



State Water Resources Control Board

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State Water Board Stimulus Funding Tops \$100 million for Clean Water Projects

35 Projects Estimated to Create or Retain 880 jobs.

SACRAMENTO -- The State Water Board has awarded \$105.3 million for 35 projects to protect public health and the environment and create jobs for Californians. The funding has been allocated in the last month and a half. That money was allocated to California for clean water projects under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

The money awarded is in the form of grants and ultra-low interest zero and one-percent loans for projects that include wastewater treatment plant construction, upgrade and infrastructure improvements as well as "green" projects such as wastewater recycling.

"The State Water Board identified these shovel-ready projects so we can both get people back to work and protect water quality," said Charlie Hoppin, Chair of the State Water Board. "Even in routine years, we handle more than \$200 million dollars in loans for these important purposes. This year, the need is more urgent and our staff started early to identify potential recipients so that we can distribute the federal money quickly and responsibly. California has a verified need and we have validated applications for more dollars than are currently available. We will put any additional funds to good use quickly and efficiently."

To date, the State Water Board has now allocated \$105.3 million in ARRA funds to 35 projects. The Recovery Act money was made available to the State Water Board by the U.S. EPA.

Under the stimulus program, the State Water Board is handling \$270.5 million in addition to more than \$200 million normally loaned by the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) each year. The Water Board approved the first Stimulus project the same day that it received money from the U.S. EPA.

The stimulus money is available for projects in communities that might not normally be able to qualify for an SRF loan. The stimulus money is being granted or loaned at rates even lower than normally available from the SRF.

California Water News

The State Water Board received the stimulus money on May 21, 2009 and made its first award under the program on the same day. It has been working with local governments and others to make sure their clean water projects were ready to begin work and qualify for stimulus money as quickly as possible.

The State Water Board assists local communities in preventing and cleaning up water pollution. Its financial assistance, through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, concentrates on wastewater (sewer) projects and treatment plants. To date, \$126.2 million SRF dollars have also been awarded to clean water projects (in addition to the ARRA funds).

