Small Storage Grant Program

Funding Opportunity Information and Feasibility Study Guidelines
Getting Started

- Attendees’ cameras and microphones are muted
- Questions and comments can be posted in the Q&A icon on the bottom of the menu bar

- To watch the recording, use the same link used to join the Teams Live Event.
- A copy of the slides will be available on our website: https://www.usbr.gov/smallstorage/
Small Storage Program

• The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) was enacted on November 15, 2021.
  • Provides $100 million from Fiscal Years 2022 to 2026 to establish and implement a new competitive grant program for small water storage and groundwater storage projects.

• Small storage projects are defined by:
  • Water storage capacity of not less than 2,000 acre-feet and not more than 30,000 acre-feet and:
    • increases surface or groundwater storage; or
    • conveys water, directly or indirectly, to or from surface water or groundwater storage
Small Storage Program

• Eligible Non-Federal project sponsors:
  • will include a state, regional, or local authority; Indian tribe or tribal organization; or other entities such as a water district or water association within the 17 Western States, Alaska, or Hawaii.

• Funding:
  • Awards are limited to the lesser of $30 million or 25% of project costs.
  • Funding will be allocated through a competitive process.
Small Storage Program

• Priority shall be given to projects that meet one or more of the following criteria:
  • Projects that are likely to provide more reliable water supply
  • Projects that are likely to increase water management flexibility
  • Projects that are regional in nature
  • Projects with multiple stakeholders
  • Projects with multiple benefits
Fiscal Year 2023 Funding Opportunity

• Must have submitted a feasibility study for Reclamation review by October 31
  • Earlier submission is highly encouraged
• Applicants may request 25% of cost of planning, design, and/or construction through November 15, 2026
  • Additional information provided in the Funding Opportunity
• 75% non-Federal cost share required at minimum
  • $20 million available in total under the FY23 Funding Opportunity
• Funding Opportunity closing date is December 9
Small Storage Evaluation Criteria

1. Water Supply Reliability (35 points)
   a. Enhanced Water Supplies (20 points)
   b. Contributions to Water Supply Sustainability (15 points)

2. Water Management Flexibility (16 points)
   a. Operational Flexibility (10 points)
   b. Legal and Contractual Water Supply (6 points)

3. Rural and Economically Disadvantaged Communities (10 points)

4. Stakeholder Support (9 points)

5. Economic Benefits (30 points)
   a. Cost Effectiveness (10 points)
   b. Economic Analysis and Project Benefits (20 points)
How to Become Eligible for Small Storage Project Funding

• A completed feasibility study must be submitted to Reclamation by October 31 and found to meet all requirements of Reclamation’s Directives and Standards and determined feasible by the Secretary by December 31 to be eligible to compete under the FY23 Funding Opportunity.

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<th>Directive &amp; Standard</th>
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The Secretary of the Interior must determine:

- the feasibility study, and the process under which the study was developed, complies with Federal laws (including regulations) applicable to feasibility studies of small storage projects.
- the project is technically and financially feasible in accordance with the guidelines developed and reclamation law
- the project provides a federal benefit
- there is sufficient non-Federal funding to complete the project
Small Storage Feasibility Study Requirements

• Report Contents:
  1. Introductory Information
  2. Statement of Problems and Needs
  3. Small Storage Opportunities
  4. Description of Alternatives
  5. Economic Analysis
  6. Selection of the Proposed Project
  7. Risk and Uncertainty
  8. Environmental Consideration and Potential Effects
  9. Legal and Institutional Requirements
  10. Sufficient Non-Federal Funding

• Flexibility Concerning Format
Overview of Important Dates

• October 31, 2022
  • Completed feasibility study submission deadline
  • Earlier submission highly encouraged

• December 9, 2022
  • Closing date of the FY23 Funding Opportunity (5:00pm MST)

• December 31, 2022
  • Secretarial feasibility determination deadline

• Spring 2023
  • Funding Opportunity recipients contacted and awards announced
  • Additional information provided in the Funding Opportunity
Small Storage Program Resources

• Small Water Storage Program Website (including link to subscribe for more information):
  • https://www.usbr.gov/smallstorage/

• Fiscal Year 2023 Small Storage Program Funding Opportunity:
  • https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=343524

• Additional funding opportunities can be found at www.grants.gov

• Program Coordinator:
  • Carrie Diroll, cdiroll@usbr.gov or (303) 445-2835
Questions?