#### STATE OF COLORADO

# **Colorado Water Conservation Board Department of Natural Resources**

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TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

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Office of Water Conservation & Drought Planning

DATE: March 3, 2009

SUBJECT: Agenda Item 26, March 17-18, 2009 Board Meeting

Federal Stimulus Package Pertaining to State Revolving Funds for Water

**Projects** 

#### **Staff Recommendation**

This is an *information* item and Board action is not required.

#### **Background**

FROM:

The recently passed federal stimulus package, otherwise known as the "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA)," allocates monies for water related projects that will be passed through various federal agencies to the States. The ARRA allocates \$6 billion for local clean and drinking water infrastructure improvements: \$4 billion for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) program; and \$2 billion for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) program.

The ARRA states that "not less than 20 percent of the appropriated funds shall be provided for projects that address green infrastructure, water or energy efficiency improvements, or other environmentally innovative activities." Projects meeting this requirement are called the "Green Project Reserve" by EPA. The OWCDP is working with the Colorado Power and Water Development Authority, the state agency that will direct money from EPA to specific projects and the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment to provide technical assistance when necessary. Current efforts will be outlined during the board presentation.

# Federal Stimulus Package Pertaining to State Revolving Funds for Water Projects



Taryn Hutchins-Cabibi
Office of Water Conservation & Drought Planning

Water, Parks, and Environmental Remediation

Program

Funding

Description of Program

Funding

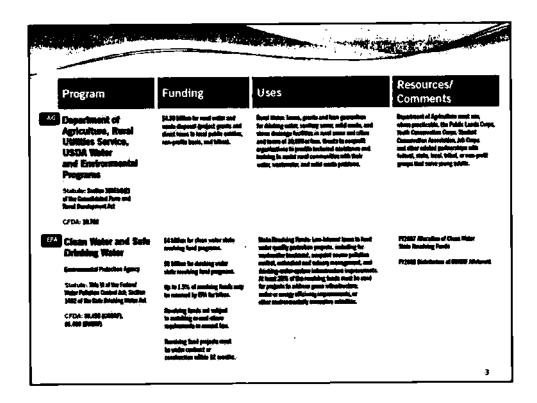
Description of Program

Funding

Description of Program

Funding Comments

Fun





### Clean Water & Safe Drinking Water

- Existing mechanisms of the State Revolving Fund Program allocates \$6B for capitalization grants, which will be distributed by EPA.
- Colorado's share is ~\$62Million
- Colorado Water Resources and Power Development Authority is the fiscal agent.
- 20% of funds must go toward "green initiatives"
- Rules requiring covered entities to have approved conservation plans on file with CWCB still apply BUT...



37-60-126 §(9)(a)

"except that the board or the authority may release such loan proceeds if the board or the authority, as applicable, determines that an <u>unforeseen emergency</u> exists in relation to the covered entity's loan application, in which case the board or the authority, as applicable, may impose a loan surcharge upon the covered entity that may be rebated or reduced if the covered entity submits and adopts a plan in compliance with this section in a timely manner as determined by the board or the authority, as applicable."

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# Entities w/o plans that may seek \$\$

- East Cherry Creek Valley
- Westminster
- Security
- Aspen
- Pueblo
- Clifton/ Ute/ Grand Junction\*

\*Have applied for grant money to do a conservation plan

# Highlights

- CWCB will not directly receive funds
- CWCB will work with other agencies to leverage funds available to achieve our goals/ mission.
- CWCB will provide project ideas where opportunities exist
- CWCB will expedite review of Conservation plans for those receiving funds
- CWCB will provide technical assistance to entities when needed

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## **Next Steps...**

- March 23<sup>rd</sup> -- Meeting with the Department of Agricultural - Rural Utilities Service
- April 4<sup>th</sup>

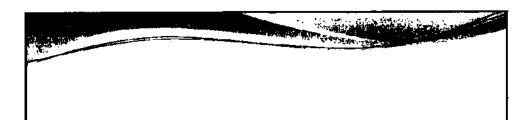
   Gov. Ritter sends letter to EPA excepting funds.
- April 27<sup>th</sup> stimulus loan applications Due
  - After this we will know exactly who we need to work with on Conservation Plans.
- September- 30<sup>th</sup> - loan recipients complete bidding process & are issued notice to proceed and begin construction.



## For Additional Information

- <a href="http://www.staterecovery.org/">http://www.staterecovery.org/</a>
- http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/op/wqcc/New/ARRA.html
- <a href="http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/green-recovery-2009-03.pdf">http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/green-recovery-2009-03.pdf</a>
- http://www.colorado.gov/recovery/
- http://www.recovery.gov/

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# **Questions?**

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