



## CALL FOR PUBLIC DRINKING WATER PROJECTS NOTICE

### CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND (DWSRF) PROGRAM

STATE FISCAL YEAR 2023: July 1, 2022- June 30, 2023

ELIGIBLE PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS INCLUDE:  
**COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEMS &  
NON-PROFIT NON-COMMUNITY SYSTEMS**

#### **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT – BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW FUNDING**

The federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) became effective on November 15, 2021 and includes significant funding for drinking water infrastructure through the State DWSRF programs over 5 years.

The DPH anticipates receiving the first year of BIL funding during SFY 2023. While EPA is still in the process of preparing BIL implementation guidance for State DWSRF programs, this “Call for Projects” is anticipated to be the only opportunity to apply for Year 1 BIL funding. Please see [Circular Letter 2022-03](#) for more information on the DWSRF funding that will be made available through the BIL.

Do you have drinking water projects that will need funding during State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2023? Your projects may be eligible for a low-interest loan through the Department of Public Health’s (DPH) Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Program. Interest rates of these loans are set at half of the market rate and borrowers have up to 20 years to repay them after their project is completed. The DPH expects to receive unprecedented levels of federal funding during SFY 2023 through the BIL. Two specific appropriations in the BIL are for **Lead Service Line Replacements (LSLR)** and projects that address **Emerging Contaminants**.

A third appropriation will direct funding towards any project that is routinely eligible for DWSRF funding. A significant portion of these federal dollars must be used to subsidize projects receiving DWSRF assistance. The subsidization levels of specific projects may vary and will be determined once DPH receives all SFY 2023 applications from this Call for Projects. These subsidization details will be formally announced in the draft SFY 2023 DWSRF Intended Use Plan (IUP). Cities and Towns that are listed on the Department of Economic and Community Development’s [distressed municipalities](#) list may be eligible for extended loans terms up to 40 years and additional subsidization.

The DWSRF is intended to be used to finance improvements to existing drinking water infrastructure. The DWSRF cannot be used to finance water system expansion projects unless those projects are necessary to resolve documented public health problems. [Examples](#) of eligible drinking water projects are provided on the DWSRF website. A project must first be deemed eligible for funding and ready to proceed before the DPH can provide any offer of financing. To begin the eligibility review process, please visit our website at: [www.ct.gov/dph/dwsrf](http://www.ct.gov/dph/dwsrf) and complete a [DWSRF Eligibility Application](#) for each project you wish to finance. The two programs listed below were developed to make it easier for small PWSs to obtain loans less than \$100,000 without the need to hire an attorney or engineering consultant. Streamlined eligibility applications and requirements have been created for projects that qualify for funding under these programs.

**Emergency Power Generator Program (EPGP):** This program provides subsidized loans for the purchase and/or installation of emergency power generators to operate critical drinking water infrastructure during power outages. An [EPGP Eligibility Application](#) is available online to apply for generator projects costing less than \$100,000. Please visit our [EPGP webpage](#) for more information on this program.

**Small Loan Program (SLP)** This program provides loans for the replacement or installation of drinking water equipment such as pumps and water treatment components. These loans are only available for projects that do not require construction activities such as building additions, new facilities to be built or site work. A [SLP Eligibility Application](#) is available online to apply for a qualifying small loan project. Please visit our [SLP webpage](#) for more information on this program.

**Deadline for Applications:** DPH must receive all applications **no later than 12:00 noon on Thursday, March 31, 2022** if you wish to have your project considered for inclusion on DPH’s SFY 2023 Project Priority List (PPL). If your project is eligible for funding, it will be ranked according to the DPH’s [Priority Ranking System](#). Please provide as much detail as possible about your project when completing your application. If your project qualifies for funding, you will be requested to submit a completed Financial Assistance Application at the appropriate time. Please refer to the Section C. of the [Priority Ranking System](#) regarding applications submitted after the deadline.

For general information or to request assistance, please email the DWSRF Unit at [DPH.CTDWSRF@ct.gov](mailto:DPH.CTDWSRF@ct.gov). We will respond to your request accordingly.

**As part of the DWS’s efforts to reduce the use of paper and adapt to the remote work environment during the COVID-19 pandemic, an electronic copy of the application(s) with digital signature along with all associated documentation is required and may be sent via email to [DPH.CTDWSRF@ct.gov](mailto:DPH.CTDWSRF@ct.gov)**