

567—90.1(455B) Statutory authority, purpose, and general policy.

90.1(1) *Statutory authority.* The department of natural resources and the Iowa finance authority are jointly designated to administer the clean water state revolving fund (CWSRF). Authority to administer this fund is provided by Iowa Code sections 455B.291 through 455B.299 and the federal CWA. Section 603(c) of Title VI of the CWA allows the use of state revolving funds to assist in the construction of POTWs and WPC projects.

90.1(2) *Purpose.* This chapter provides the definitions, forms, general project and program administration rules, criteria for loan eligibility, and criteria for rating and ranking WPC projects for the CWSRF point source and NPS pollution control programs. The selection criteria, methods for selecting projects or programs for loans, and the extent to which these policies must be described in the IUP are required by 40 CFR §35.3150.

90.1(3) *Administration.* The department, in conjunction with the authority, has been delegated the responsibility of administering the CWSRF program described in this chapter and the DWSRF program described in 567—Chapter 44. The director may coordinate with the authority under the terms of an interagency agreement entered into pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 28E.

90.1(4) *Program funding.* The commission shall set funding targets for point source and NPS activities and adjust the fundable project list to ensure that the short- and long-term goals of the IUP are achieved. It is the intent of the commission to reserve a portion of the CWSRF funds to provide for the purpose of making low-interest loans for NPS WPC projects. The amount for each NPS program will be determined in the IUP. Loans of up to 100 percent of the eligible costs of WPC projects will be made available pursuant to these rules, rules established by the authority, and Title VI of the CWA.

90.1(5) *State capitalization grant.* The CWA authorizes the EPA to offer capitalization grants to states for use in a revolving fund loan program. A portion of the capitalization grant, as allowed by Title VI of the CWA, will be used to administer the CWSRF program.

90.1(6) *Federal funding coordination.* Projects may use CWSRF funds to complete the financing of projects partially funded by other federal programs.

90.1(7) *Project determination.* A project must comply with this chapter to be eligible for a CWSRF loan. The department shall use a priority rating system to rate eligible projects for funding. An eligible project may be either a point source project or an NPS project or activity. CWSRF assistance will be available to projects in priority order. Additional rating criteria for NPS activities will be established in the IUP and circumstances for use are described in 90.14(1). Projects or activities qualifying for CWSRF assistance shall be identified in the IUP on the state PPL, developed pursuant to this chapter, and only those projects or activities may be considered fundable. WPC projects that provide the best water quality improvements or protection based on the rating system and are ready to proceed are to be funded.

90.1(8) *Decisions.* Department decisions are final unless the recipient files a written petition for review with the director. The petition must be addressed to the director and clearly state the decision in question and the basis for the requested review. The recipient has the right to appeal a decision to the commission pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 17A or to the state court.

90.1(9) *Public participation.* The public has an opportunity annually, and quarterly as needed, to comment on both the fundable list and the short- and long-term goals of the IUP.

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