

PROGRAM FUNDING

The Department of the Interior’s WaterSMART Program included **\$64 million in FY 11 and FY 12** for competitive grants for Title XVI feasibility studies and for authorized construction projects. Funding opportunities for these and other grants are posted on *www.grants.gov*. Sponsors are encouraged to contact OTAO for information on Title XVI program funding opportunities.

To date, OTAO has received **\$5.1 million** in funding, **\$2.6 million** of which has been awarded for planning and construction through competitive grants administered under WaterSMART over the last three fiscal years (Table 3).

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Water Reclamation and Reuse

Title XVI Program
Oklahoma-Texas Area Office (OTAO)

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PROGRAM SCOPE

The Bureau of Reclamation's (Reclamation) water reclamation and reuse program was authorized by the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act of 1992 (Title XVI of Public Law 102-575). Also known as Title XVI, the Act directs the Secretary of the Interior to undertake a program to investigate and identify opportunities for water reclamation and reuse. Through the Title XVI program, Reclamation provides financial and technical assistance for appraisal studies, feasibility studies, research and demonstration projects, and construction projects that reclaim, reuse, or recycle water. Unlike other Reclamation programs, the Title XVI program provides Reclamation with blanket authorization to participate in planning studies, including appraisal or feasibility investigations, as well as research and demonstration projects. However, Reclamation cannot participate in full-scale construction until Congress provides specific authorization through an amendment to P.L. 102-575. The original Act provided construction authorization to five recycling projects. Since then, amendments to P.L. 102-575 have provided construction authorization to about 45 projects in nine states, one of which is in OTAO.

For purposes of the Title XVI Program, a water reuse project is a project (including the necessary facilities and features) that reclaims and reuses municipal, industrial, domestic, or agricultural wastewater and naturally impaired groundwater and/or surface waters. Consistent with State law, reclaimed water can be used for a variety of purposes including, but not limited to, environmental restoration, fish and wildlife, groundwater recharge, municipal, domestic, industrial, agricultural, power generation, or recreation.

Eligible Recipients

Eligible recipients of Title XVI funding include State, regional, or local authorities; Indian tribes or tribal organizations; or other entities such as water conservation or conservancy districts, wastewater districts, rural water districts, and all must be located within the 17 Western States or Hawaii.

Program Requirements

Funds for construction projects cannot be disbursed until a Title XVI project receives specific Congressional authorization and all Title XVI pre-construction requirements have been met for that project. These include: (1) completed appraisal and feasibility studies that meet the requirements of Title XVI; (2) completed compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act; (3) an approved determination of financial capability; and (4) an executed cost-share agreement for financial assistance. Project sponsors may carry out or select a third party contractor to conduct planning and environmental compliance activities, or Reclamation may perform these services at the request of the sponsor. However, the construction ownership, operations, and maintenance of a Title XVI project are the sole responsibility of the project sponsor.

Appraisal Studies

An appraisal study may be carried out at the discretion of the project sponsor depending on the status of planning activities. If conducted, an appraisal study considers all potential uses for reclaimed water, methods to increase demand, required permitting, and the current status of water reclamation technology and opportunities for developing improved technologies. The appraisal study will be used to determine if conducting a feasibility study is warranted.

Table 3. Federal appropriation amounts (x 1,000) by Fiscal Year (FY) for Title XVI projects in the Oklahoma-Texas Area Office

Project		FY01	FY02	FY03	FY04	FY05	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	Total
1	Brownsville Water Recycling	46														46
2	Brownsville Brackish Desalination	46														46
3	Brownsville Seawater Desalination															0
4	SAWS Leon Creek/Mitchell Lake				354											354
5	SAWS Brackish Desalination Facility															0
6	City of Kyle, TX											66*				66
7	Austin Wastewater Reclamation			222												222
8	Williamson County Recycled Water Project						96		246	600	1228*		974*			3144
9	Central Texas Reuse: Flat Creek															0
10	Central Fort Worth Reclaimed Water Delivery System												150*			150
11	Dallas Trinity River Recycled Water Project						96		492					213		801
12	Central Oklahoma Water Reuse									121		150*				271
Totals		92		222	354		192		738	721	1228	216	1124	213		5100

	Appraisal Study
	Feasibility Study
	Construction
	Closed

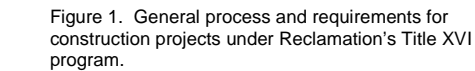
A feasibility study must be conducted in order to receive Federal assistance on a construction project. A feasibility study leads to a decision on whether or not to implement a Title XVI project. Title XVI has specific requirements for the content of the feasibility report. These requirements are identified in the Reclamation's Directive and Standard WTR 11-01, *Water Reclamation and Reuse Program Feasibility Study Review Process*.

A construction project represents the on-the-ground construction of a planned full-scale Title XVI treatment system, conveyance system or other permanent facility. A construction project is only eligible for funding after it is specifically authorized, environmental compliance is complete, financial capability is demonstrated, and a cost share agreement has been executed.

A demonstration project is a smaller version of a full-scale facility that is sized appropriately to demonstrate the application of a new and innovative technology. Demonstration projects also can establish the feasibility of recycling water to local institutions when an unproven technology is employed. Sponsors should contact OTAO for information on requirements for demonstration projects.

The Title XVI program places different cost-share limitations on planning activities, construction projects, and research and demonstration projects (Table 1).

	Federal Share	Non-Federal Share
Appraisal Studies	100%	-
Feasibility Studies	50%	50%
Construction Projects	25%	75%
Research and Demonstration Projects	25%*	75%



A Title XVI construction project may be eligible for Federal funding by following a process (Figure 1) that ensures compliance with all Title XVI program requirements. This process allows for some flexibility depending on the specific situation for each project. Interested sponsors should contact OTAO for detailed information regarding the process to implement their project.

Participation in Title XVI activities in OTAO has been dynamic and complex. To date, twelve projects have been at various stages of project planning, eight of which are active (Figure 2; Table 2).

PROJECT		SPONSOR	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	STATUS					
				Appraisal		Feasibility		Construction	
1	Brownsville Water Recycling Project	Brownsville Public Utilities Board, TX	Direct non-potable reuse: development of water reuse distribution system.	Completed:	FY 02	Closed:	FY 06	Authorized: NO	
2	Brownsville Brackish Desalination Project	Southmost Regional Water Authority, TX	Addition of 7.5 mgd phase II to existing brackish groundwater desalination treatment plant.	Completed:	FY 02	Closed:	FY 06	Authorized: NO	
3	Brownsville Seawater Desalination Demo Project	Brownsville Public Utilities Board, TX	2.5 mgd weawater desalination demonstration project along the Gulf of Mexico			Potential:	unknown	Authorized: N/A	
4	Leon Creek/Mitchell Lake Water Reuse Project	San Antonio Water System, TX	Expansion of distribution system and storage of recycled water	Completed:	FY 03	Completed:	FY 04	Authorized: NO	
5	Brackish Groundwater Desalination Program	San Antonio Water System, TX	25 mgd bracksih desalination facility and associated infrastructure - Bexar County			Completed	FY 11	Authorized: NO	
6	Kyle Water Recycling Project	City of Kyle, TX	Direct non-potable reuse infrastructure to convey treated effluent for irrigation purposes			Initiated:	FY 11	Authorized: NO	
7	Austin Wastewater Reclamation and Reuse Project	Austin Water Utility, TX	Direct non-potable reuse: infrastructure to convey up to 20 mgd of recycled water for landscape irrigation throughout Austin	Completed:	FY 04	Completed:	FY 10	Authorized: NO	
8	Williamson County Water Recycling Project	Round Rock, Georgetown, Leander, Cedar Park, TX	Direct non-potable reuse: Round Rock to construct infrastructure to convey up to 10 mgd of recycled water to service Old Settler's Park, Dell Diamond Ball Park, and other areas	Completed:	FY03	Completed:	FY 10	Authorized: YES	
9	Central Texas Water Recycling and Reuse: Flat Creek Project	City of Waco, TX	Direct non-potable reuse: 1.5 mgd storage tank, pump station, 17,000 linear feet of pipeline to deliver 3.0 mgd of recycled water to the Waco Industrial District			Completed:	FY 10	Authorized: NO	
10	Central Fort Worth Reclaimed Water Delivery System Project	City of Fort Worth, TX	Evaluation of reuse infrastructure to convey treated effluent to reclaimed water customers			Initiated:	FY 12	Authorized: NO	
11	Dallas Trinity River Recycled Water Project	Dallas Water Utilities, TX	Direct non-potable reuse: infrastructure to convey up to 18 mgd of recycled water to the Trinity River Corridor Project and downtown area	Completed:	FY 10	Initiated:	FY 13	Authorized: NO	
12	Central Oklahoma Water Reuse Project	Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District	Evaluation of either a direct non-potable or indirect potable reuse project to service Norman, Midwest City, and Del City.			Initiated:	FY 10	Authorized: NO	