



**APPLICATION FOR “GREEN” PROJECTS
American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
March 2009**

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) allocated funds to the State of Iowa for distribution through the State Revolving Fund programs. A portion of the funds are for “green” projects, such as water and energy efficiency, green infrastructure, and other environmentally innovative efforts.

The Iowa SRF is now accepting applications for projects that can meet the eligibility criteria in the stimulus legislation. Please use this application to submit your “green” project. Please read through the guidelines carefully and answer all of the questions fully to the best of your ability. We may ask for additional information later.

Terms described in this application are subject to change pending approval of Iowa’s stimulus allocation plan by the Iowa Environmental Protection Commission.

Deadline for applications is 1:00 p.m. March 27, 2009.

Return applications by fax or e-mail to:
Patti Cale-Finnegan
Fax 515-725-0348
Patti.cale-finnegan@dnr.iowa.gov

PROJECT GUIDELINES

Eligible Applicants

Cities, counties, sanitary districts, SRF-eligible public water supplies, and other public entities with taxing authority are eligible to apply.

Eligible Projects

General project categories are water efficiency, energy efficiency, green infrastructure, and environmentally innovative projects. Specific guidance on what is eligible in each category is provided in Attachment 1.

Type of Assistance Available

Assistance will be provided in the form of loans. Twenty percent of the loan amount will be forgivable. A 3% interest rate will apply to the remaining loan funds. Loan term will be up to 20 years. SRF origination and servicing fees will apply on the 3% loan portion.

Example Project:

Total project amount:	\$250,000
Forgivable loan amount:	\$ 50,000
3% loan amount:	\$200,000

Forgivable Loan Amounts Available by Category

Category	Amount
Water and energy efficiency	\$3,429,000
Green infrastructure and other	\$4,304,000

Cap on Assistance

The maximum amount of forgivable loan per project will be \$1 million. There is no maximum 3% loan amount.

Project Timelines

All projects receiving stimulus funds must be under contract (notice to proceed issued) or under construction by February 17, 2010, with an executed SRF loan agreement. To be ready for a loan agreement, all requirements described in the next section must be met.

Project Requirements

1. An SRF environmental review must be completed for ALL projects, with either a Categorical Exclusion or a Finding of No Significant Impact approved. SRF offers the assistance of environmental review specialists to help applicants complete this process. This process can take 60 to 180 days.
2. Many “green” projects will not require a construction permit from the Department of Natural Resources. If a construction permit is needed, however, it must be obtained before a loan can be executed. In addition, all other applicable local, state or federal permits must be obtained.
3. During the bidding process, state bidding laws must be followed. Federal requirements for construction contracting also apply. Those requirements are outlined in the SRF stimulus front-end specifications packet. New requirements for stimulus funds include Davis-Bacon prevailing union wages and Buy American provisions.
4. Once project costs are finalized, an SRF loan application must be submitted and approved. All applicable Iowa financing laws apply, including public hearing and bond resolution. Legal fees for a bond opinion will be incurred but can be financed as part of the project.

Application Review

Applications will be reviewed for eligibility for stimulus funds based on the following criteria:

1. The project clearly advances the objectives in one or more categories of the “green” reserve of the ARRA (see Attachment 1).
2. The project can be designed, reviewed, permitted (if needed), and under contract or under construction by February 2010.
3. The project demonstrates significant water or energy savings or other water quality benefits. Documentation of those benefits will be required to determine eligibility.
4. The project costs are reasonable for the type of project proposed.

FUNDING ALLOCATION PROCESS

All uses of SRF funds, including the stimulus dollars, must be described in an Intended Use Plan (IUP). After reviewing the applications for “green” projects, we will list all the eligible projects in the draft IUP. The draft IUP will be released for public review and comment in early April. A public hearing is scheduled on April 16, and comments will be accepted until April 23. The IUP must be approved by the Iowa Environmental Protection Commission and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

From the list of eligible projects (see funding amounts by category above), applications will be funded first come, first served as applicants complete the SRF review, contracting, and loan requirements.

APPLICATION FORM

1. Contact Information

Applicant	□□□□□		
Contact Person	□□□□□	Title	□□□□□
Address	□□□□□	City	□□□□□
Zip	□□□□□	Telephone	□□□□□
		E-mail	□□□□□

2. Project Category (check all that apply)

- Water efficiency
- Energy efficiency
- Green infrastructure
- Other environmentally innovative project

3. Project Description. Attach project plans, maps, and other supporting information to show eligibility.

□□□□□

4. Project Results. E.g. for water efficiency projects, indicate percent of water loss reduced; for energy efficiency projects, percent savings or reductions in kWh, KW, or therms; for other projects, describe environmental and water quality benefits.

□□□□□

5. Anticipated Construction Date, including estimated timeframe for environmental review and permitting (if needed):

6. Project Costs*

Category	Total estimated project costs	Costs to be covered from other funds	Allowable stimulus funds
Project administration	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	NOT ELIGIBLE
Land and easements	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	NOT ELIGIBLE
Design	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Construction/Installation	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Equipment	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Legal fees	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Stimulus Subtotal			<input type="text"/>
Forgivable Loan Portion (subtotal x .020)			<input type="text"/>
3% Loan Portion (subtotal x 0.80)			<input type="text"/>
Loan Initiation Fee (3% loan portion x .01)			<input type="text"/>
TOTAL STIMULUS FUNDS REQUESTED			<input type="text"/>

* NOTE: Because of costs for bonding for loans, projects under \$50,000 may not be cost-effective.