
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS SAFE DRINKING WATER PROJECT

Protecting Safe Drinking Water

Consistent with the Central Coast Water Board's priority to ensure safe drinking water, staff is releasing a Request for Proposals (RFP) to implement a "Safe Drinking Water" grant project to address the need to provide safe drinking water in agricultural areas affected by nitrate pollution from fertilizers. This project is also consistent with the Central Coast Water Board's intention to prioritize assistance for limited resource farmers who may be unable to provide interim safe drinking water to their well users and is also consistent with California's Human Right to Water.

This grant project will award funds to provide interim safe drinking water to affected individuals and small communities, implement projects to reduce nitrate loading to groundwater, and conduct outreach to affected communities to ensure they are aware of risks of nitrate contamination. Project implementation would be prioritized to limited resource growers and disadvantaged communities in the Greater Salinas Valley.

Opportunity to Implement Safe Drinking Water Grant Project

Approximately \$118,000 is available for Safe Drinking Water Project(s). Timeframe for implementation is approximately twelve months, with possibility of extension if necessary. Interested parties are invited to submit proposals to implement the Safe Drinking Water Project. At a minimum, proposals must address the following project requirements:

- The highest priority for this project is to provide funding for interim safe drinking water to individuals and small communities affected by nitrate from fertilizers.
- Proposed tasks to provide interim safe drinking water must consider and plan for individual and community needs related to amount of drinking water provided, ease of distribution, any necessary operation and maintenance of systems until long term replacement water can be provided, and coordination with both tenants and landowners of affected property.
- Data used to confirm drinking water exceedance must be identified in the Water Board's GeoTracker system.
- Users of affected drinking water wells must receive proper notification of drinking water quality and actions taken to ensure safe drinking water.
- Project implementation would be prioritized to limited resource growers and disadvantaged communities in the Greater Salinas Valley, and resources (e.g. outreach and notification deliverables) could be broadly leveraged and made

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available for use in other areas of the Central Coast region. Selection criteria for identifying limited resource growers and disadvantaged communities or individuals who are eligible to receive assistance must be approved by the Central Coast Water Board's grant manager.

- Grant project deliverables must include list of individuals and/or affected communities assisted, drinking water well identification, nitrate concentration, actions taken to provide safe drinking water, and cost of action.
- Project funds may also be used to implement projects to reduce nitrate loading to groundwater and conduct outreach to affected individuals and communities to ensure they are aware of risks of nitrate contamination.

Eligibility

The grantee must be a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization or a public agency.

Request for Proposals

Interested parties are invited to submit a proposal of no more than four pages. The proposal should (a) indicate the party's interest in implementing the Safe Drinking Water project in the Central Coast Region and include the party's name, telephone number, mailing and email addresses, (b) provide information concerning the party's ability to perform the program service(s) required, which include the party's qualifications, geographic focus, related projects, and other pertinent information, and c) describe a preliminary list of tasks and budget to implement the Safe Drinking Water project.

Submission Date

Submissions must be received or post-marked no later than **May 1, 2014**.

Submission Address

Interested parties may direct questions and submit the requested information to:

Katie McNeill, Grants Program Coordinator
Central Coast Water Board
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San Luis Obispo, CA
(805) 549-3336
Katie.McNeill@waterboards.ca.gov

Disclaimer

This announcement is merely a Request for Proposals and shall not be construed as a commitment by the Water Board to award a contract or contracts at this time.

Additional Information about the Central Coast Water Board

More information about the Central Coast Water Board can be found on our website at <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/>.