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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Rural Utilities Service

RUS BULLETIN 1778-1
RD-GD-2014-74

SUBJECT: Water Programs Emergency and Imminent Community Water Assistance Grants Project Selection Criteria

TO: State Directors, Rural Development

ATTN: Community Programs - Program Directors


EFFECTIVE DATE: Date of approval

OFFICE OF PRIMARY INTEREST: Assistant Administrator, Water and Environmental Programs

INSTRUCTIONS: This issuance replaces the September 26, 2003, version.

AVAILABILITY: This Bulletin is available on the Internet at
http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/RDU_Bulletins_Water_and_Environmental.html

PURPOSE: To provide project selection criteria for Emergency and Imminent Community Water Assistance Grants.



JACQUELINE M. PONTI-LAZARUK
Assistant Administrator
Water and Environmental Programs

1/27/2014
Date

1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this bulletin is to provide current project selection criteria that will be used when reviewing applications for the Water Program Emergency and Imminent Community Water Assistance Grant program.

2 APPLICABILITY

Agency officials must consider the priority items met by each application and the degree to which those priorities are met. The priority items are listed in the Project Selection Criteria Worksheet included as Exhibit A of this Bulletin. The application and supporting information submitted with the application will be used to determine applicant eligibility.

3 REVIEW

All applications will be processed and scored in the State Office and then reviewed for funding priority at the National Office. The priorities listed in 7 CFR 1778 and included in Exhibit A of this Bulletin will be used to rate applications and in selecting projects for funding. The completed Project Selection Criteria Worksheet, as provided in Exhibit A, will be placed in the case file for future reference. The State Program Official can recommend discretionary points by providing a written justification which is attached to this worksheet and included in the case file. The RUS Administrator may assign up to 30 additional points that will be considered in the total points

Emergency and Imminent Community Water Assistance Grant Program
Project Selection Criteria

State Program Official's Project Score _____

Name of Applicant _____

State _____ County _____

Congressional District No. _____

Grant Request \$ _____ Initial or Subsequent _____

<u>Priorities</u>	<u>Points</u>
A. Population: The proposed project will serve an area with a rural population:	
1. Not in excess of 1,500	30
2. More than 1,500 and not in excess of 3,000	20
3. More than 3,000 and not in excess of 5,000	15
4. Over 5,000	0
B. Income: The median household income of population to be served by the proposed project is:	
1. Not in excess of 70 percent of the statewide nonmetropolitan median household income	30
2. More than 70 percent and not in excess of 80 percent of the statewide nonmetropolitan median household income	20
3. More than 80 percent and not in excess of 90 percent of the statewide nonmetropolitan median household income	10
4. More than 90 percent of the statewide nonmetropolitan Median household income.	0

C. Pursuant to §1778.7 (c) (3), please select below the statement and points that most appropriately describe the impact of the project. The proposed project will correct the:

- | | |
|---|----|
| 1. Quantity of water available from private individually owned wells or other sources of water | 30 |
| 2. Quality of water available from private, individually owned wells or other individual sources of water | 30 |
| 3. Quantity of water available from an established system's source of water | 20 |
| 4. Quality of water available from an established system's source of water | 20 |

D. Imminent Decline: The proposed project will attempt to avert an imminent decline expected to occur during the one-year period following the filing of an application 0

E. Acute Shortage: Grants made in accordance with §1778.11(b) of 7 CFR 1778 to assist an established water system, remedy an acute shortage of quality water, or correct a significant decline in the quantity or quality of water that is available 10

F. Administrator's Discretionary Points (up to 30 points may be assigned):

Does the applicant's project address a drought-related natural disaster or emergency?

Yes No

Other: _____

State Program Official

Date

Instructions: In parts A-D circle the points for those priorities that are met by the proposed project and enter the total project score on page one of Exhibit A of RUS Bulletin 1778-1. The State Program Official can recommend discretionary points by providing a written justification and including it in the transmittal memorandum provided in RUS Bulletin 1778-2. Discretionary points will be assigned by the RUS Administrator.