

PROPOSED REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

Activities to be performed under this RFA (Attachment A) will be based on a scope of work developed by Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) that supports RWPG efforts to complete their 2021 Regional Water Plans in accordance with statute, rule and guidance requirements.

The proposed funding allocations shown in Attachment B are estimates of the amount of funding that RWPGs will require to develop their regional plans. These funds will be used to perform all tasks necessary to meet existing statute and rule requirements for the 2021 Regional Water Plans including holding meetings, entering data in the online planning database, and preparing and submitting all plan documents.

These formula funding amounts are based on region-specific quantitative factors, as relevant to each task, including: a) underlying parameters of each region, such as the number of counties and water user groups, b) counts or measures of items from the 2016 regional water plans, such as identified water needs and the number of recommended water management strategies, and c) new considerations relevant to work that will be required, for example, the shift to utility-based planning.

Funds are allocated to the following planning tasks:

- Task 1: Planning area description;
- Task 2A (previously allocated and already under contract): non-population-related water demand projections (manufacturing, mining, irrigation, steam electric power, livestock);
- Task 2B (previously allocated and already under contract): population and population-related demand projections;
- Task 3: Evaluation of existing water supplies;
- Task 4A: Identification of water needs;
- Task 4B: Identification of potentially feasible water management strategies;
- Task 4C: Technical Memorandum delivery;
- Task 5A: Evaluation of potentially feasible water management strategies and projects, and recommendation of water management strategies and projects. Funding for this task will be contingent on approval of a scope of work submission describing specific strategies to be evaluated and TWDB notice-to-proceed. If a proposed scope of work cannot support the associated funding request, final, allowed expenditures under Task 5A may be less than the amounts shown in Attachment B.
- Task 5B: Water conservation information and recommendations;
- Task 6: Impacts of the regional water plan and consistency with long-term protection of water, agricultural, and natural resources;
- Task 7: Drought response information, activities, and recommendations;
- Task 8: Regulatory, administrative, or legislative recommendations;
- Task 9: Infrastructure financing analysis;
- Remaining portion of Task 10: Administration, public participation, and plan adoption;
- Task 11: Implementation and comparison to the previous regional water plan; and
- Task 12: Project prioritization

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

- Post Request for Applications for Funding - Estimated Fall of 2016.
- Estimated deadline for grant applications would be early 2017.
- Negotiate and amend 16 regional planning contracts - Estimated Spring of 2017.
- Contract execution deadline August 31, 2017.

KEY ISSUES

Although funding for regional water planning grant contracts is appropriated every two years, TWDB has historically entered five-year contracts at the beginning of each regional water planning cycle. Only those funds that have already been appropriated are classified as “committed” within the regional water planning grant contracts. This requires amending the contracts to incorporate increased committed funds as additional appropriations become available. The contract amendments will also include a “total study costs” dollar amount that reflects the full amount of appropriations anticipated to be received over the remainder of the five-year planning cycle. This approach allows the RWPGs to better plan their work effort and manage their budgets resulting in better processes and regional water plans. Total study costs have been estimated and incorporated into the contracts since the first cycle of regional water planning.

There is a risk that the 85th or 86th Texas legislatures take actions that result in either: a) new requirements for planning groups or b) appropriations of an amount less than \$8,534,568. In these events, the task or total study funding amounts for each region will be adjusted or reduced proportionally to facilitate completion of regional water plans that meet new statutory or minimum rule requirements. Any such change would be brought to the EA well before the need to request any associated Board authorization.

The attached funding recommendations for this cycle of regional water planning recognize that not all regions will require an equal amount of effort to complete the fundamental planning tasks as defined in the statute and rule. The approach used to allocate funding is based on the same approach that was used to successfully allocate funding for the fourth cycle of regional water planning, though individual factors have been adjusted in consideration of actual task expenditures during the fourth cycle of regional water planning, and new requirements for the fifth cycle of regional water planning.

The TWDB contracts have considerable flexibility for RWPGs to, at any point, emphasize certain planning activities and shift budgeted funds accordingly within their total contract amount.

The funding amounts are not guaranteed funds and must be requested by the RWPGs in grant applications submitted to TWDB by the deadline. All proposed work activities and associated expenditures will have to be fully justified and associated with the contract scope of work in order to be reimbursed.

RECOMMENDATION

No action is needed. This item is for discussion only.

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. Draft Request for Applications
- B. Summary of Recommended Funding Allocations to Complete the Fifth Cycle of Regional Water Planning

DRAFT
Request for Applications for Funding to Complete the Fifth Cycle of Regional Water Planning

Texas Water Development Board
Request for Applications

The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) requests, pursuant to 31 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §355.91, the submission of regional water planning applications leading to the possible award of contracts to develop, revise and/or update regional water plans as described in 31 TAC Chapter 357. In order to receive a grant, the applicant must be a political subdivision of the state and must have been designated an eligible applicant by a regional water planning group as set forth in 31 TAC §355.91. 31 TAC Chapter 355, Subchapter C provides guidance for regional water planning grants.

Description of Funding Consideration.

Total funding for activities related to the development or revision of a regional water plan shall not exceed 100 percent of the total cost of the planning for that regional water planning area as set forth in 31 TAC §355.93. Funds awarded for grants under this request for applications may total up to the amount of funds appropriated for such activities for the Fiscal 2016-2017 biennium and the anticipated future appropriations for the remainder of the fifth cycle of regional water planning as a total study cost.

In the event that acceptable applications are not submitted or that insufficient funds are available to fund proposed activities, the TWDB retains the right to not award and/or commit contract funds.

Deadline, Review Criteria, and Contact Person for Additional Information.

Five double-sided copies and one electronic version (CD) of the complete regional water planning grant application must be filed with the TWDB prior to 12:00 p.m. (noon), DATE TBD. All applications should be prepared using the TWDB's application instruction sheet for Regional Water Planning Grants and the Guidance for Preparation of the Application for Regional Water Planning Grants. Applications will be evaluated according to the criteria listed in 31 TAC §355.91. All potential applicants may contact the TWDB to obtain the application instruction sheet and guidance document or they may be obtained from the Texas Water Development Board's webpage at:

http://www.twdb.texas.gov/about/contract_admin/request/index.asp

Applications must be directed either in person to David Carter, Texas Water Development Board, Stephen F. Austin Building, 1700 North Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas, or by mail to David Carter, Texas Water Development Board, P.O. Box 13231, Austin, Texas, 78711-3231. Requests for information, the Board's rules, and instruction sheet covering the research and planning fund may be directed to Temple McKinnon at the preceding address or by calling (512) 475-2057, or by e-mail at temple.mckinnon@twdb.texas.gov

TRD-

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Senior Advisor

Texas Water Development Board

Filed:

Summary of Recommended Formula Funding Allocations to Complete the Fifth Cycle of Regional Water Planning

			PLANNING TASK													
			1	3	4A	4B	4C	5A	5B	6	7	8	9	10*	11	12
			Planning Area Description	Water Supply Analyses	Identification of Water Needs	Identification of Potentially Feasible Water Management Strategies and Water Management Strategy Projects	Prepare and Submit Technical Memorandum	Evaluation and Recommendation of Water Management Strategies and Water Management Strategy Projects	Water Conservation Recommendations	Impacts of Regional Water Plan	Drought Response, Activities & Recommendations	Recommendations Regarding Unique Stream Segments and/or Reservoir Sites and Legislative & Regional Policy Issues	Water Infrastructure Funding Recommendations	Public Participation and Plan Adoption	Implementation and Comparison to the Previous Regional Water Plan	Prepare and Submit Prioritization of Projects in the 2021 Regional Water Plan
Region	Committed and Contracted	Total Additional Funding	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount
A	\$77,520	\$593,774	\$16,111	\$63,562	\$13,553	\$12,739	\$16,184	\$209,893	\$19,930	\$28,564	\$52,410	\$7,663	\$6,541	\$120,890	\$16,453	\$9,280
B	\$56,880	\$400,598	\$10,557	\$54,365	\$11,342	\$8,330	\$10,571	\$122,801	\$11,253	\$19,350	\$32,592	\$6,363	\$2,737	\$91,858	\$12,739	\$5,739
C	\$188,667	\$2,226,620	\$29,684	\$126,383	\$36,125	\$83,388	\$46,077	\$1,095,005	\$119,097	\$129,107	\$143,342	\$13,402	\$44,843	\$244,469	\$78,321	\$37,378
D	\$127,597	\$1,023,753	\$20,436	\$174,593	\$18,074	\$19,612	\$25,932	\$387,695	\$28,672	\$45,037	\$91,930	\$10,361	\$8,467	\$161,986	\$19,374	\$11,582
E	\$45,446	\$344,156	\$8,269	\$49,504	\$10,606	\$8,142	\$8,193	\$97,129	\$11,074	\$17,137	\$25,122	\$5,676	\$3,853	\$80,091	\$12,204	\$7,155
F	\$107,108	\$928,427	\$23,819	\$142,549	\$19,681	\$19,985	\$25,555	\$330,868	\$25,918	\$41,194	\$79,394	\$9,502	\$11,055	\$163,486	\$22,363	\$13,058
G	\$187,800	\$1,667,505	\$39,657	\$183,356	\$35,823	\$34,285	\$54,484	\$703,546	\$55,839	\$76,893	\$154,321	\$15,095	\$10,130	\$262,504	\$29,990	\$11,582
H	\$177,909	\$1,911,237	\$24,694	\$107,997	\$23,332	\$60,943	\$36,647	\$948,695	\$81,615	\$106,355	\$130,918	\$14,212	\$46,590	\$225,987	\$56,430	\$46,822
I	\$117,891	\$1,009,733	\$25,228	\$122,853	\$22,694	\$17,966	\$34,966	\$392,001	\$26,613	\$45,941	\$104,312	\$11,195	\$5,441	\$177,293	\$15,308	\$7,923
J	\$44,567	\$287,415	\$7,124	\$34,196	\$9,166	\$7,288	\$6,453	\$76,608	\$7,627	\$15,123	\$21,103	\$5,308	\$4,441	\$72,876	\$12,357	\$7,746
K	\$109,356	\$784,609	\$14,691	\$80,290	\$13,754	\$17,996	\$17,191	\$319,178	\$29,353	\$39,816	\$64,400	\$8,669	\$9,629	\$136,018	\$21,865	\$11,760
L	\$138,032	\$930,969	\$17,408	\$104,594	\$12,715	\$18,912	\$18,777	\$373,405	\$38,405	\$44,941	\$94,545	\$9,797	\$6,096	\$161,471	\$21,801	\$8,100
M	\$85,685	\$782,043	\$17,663	\$62,696	\$29,494	\$29,673	\$26,431	\$316,449	\$29,663	\$42,577	\$41,875	\$6,927	\$15,335	\$118,653	\$28,597	\$16,010
N	\$61,774	\$377,553	\$10,970	\$39,479	\$11,041	\$7,126	\$11,396	\$121,160	\$10,597	\$18,933	\$30,050	\$6,608	\$2,242	\$91,798	\$10,593	\$5,562
O	\$84,656	\$747,017	\$14,903	\$76,004	\$10,472	\$22,673	\$13,768	\$291,368	\$31,111	\$37,207	\$73,023	\$8,129	\$8,093	\$128,440	\$20,716	\$11,110
P	\$38,997	\$208,870	\$6,724	\$17,282	\$10,070	\$5,267	\$7,301	\$45,001	\$5,924	\$11,678	\$12,427	\$5,063	\$1,669	\$65,707	\$9,608	\$5,148
TOTAL	\$1,649,885	\$14,224,280	\$287,941	\$1,439,704	\$287,941	\$374,323	\$359,926	\$5,830,803	\$532,691	\$719,852	\$1,151,764	\$143,970	\$187,162	\$2,303,527	\$388,720	\$215,956

* This task was partially funded in the initial fifth cycle contracts.

Summary of Previously Committed and Total Anticipated Funding to Complete the Fifth Cycle of Regional Water Planning

Region	Previously contracted and committed	Additional funds to commit	Anticipated future appropriations**	Total estimated fifth cycle funding
A	\$77,520	\$237,509	\$356,265	\$671,294
B	\$56,880	\$160,239	\$240,359	\$457,478
C	\$188,667	\$890,648	\$1,335,972	\$2,415,287
D	\$127,597	\$409,501	\$614,252	\$1,151,350
E	\$45,446	\$137,662	\$206,494	\$389,602
F	\$107,108	\$371,371	\$557,056	\$1,035,535
G	\$187,800	\$667,002	\$1,000,503	\$1,855,305
H	\$177,909	\$764,495	\$1,146,742	\$2,089,146
I	\$117,891	\$403,893	\$605,840	\$1,127,624
J	\$44,567	\$114,966	\$172,449	\$331,982
K	\$109,356	\$313,844	\$470,765	\$893,965
L	\$138,032	\$372,388	\$558,581	\$1,069,001
M	\$85,685	\$312,817	\$469,226	\$867,728
N	\$61,774	\$151,021	\$226,532	\$439,327
O	\$84,656	\$298,807	\$448,210	\$831,673
P	\$38,997	\$83,548	\$125,322	\$247,867
TOTAL	\$1,649,885	\$5,689,712	\$8,534,568	\$15,874,165

**Subject to change in response to future Legislative action.