

**567—44.8(455B) Project point ranking system (project priority list).**

**44.8(1) Project priority list.** The director shall develop and maintain a project priority list of PWSs that have requested financial assistance through the DWSRF program to address either a new or an upgraded drinking water system, including individual subcomponents. The term “public water system projects” may also include separate segments or phases of a segmented or phased project. Projects will continue to be eligible for loan funding when funded for the first year of a multiyear project effort.

**44.8(2) Project priority list ranking criteria.**

a. A construction project’s priority points shall be the total number of points assigned by the department pursuant to the scoring system delineated in 44.8(3). All projects shall be listed in descending order on the published project priority list according to the number of total priority points assigned each project.

b. When two or more projects have the same priority point total, the project sponsored by a system in the process of consolidation shall receive the higher priority. A private system in the process of forming and becoming a PWS shall have the next highest priority, and the entity with the smallest served population shall receive the next highest priority.

c. The most current official census population shall be used for all municipalities that serve only the population within their incorporated boundaries and that apply for these loan funds. For all other municipalities and other CWSs, and for NTNCs, population will be counted based on either the actual population, verifiable by the department, or population as calculated by multiplying by an occupancy factor of 2.5 persons per service connection. New systems will be counted based on census data, an occupancy factor of 2.5 persons per service connection, an occupancy factor of 2.5 persons per identifiable occupied building, or other means acceptable to the department.

d. Funding shall be offered to the projects with highest rank on the project priority list, subject to the project’s readiness to proceed, and shall proceed from the highest project downward, subject to availability of funds.

e. The published project priority list shall be included in the department’s IUP pursuant to 567—44.9(455B).

f. Projects involving a multiyear, phased effort may carry over their original priority point total from the previous year’s application, provided that the project owner reappplies at each stage.

**44.8(3) Project priority list scoring criteria.** Eligible public drinking water supply projects shall be scored pursuant to the following priority point scoring system.

**IOWA DWSRF PROJECT SCORING SYSTEM**

(Multiple attributes within a lettered subcategory are not additive, but points are additive from other subcategories; consolidation/restructuring is an approved option to correct violations or “improve” treatment.)

| Scoring Criterion  | Points |
|--|--------|
| <b>A. Human Health Risk-related Criteria (maximum of 60 points)</b>  |        |
| 1. Correction of acute MCL or Tier I TT violation as defined in 567—paragraph 42.1(2)“a” (fecal coliform, nitrate, nitrite, chlorine dioxide, turbidity, CT corrective measures, and Giardia), or resolution of a health-based related BCA   | 60     |
| 2. Correction of nonacute MCL violation (IOCs excluding acute contaminants, radionuclides, SOCs, VOCs)   | 50     |
| 3. Correction of an expected MCL or TT violation (acute or nonacute)   | 45     |
| 4. Correction of Tier II TT violation as defined in 567—paragraph 42.1(3)“a” (Pb/Cu corrective measures, disinfection byproduct precursor removal)   | 40     |
| 5. Mitigation of an imminent threat from groundwater contamination (from a UST site, CERCLA site, or uncontrolled site)  | 35     |
| 6. Connection of individual residences to PWS to eliminate use of contaminated individual private wells (bacterial, nitrate, radionuclide, or IOC/VOC/SOC well contamination all eligible)   | 35     |
| 7. Replacement of asbestos cement pipe (replace at least 200 feet of pipe)   | 15     |
| <b>B. Infrastructure and Engineering-related Improvement Criteria (maximum of 35 points)</b>   |        |
| 1. Development of system redundancy and additional source to meet peak day demand with largest well or intake out of service; plant process rehabilitation (to ensure redundancy of treatment units to protect against acute or chronic MCL with system’s largest treatment unit out of service); water storage improvements (reliability enhancement to | 35     |

| <b>Scoring Criterion</b>   | <b>Points</b> |
|--|---------------|
| increase effective storage to Average Daily Demand, including either at-ground or elevated storage); pumping improvements (meeting hydraulic and Ten-State Standard requirements for Average Daily Demand); or resolution of an infrastructure-related BCA |               |
| 2. Water systems over capacity expansion. Points are allowable only when the system is operating at 85% or more of system design capacity. Source, plant, or distribution system improvements for system expansion are all eligible under this category.   | 30            |
| 3. Pressure and other distribution system improvements, including pump upgrades, pipe looping, valves, fittings, line replacement, hydrants, pumping stations, and water meters  | 25            |
| 4. Construction of resiliency projects to mitigate expected reduction or degradation of source and/or finished water quality or quantity caused by disaster events including but not limited to floods, droughts, ice storms, tornadoes, and cyberattacks  | 20            |
| 5. Treatment plant improvements, excluding operation and maintenance costs   | 15            |
| 6. Provision of emergency power/emergency pumping capacity including purchase of diesel generators or installation of automatic switching systems  | 15            |
| 7. Security improvements (fencing, lighting, video surveillance, locks, access control)  | 10            |
| <b>C. Affordability Criteria (maximum of 15 points)</b>  |               |
| 1. System meets the state DWSRF program's Disadvantaged Community (DAC) criteria as defined in the IUP   | 15            |
| <b>D. Special Category Improvements (maximum of 15 points)</b>   |               |
| 1. Wellhead or source water protection plan development or implementation meeting department standards, including loans for land or easement acquisition   | 15            |
| 2. Water conservation measures/conservation plan preparation, adoption, and enforcement  | 5             |
| <b>E. Department Adjustment Factor for Population</b>  |               |
| 1. (Project Serves) Population less than 10,000  | 10            |
| TOTAL MAXIMUM POINTS   | 135           |

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