

567—90.7(455B) Point source project priority rating system. The rating criteria consider the use and classification of the receiving waters, water quality of the receiving waters, groundwater protection, project category, project purpose, and a tiebreaker. Priority ranking for POTW projects shall be based on the total points awarded for all the categories; the greater the total number of points, the higher the ranking. For POTW projects, the ranking will be done when the IUP is prepared. The tiebreaker category will be used when necessary.

90.7(1) Use classification of receiving waters. This category addresses the receiving water that is impacted or potentially impacted by the existing situation and that would be improved or protected by the proposed project. Points for sludge stabilization, sewers, and lift station projects are based on the designated use of the waters that receive or could receive the effluent discharge. Points will be awarded and be cumulative for all designated use classifications of the receiving water.

Use and Classification of Receiving Waters	Points
Outstanding Iowa waters	45
Class A1	50
Class A2	45
Class A3	50
Class C	40
Class B (CW1)	50
Class B (CW2)	30
Class B (WW1)	30
Class HH	30
Class B (WW2)	25
Class B (WW3)	20
Class B (LW)	35

90.7(2) Water quality of receiving waters. This category addresses the water quality in the receiving stream and whether or not the water has been designated as impaired for one or more uses. Points will be awarded for both A and B in the table below and then totaled for this category.

a. Bodies of water that are impaired by pollutants and probable pollutant source categories for the impairments are identified in the CWA Section 303(d) list of waters in the integrated report of impaired waters status. Projects primarily impacting these waters will be awarded points if the water body that receives or could receive the wastewater discharge is included on the Section 303(d) list and the probable pollutant source is a point source.

b. Waters are also identified in the CWA Section 305(b) report on their use attainment status. Projects primarily impacting these waters are awarded points depending on the use impairment identified for the water body that receives or could receive the wastewater discharge. If no use impairment is identified, indicating the water was not assessed, the partially supported status points will be awarded.

Indication of Water Quality	Points
A. Integrated Report overall category (score only overall category)	
4a, 4b, or 5a	15
5b or 5p	10
4c or 4d	5
B. Use support level of designated uses (score all applicable uses) Class A, Class B, Class C, Class HH	
Fully supported	5
Not supported	15
Not assessed	7

90.7(3) *Protection of groundwater resources.* This category considers the use of the aquifer affected by the project.

Groundwater Category	Points
Wellhead protection area for public water supply	40
Unconfined aquifer that serves as a drinking water source	20
Other groundwater protection	10

90.7(4) *Project category.* For this category, points are based on the project's type and its relative impact on public health and the environment. Points will be awarded for the primary project category.

Centralized Wastewater Treatment Project Category	Points
Category I. Secondary treatment	40
Category II. Advanced treatment	50
Category III–A. Infiltration/inflow correction	30
Category III–B. Sewer replacement/rehabilitation	30
Category IV–A. New collector sewers and appurtenances	10
Category IV–B. New interceptor sewers and appurtenances	20
Category V. CSO correction	40
Stormwater Project Category	
Category VI–A. Gray infrastructure—only projects where sanitary sewer or treatment require it	30
Conservation Project Category	
Category X. Water conservation (water reuse)	10
Other Category	
Energy conservation (renewable energy)—solar, wind, etc.	10
Refinance of existing projects that meet CWSRF eligibility criteria	5

90.7(5) *Project purpose.* For this category, points are based on the project's purpose and expected outcome. Points will be awarded only for the primary purpose.

Project Purpose	Points
Allows facility to meet new water quality standards	50
Protects or restores the physical, chemical, and biological integrity of water resources at a specific site	50
Reduces the loading of a parameter that has been identified as an impairment to the receiving water or watershed as identified through the total maximum daily load (TMDL) process	40
Provides regional consolidation in wastewater treatment or system management	30
Brings facility into compliance with a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit or other administrative or judicial enforcement action as may be required by the department or the EPA	25
Eliminates or remediates a source of groundwater pollution	20
Meets existing or reasonable future needs of the community in order to maintain compliance with an NPDES permit	15
Provides operational reliability improvements, apart from projects addressing compliance and enforcement	10

90.7(6) *Total points.* Total points are calculated using the following formula: Total Points = Use Classification + Water Quality or Groundwater Protection + Project Category + Project Purpose

90.7(7) Tiebreaker. Several projects may receive the same total points on the fundable list. If sufficient loan funds are not available to fund the projects, ties will be broken by determining which project has the highest score in each category in the following order:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Use Classification of Receiving Streams | Highest |
| Water Quality of Receiving Streams (a+b) |  |
| Groundwater Protection | |
| Project Category | |
| Project Purpose | |
| | Lowest |

[ARC 9215C, IAB 5/14/25, effective 6/18/25]