Eligibility Applications for consideration for the SFY 2018 PPL. If you have any questions on these changes or wish to learn more about the DWSRF Program please do not hesitate to contact Cameron Walden from our DWSRF Program at (860) 509-7333.

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