CLEAN WATER & DRINKING WATER EMERGING CONTAMINANTS

2023 CALL FOR PROJECTS WEBINAR

FEBRUARY 14, 2023

SOUTH CAROLINA SRF STATE REVOLVING FUND

TODAY'S SPEAKERS

Wayne Shealy, P.E.

SRF Program Manager

Department of Health and Environmental Control

Kyle Maurer Sr, PhD, P.E.

SRF Project Manager

Department of Health and Environmental Control

Noel Hebert, CPA

Assistant Loan Program Director

Rural Infrastructure Authority

Webinar Agenda

- Overview and Funding Available
- Program Eligibilities
- Program Requirements
- Understanding the Process
- Financial Requirements
- Q&A

Partnership in Program Management

DHEC is the EPA grantee and manages the technical aspects of the program.

RIA's Office of Local Government (OLG) handles the financial responsibilities of the program.

dhec
Healthy People. Healthy Communities.

RIA
South Carolina
Rural Infrastructure Authority

SOUTH CAROLINA SRF
RIA & DHEC • STATE REVOLVING FUND

State Revolving Fund (SRF)

Clean Water (CWSRF)

- Clean Water Act
- Wastewater & Stormwater Projects
- Low-Cost Loans and Principal Forgiveness Funding

Drinking Water (DWSRF)

- Safe Drinking Water Act
- Drinking Water Projects
- Low-Cost Loans and Principal Forgiveness Funding

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)

Significant increases for SRF loans and principal forgiveness funds for 5 years

Funding provided for:

1. All SRF-eligible drinking water, wastewater and stormwater projects

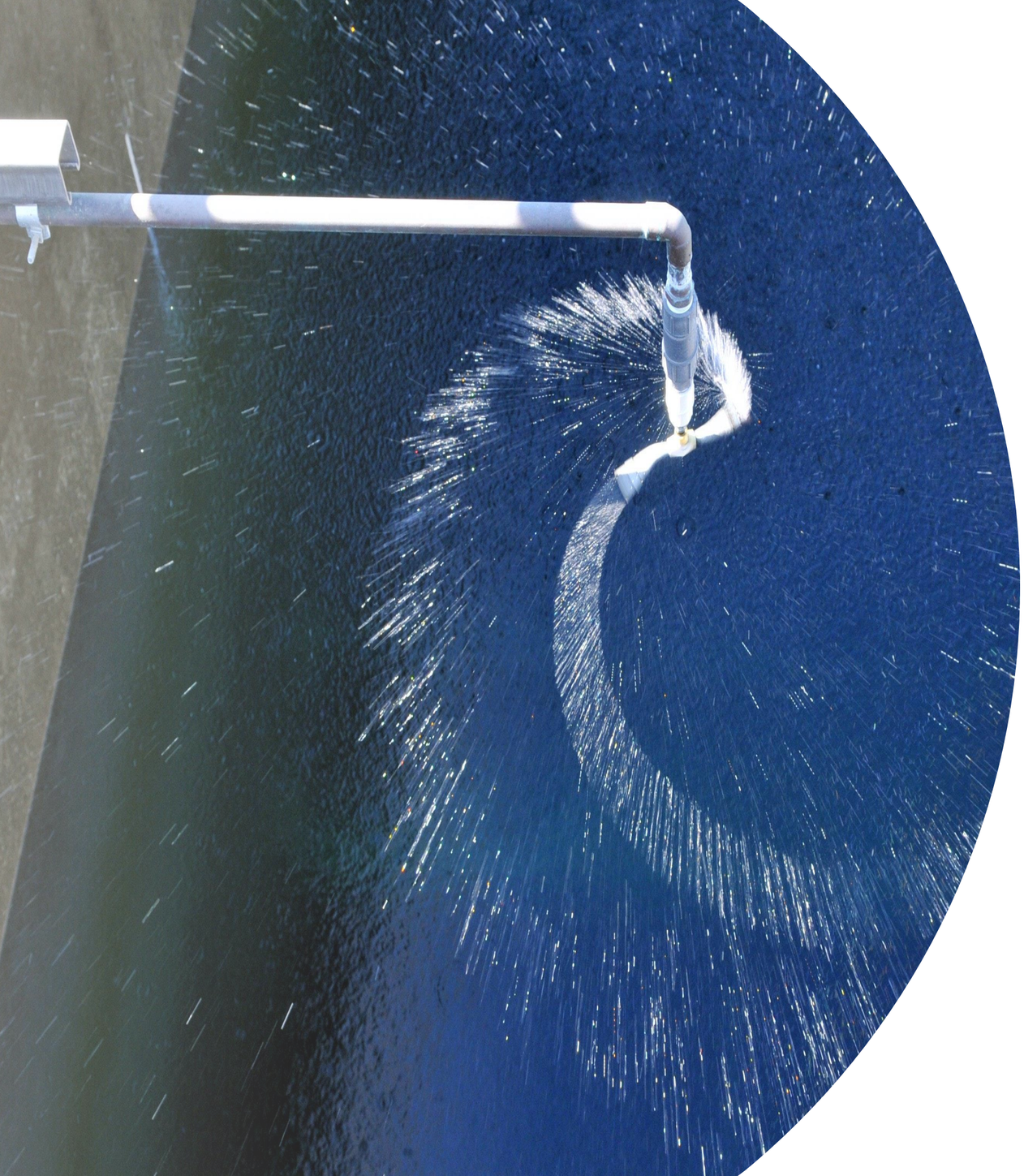
2. Drinking water lead service line replacement

3. Emerging contaminants

EPA BIL Memo:
www.epa.gov/dwsrf/bipartisan-infrastructure-law-srf-memorandum

The Benefits of Using SRF

- $13.6 million available for eligible Drinking Water projects
- $3.2 million available for eligible Clean Water projects
- 100% SRF Principal Forgiveness
- Dedicated DHEC project manager



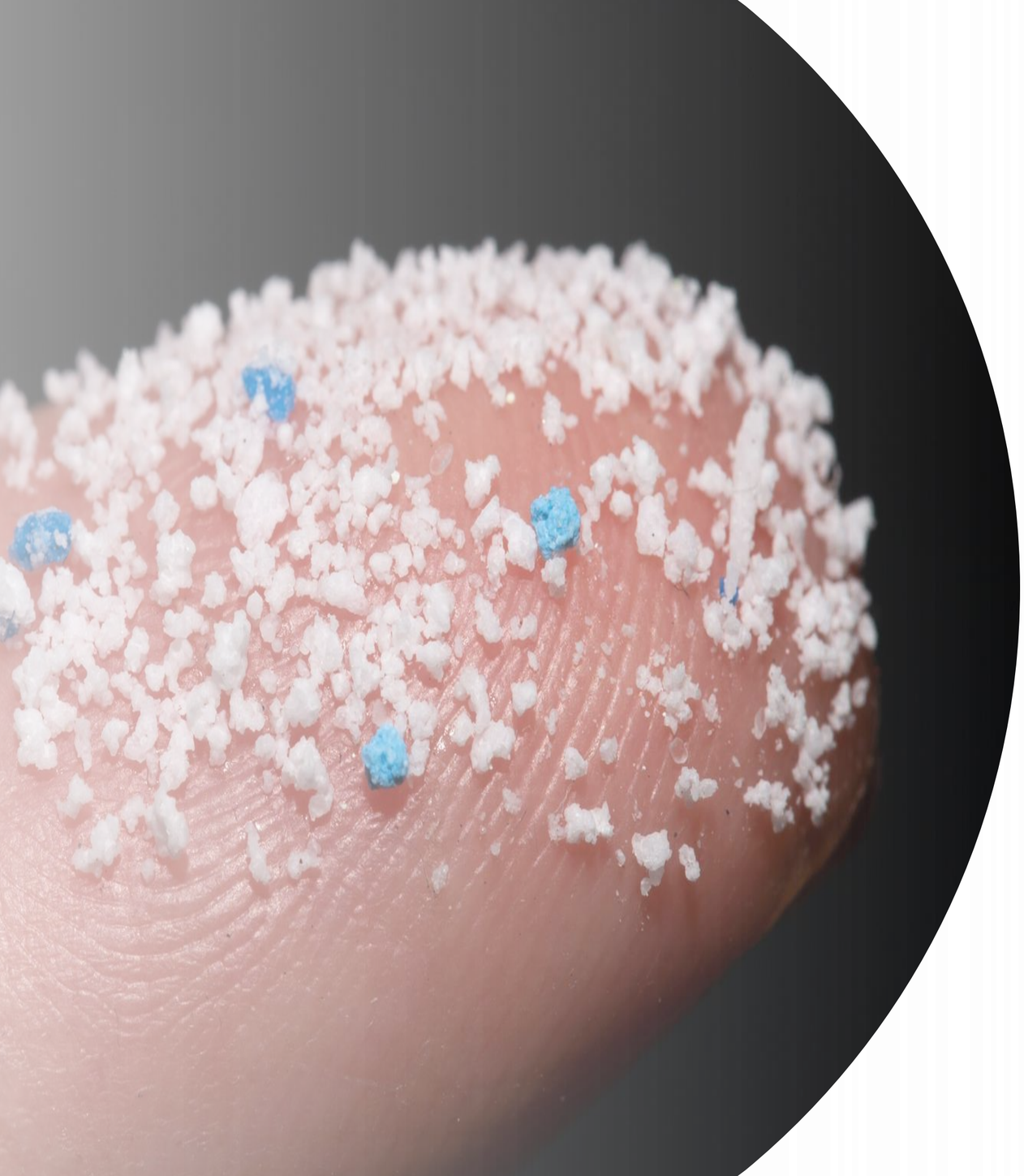
Emerging Contaminants

Eligibility

Assistance for Public Entities:

- Municipalities
- Counties
- Special Purpose Districts
- Joint Regional Entities
- Non-profit community water systems

Clean Water
Emerging Contaminants



Clean Water Emerging Contaminants

Eligible Contaminants

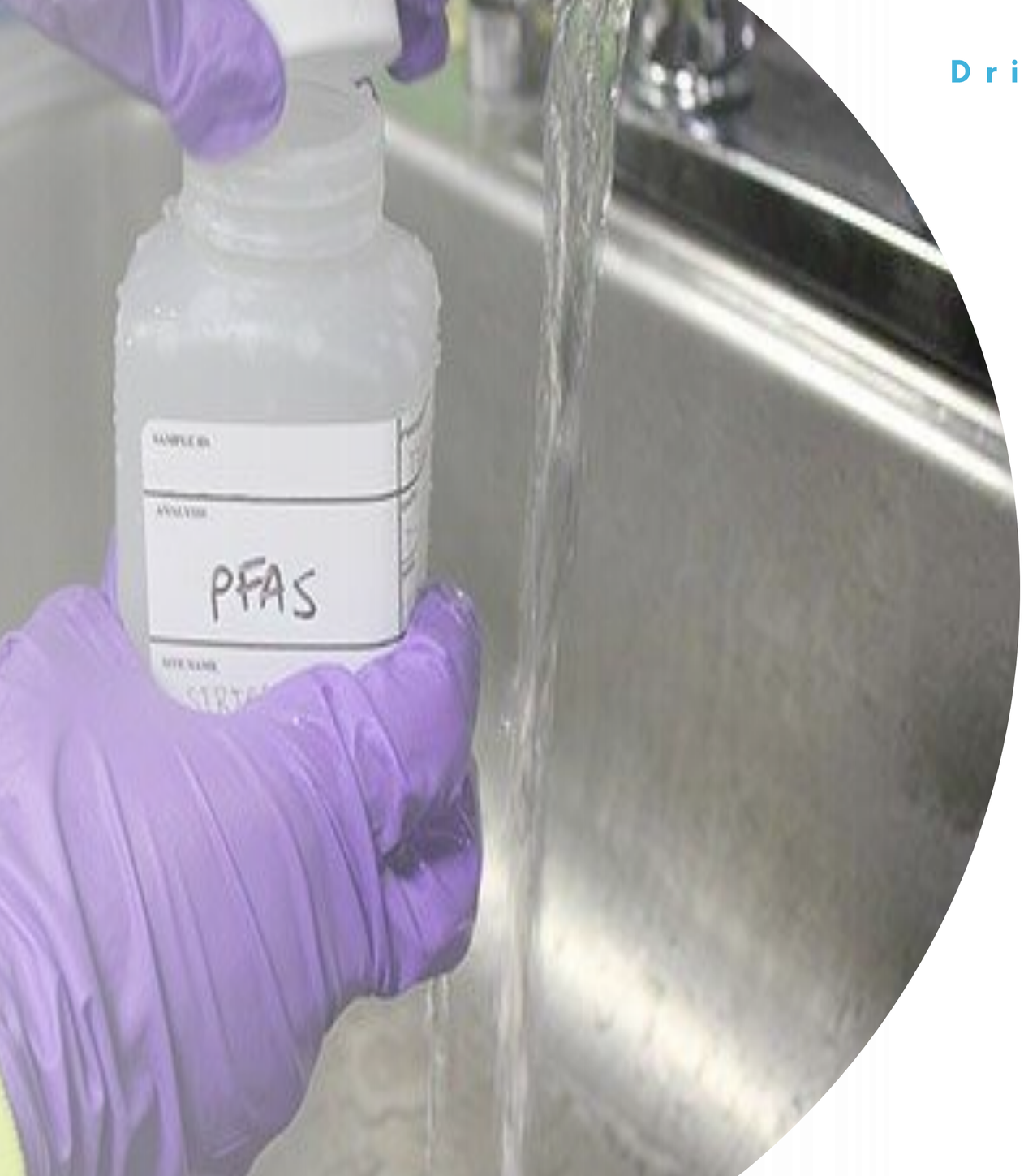
- PFAS and other persistent organic pollutants
- Biological contaminants and microorganisms as defined by EPA
- Some compounds found in pharmaceutical and personal care products
- Nanomaterials
- Microplastics/Nanoplastics

Clean Water Emerging Contaminants

Eligible Activities

- For a project or activity to be eligible it must:
  - Be otherwise eligible under section 603(c) of the CWA
  - Address identified emerging contaminants
  - Only fund the portion of a project specific to emerging contaminants
- Planning and design engineering
- Construction engineering and inspections

Drinking Water Emerging Contaminants



Eligible Contaminants

- PFAS and other persistent organic pollutants
- Contaminants listed on EPA's Contaminants Candidates Lists CCL1 through draft CCL5 (www.epa.gov/ccl)

Drinking Water Emerging Contaminants

Eligible Activities

- Construction activities to address emerging contaminants, such as
  - Upgrade to an existing treatment facility
  - Development of a new water source (well, intake, etc.)
  - Consolidation with another water system
  - Extension of water lines to privately owned wells with contamination due to emerging contaminants
- Planning and Design Engineering
- Construction Engineering and Inspection

Emerging Contaminants Projects

Program Requirements

- All projects must comply with SRF equivalency requirements including:
  - Build America, Buy America (BABA);
  - Davis-Bacon Wage Rates;
  - Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)
  - BIL Signage

- Additional Clean Water requirements:
  - Architectural/Engineering Procurement Compliance
  - Fiscal Sustainability Plan Certification

BABA Requirements and Waivers

- BABA applies to all SRF equivalency projects (unless a waiver has been granted):

  "…none of the funds made available for a Federal financial assistance program for infrastructure…may be obligated for a project unless all of the iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in the project are produced in the United States."

- Recently published implementation guidance from EPA on November 3, 2022 (Q&A format)

- https://www.epa.gov/cwsrf/build-america-buy-america-baba

- Waivers are available in some instances.

Davis-Bacon Act

- Administered by U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) - Wage and Hour Division (WHD)
- Establishes local prevailing wages for laborers and mechanics on public works projects
- Applies to all contracts > $2,000
- Applies to entire project regardless of any other funding sources
- Find and include the correct Wage Determination (WD) online at sam.gov/content/wage-determinations

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Compliance

- All projects should encourage use of small and disadvantaged businesses (including women and minority-owned businesses)

- Sponsors and contractors with equivalency projects need to:
  - Follow the Six Good Faith Efforts
  - Create and maintain a bidders list
  - Submit required DBE documentation for bid approval
  - Supply required reports during project implementation

Emerging Contaminants

Available Resources

WEBSITE

scdhec.gov/srfcall

GUIDES

Download or print

REQUIREMENTS TABLES

CONTACT

srf-info@dhec.sc.gov

CW & DW Emerging Contaminants

The Process

- Submit PQ
- Priority Ranking and Comprehensive List
- Preliminary Financial Review
- Publish IUPs with Selected Projects

- Develop PER
- Environmental

- Finalize Plans and Specs
- Construction Permit

Mar – Aug 2023 → **Sept – Dec 2023** → **Jan – Mar 2024**

CW & DW Emerging Contaminants

The Process

- Bid Project
- Adopt Loan Resolution
- Sign Loan Assistance Agreement

April – June 2024

- Construct Project
- Draw Requests
- Disburse Funds
- Approval to Operate

July 2024
(6 – 24 months)

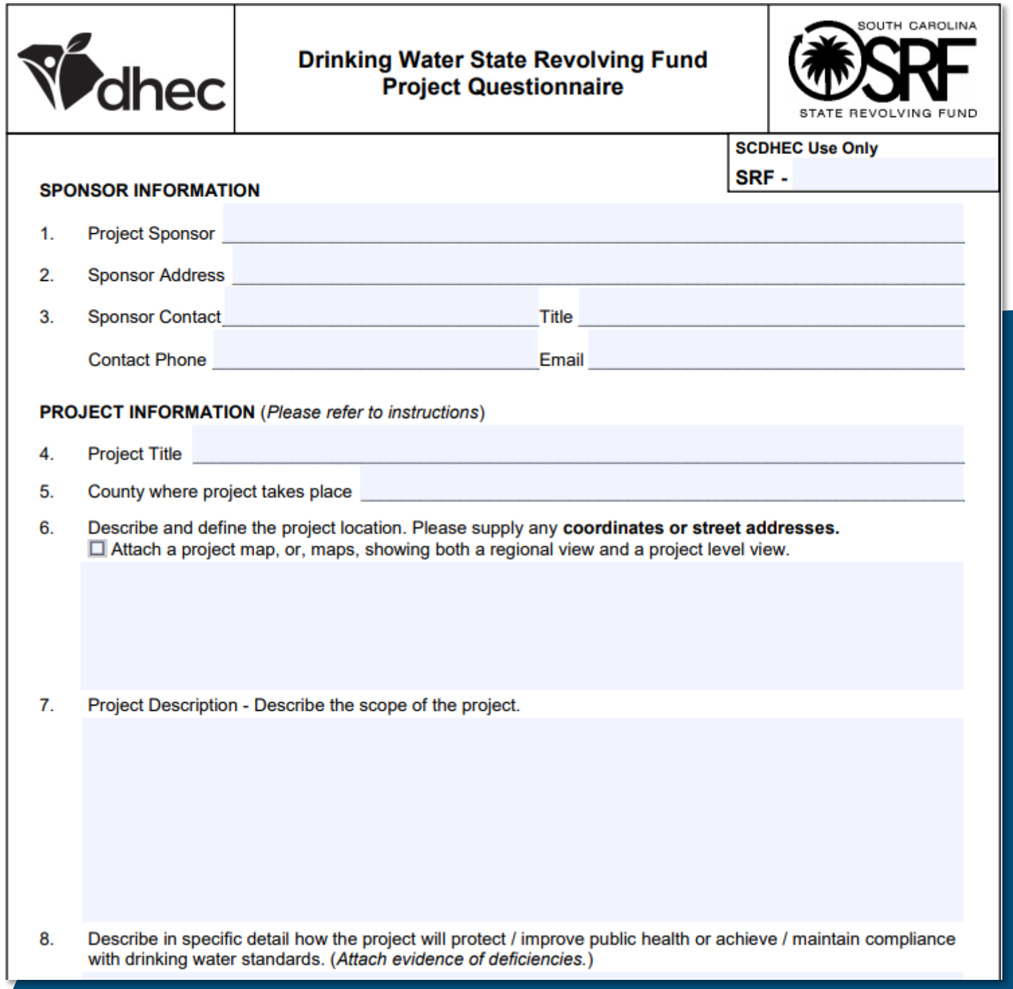
CW & DW Emerging Contaminants

Project Questionnaires & Selection Process

- PQs
- Selection Priorities and Ranking
- Intended Use Plan
- Selected Projects

Project Questionnaires (PQ)

- Submit a two-page Project Questionnaire (PQ) to DHEC
- Available at: scdhec.gov/srfforms
- EC PQs are due by March 31, 2023
- Email completed PQs to SRF-Info@dhec.sc.gov and include any supporting documentation you may have (PER, etc.)
- Priority ranking system



dhec

Drinking Water State Revolving Fund
Project Questionnaire

SOUTH CAROLINA SRF STATE REVOLVING FUND

SCDHEC Use Only
SRF -

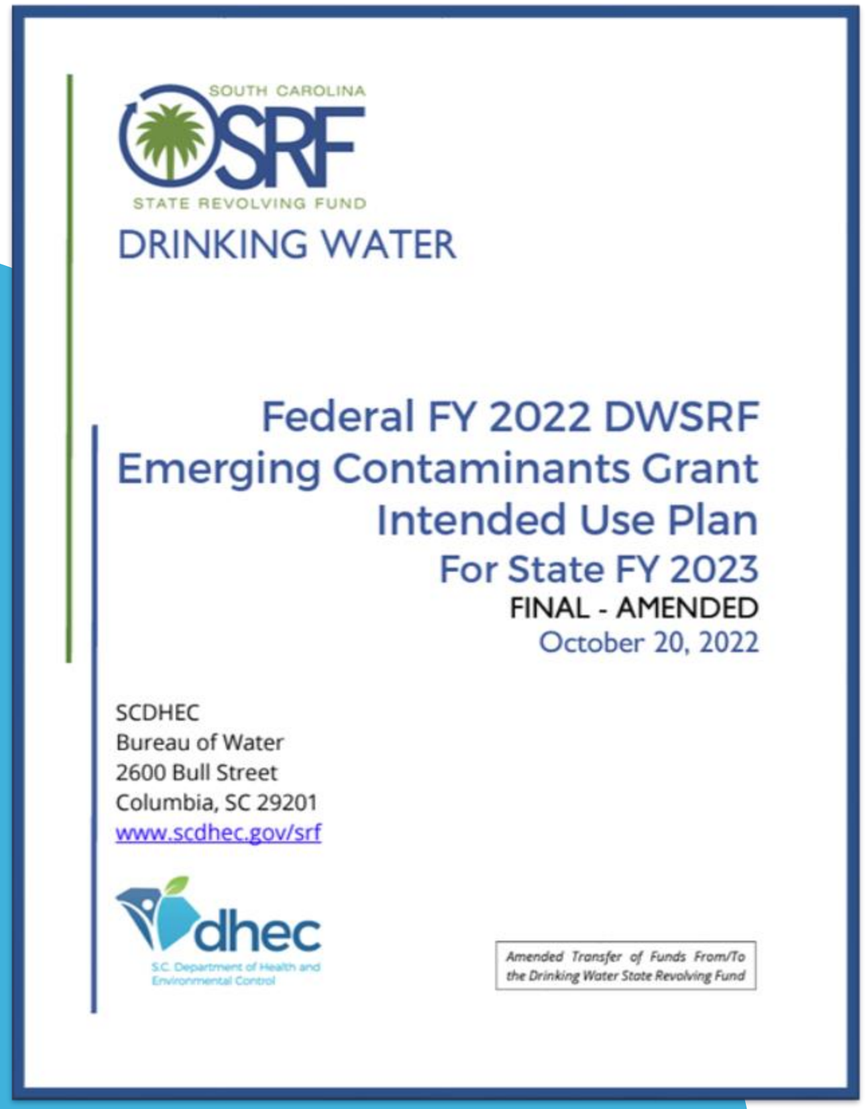
SPONSOR INFORMATION

1. Project Sponsor
2. Sponsor Address
3. Sponsor Contact ____ Title ____
   Contact Phone ____ Email ____

PROJECT INFORMATION (*Please refer to instructions*)

4. Project Title
5. County where project takes place
6. Describe and define the project location. Please supply any **coordinates or street addresses.**
   ☐ Attach a project map, or, maps, showing both a regional view and a project level view.
7. Project Description - Describe the scope of the project.
8. Describe in specific detail how the project will protect / improve public health or achieve / maintain compliance with drinking water standards. (*Attach evidence of deficiencies.*)

Intended Use Plans
Published Annually



- Describes program goals, priorities and how funds are used
- Describes eligibility and method for selecting projects
- Identifies selected projects for coming fiscal year
- Provides a 30-day public comment period
- Project Priority List is developed

SRF Financial Requirement

CW & DW Emerging Contaminants

Project Funding

Eligible Project Sponsors will receive

100%

Principal Forgiveness

Eligible Project Sponsors

- Eligible Small Systems
  - Population <10,000
  - MHI < State MHI (American Community Survey Estimates)
  - Cannot qualify for a SRF loan

- A sustainable owner willing to assume ownership or receivership of an unsustainable or abandoned system that will address contaminants; or

- A sustainable owner willing to provide drinking water service to homeowners with private wells with emerging contaminants that exceed health-based levels

All Principal Forgiveness Funds

- No loan application necessary
- Submit a copy of your most recent audit (not delinquent)
- Complete your DHEC requirements first – including bidding
- DHEC will request your funding from the RIA
- The RIA will contact you regarding the necessary paperwork
    - Paperwork includes the adoption of a resolution with your governing body
    - A Loan Assistance Agreement will be drafted and signed by the official designated in your resolution
- You may draw on your funds once the Loan Assistance Agreement is fully executed by the RIA office.

CLEAN WATER & DRINKING WATER
EMERGING CONTAMINANTS

2023 CALL FOR PROJECTS

ADVANTAGES

100% Principal Forgiveness for all eligible projects

+

SRF Project Manager to help meet all federal requirements

CW ELIGIBLE CONTAMINANTS

PFAS and other persistent organic pollutants; biological contaminants and microorganisms as defined by EPA; some compounds found in pharmaceutical and personal care products; and nanomaterials

DW ELIGIBLE CONTAMINANTS

PFAS and contaminants listed on EPA's Contaminants Candidate Lists - CCL1 through draft CCL5 (see www.epa.gov/ccl)

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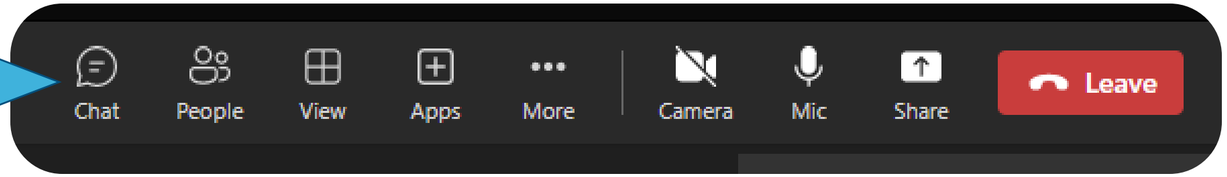
Questions?

Use the Chat feature in Teams NOW to submit your question!

If we don't get to your question during the webinar, RIA or DHEC staff will contact you directly.

Look for the Chat Button to submit questions!



Thank you!

www.scdhec.gov/srf

www.ria.sc.gov/loans