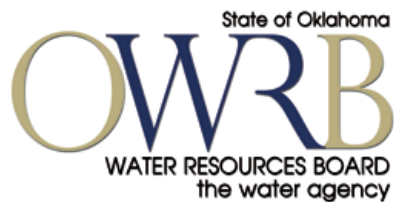
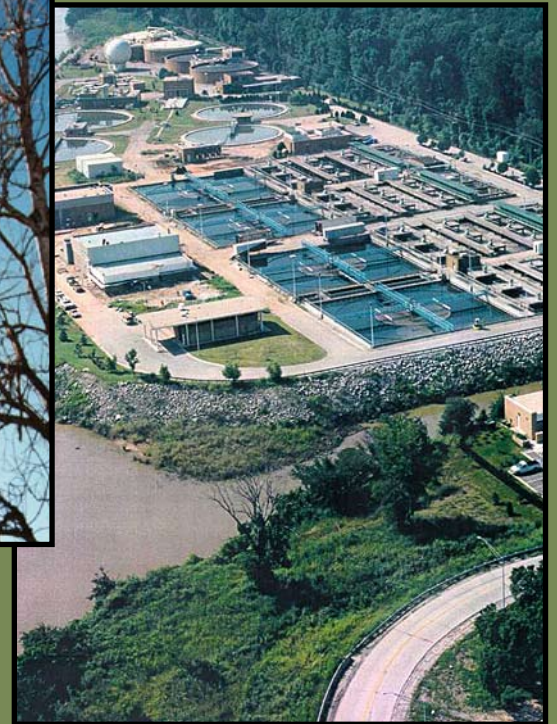


American Recovery & Reinvestment Act 2009

Stimulus Funding
For Water & Wastewater Infrastructure Projects
STATE OF OKLAHOMA



The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, passed by Congress on February 13 and signed by President Obama on February 17, includes \$62 million for “shovel ready” water and wastewater infrastructure projects in Oklahoma. Specifically, the stimulus package appropriates \$31 million each for Oklahoma’s Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan programs. Congress has also set aside \$70 million in stimulus funds for USDA Rural Development’s Water and Wastewater Loans and Grants.

Because the objective of the stimulus package is to promptly energize the economy and create jobs, the **Oklahoma Water Resources Board, Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, and USDA Rural Development** are only considering water and wastewater projects that are ready to begin construction. Stimulus projects will be reviewed and ranked according to existing programmatic procedures. The financing under these programs will be available in the form of the following:

- The Clean and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund programs will offer a grant/loan combination financing opportunity. It is proposed that a minimum of 20% of a project’s expenditures, up to \$2 million, will be available to communities in the form of grants, and a maximum of 80% will be available in the form of loans.
- Rural Development’s Stimulus Funding will be administered in the same manner as their Water and Wastewater Loan and Grant Program. While the overall statewide goal for Stimulus Funding is to achieve a 70/30% loan/grant ratio, some communities could qualify for more (or less) grant funds based on their need.



Guidelines:

- Economic stimulus money will only be available for projects that are listed on the OWRB’s and DEQ’s priority funding lists. Communities with projects that qualify for Rural Development funds must indicate interest to the State office.
- Projects shall have contracts awarded or be under construction within 12 months (February 16, 2010) or funds will be reallocated to other states.
- All federal State Revolving Fund requirements will remain in place; all Rural Development requirements will remain in place.
- At least 50 percent of the allotted State Revolving Funds must be used for additional subsidization, including forgiveness of principal, negative interest loans, and grants.
- At least 20 percent of the State Revolving Fund appropriation must be for projects that address “green” infrastructure, including water-efficiency, energy-efficiency, storm water runoff mitigation, or projects that encourage environmentally sensitive project planning, design, and construction (if there are sufficient applications for eligible projects).
- 10% of Rural Development stimulus funds is targeted to 14 pervasive poverty counties.

To be eligible, applicants must complete the following to be considered “shovel ready”:

1. Applications for all necessary permits or approvals
2. Environmental clearances
3. Engineering (plans and specifications).

OWRB Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Loans

- Stimulus Funding:** \$31 Million
- Funding Agency:** Oklahoma Water Resources Board
- Eligible Applicants:** Units of local government
- Eligible Projects:** Construction of new wastewater facilities or the replacement or rehabilitation of existing facilities for secondary and advanced treatment, inflow and infiltration (I&I) correction, collector and interceptor sewers, combined sewer overflow correction, and related wastewater projects, nonpoint source, brownfields, green infrastructure, and related stormwater pollution control projects.
- Other Information:** 20-year below market interest rate loans.
- Contact Information:** Oklahoma Water Resources Board
(405) 530-8800

OWRB/DEQ Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Loans

- Stimulus Funding:** \$31 Million
- Funding Agency:** Oklahoma Water Resources Board
- Eligible Applicants:** Units of local government
- Eligible Projects:** Water facility expansion, replacement, improvement, and/or repair.
- Other Information:** Applicants referred to OWRB through Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality. OWRB serves as financial administrator for the program. Up to 30-year below market interest rate loans.
- Contact Information:** Oklahoma Water Resources Board (405) 530-8800
Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (405) 702-8100

USDA Rural Development Water and Wastewater Loan and Grant Program

- Stimulus Funding:** \$70 Million
- Funding Agency:** U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development
- Eligible Applicants:** Public bodies, tribal governments, and nonprofit corporations.
- Eligible Areas:** Towns up to 10,000 population and all rural areas.
- Eligible Projects:** Construction, installation, repair, improvement, and expansion of community water, wastewater, solid waste, and storm sewer systems including acquisition of land, water rights, legal fees, or engineering.
- Other Information:** Maximum loan term is useful life of facility, not to exceed 40 years. Low interest rates are fixed. The applicant's median household income must be under \$31,707 for grant consideration. Grant assistance may only be provided to financially needy communities to keep user costs at a reasonable level, but not lower than similar type systems.
- Contact Information:** USDA Rural Development
(405) 742-1060





Oklahoma Water Resources Board
www.owrb.ok.gov