

Program Summary
U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation
WaterSMART: Title XVI Water Reclamation & Reuse Feasibility Study
2017 Funding Cycle

<i>Agency Name</i>	U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation
<i>Program Name</i>	WaterSMART: Title XVI Water Reclamation & Reuse Feasibility Study
<i>Application Deadline</i>	January 5, 2017
<i>Eligible Applicants</i>	Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, or the Virgin Islands. State, regional, or local authorities; Indian Tribes or Tribal Organizations, Other entities such as water districts, wastewater district, or rural water district.
<i>Recipient Cost Share</i>	50% or more of total study costs
<i>Funding Amount</i>	Funding Group 1: Up to \$150,000 Funding Group 2: Up to \$450,000

Program Summary

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation’s (Reclamation) Title XVI program was created in an effort to provide communities with new sources of clean water while promoting water and energy efficiency and environmental stewardship.

The Title XVI Water Reclamation & Reuse Feasibility Study program (Feasibility) will assist communities in determining whether water recycling and reuse projects are feasible. Feasibility studies are funded jointly by Reclamation and project sponsors to develop and supplement water supplies through water reuse, thereby improving efficiency, providing flexibility during water shortages, and diversifying the water supply. Water reuse projects provide growing communities with new sources of clean water while promoting water and energy efficiency and environmental stewardship.

Eligibility

Eligible Applicants

Applicants must be located in one of the following locations:

Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, or the Virgin Islands.

State, regional, or local authorities; Indian Tribes or Tribal Organizations, Other entities such as water districts, wastewater district, or rural water district.

Eligible Projects

Studies that evaluate sources and uses of reclaimed water. This includes industrial, domestic, or agricultural wastewater, as well as naturally impaired ground or surface waters, including stormwater, seawater, or brackish water.

Application

Applicants are able to submit proposals under one of two funding groups. The two groups have different maximum award amounts as well as different timelines for when a project must be completed by.

Group 1

There is up to \$150,000 of Federal Funds available for group 1. It is expected that most awards will be given to applications in study Group 1. The length of these studies should be completed within 18 months of the award.

Group 2

There is up to \$450,000 available in Federal Funds for group 2. Projects awarded group 2 will generally have a larger scope, encompass a regional scale, or otherwise need more Federal funding to meet the requirements. The length of these studies should be completed within 36 months of award.

Awards will be made through either a grant or cooperative agreement. If a cooperative agreement is awarded, the recipient should expect Reclamation to have substantial involvement in the project. This may include collaboration and participation with the recipient in the management of the project and close oversight of the recipient's activities to ensure that the program objectives are being achieved.

Recipients may ask Reclamation to provide technical assistance, however the costs of this must be accounted for in the budget.

Application Format & Length

The total application package should be no more than 40 consecutively number pages in length with the technical proposal and evaluation criteria exceeding no more than 20 pages. The SF-424 forms, letters or project support, and official resolution will not be considered in the total page count.

The following elements must be included in the application to be considered complete:

- Mandatory Federal Forms
 - SF-424: Application for Federal Assistance
 - SF-424A: Budget Information–Non-construction Programs
 - SF424B: Assurances – Non-construction Programs
- Title Page
- Table of Contents
- Technical proposal & Evaluation criteria (20 page limit)
 - Executive summary
 - Study description
 - Evaluation criteria
- Required permits or approvals
- Letters of support
- Official resolution
- Study Budget
 - Funding plan and letters of commitment
 - Budget proposal
 - Budget narrative

All applicants must be registered in System for Award Management (SAM) before submitting the application.

Applications may be submitting electronically through Grants.gov or a hard copy may be mailed to Reclamation. Applicants must register through Grants.gov prior to submittal, which may take 7 – 21 day.

Evaluation

Technical Proposal Evaluation Criteria

1. Statement of Problems & needs (10 points)

- a. Points are based on the presence of watershed-based resource management problems and needs for which water reclamation and reuse may provide a solution. Describe the water resource management problems and needs in the area.

2. Water Reclamation & Reuse Opportunities (15 points)

- a. Describe how the proposal demonstrates that the feasibility study will explore opportunities for water reclamation and reuse in the study area.

3. Description of Potential Alternatives (15 points)

- a. Describe the extent to which the proposal demonstrates that the feasibility study will develop descriptions of water supply alternatives, including a proposed water reuse project and other water supply alternatives.

4. Stretching Water Supplies (15 points)

- a. Describe how the proposal demonstrates how the feasibility study will address activities that will help to secure and stretch water supplies.

5. Environment & Water Quality (15 points)

- a. Describe how the proposal demonstrates that the feasibility study will address the potential for a water reclamation and reuse project to improve surface, groundwater, or effluent discharge quality; restore or enhance habitat for non-listed species; or provide water or critical habitat for federally listed threatened or endangered species.

6. Legal & Institutional Requirements (10 points)

- a. Describe how the proposal demonstrates that the feasibility study will address legal or institutional requirements or barriers to implementing a project, including water rights issues and any unresolved issues associated with implementation of a water reclamation and reuse projects.

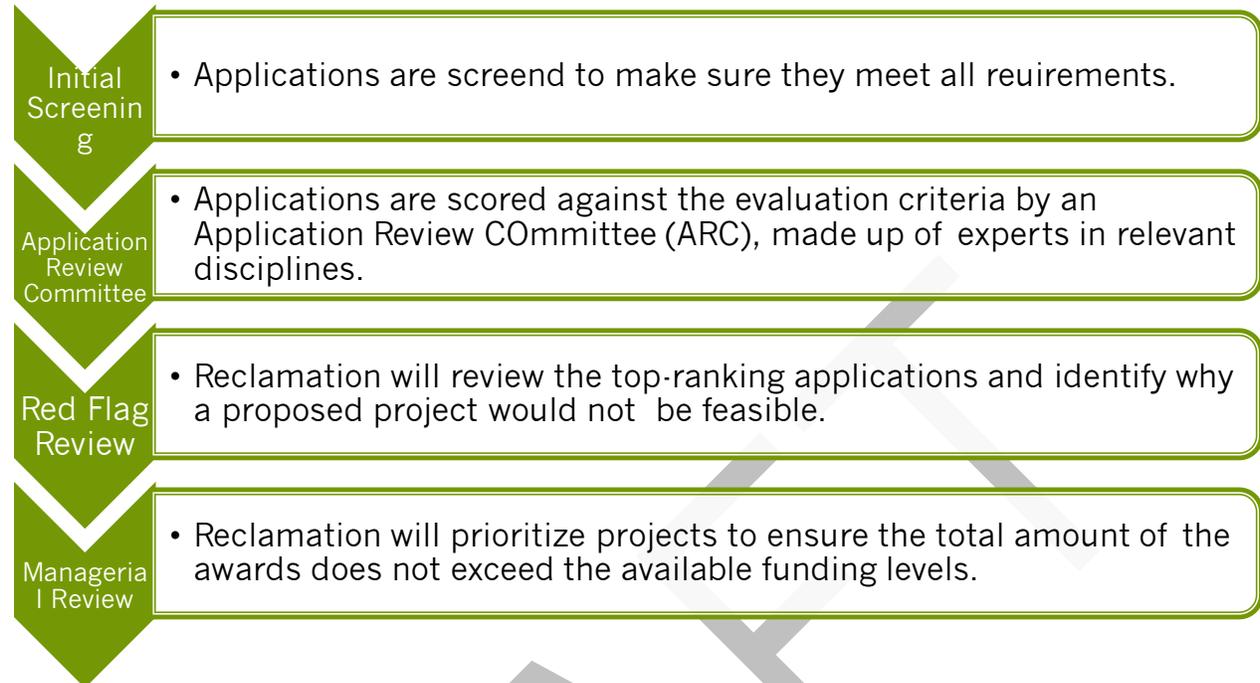
7. Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency (10 points)

- a. Describe how the proposal demonstrates that the feasibility study will address methods to incorporate the use of renewable energy or will otherwise address energy efficiency aspects of the water reclamation and reuse project being investigated.

8. Watershed Perspective (10 points)

- a. Describe how the proposal will demonstrate the feasibility study will address alternatives that promote and apply a regional or watershed perspective to water resource management.

Review & Selection Process



Successful applicants will receive notice by email in May 2017. This is not an authorization to begin performance.

Post Award Requirements

Environmental & Cultural Resources Compliance

All projects being considered for award funding will require compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) before any ground-disturbing activity may begin. Reclamation will provide a successful applicant with information once such compliance is complete.

Approvals & Permits

Recipients shall adhere to Federal, state, territorial, tribal, and local laws, regulations, and codes, as applicable, and shall obtain all required approvals and permits. Recipients shall also coordinate and obtain approvals from site owners and operators.

Reporting Requirements & Distribution

Award recipients will be required to submit the following reports during the term of the agreement. The specific terms and conditions pertaining to the reporting requirements will be included in the financial assistance agreement.

- **Financial Reports**

- Recipients will be required to submit a fully completed SF-425 Federal Financial Report form on at least a semi-annual basis and

with the final performance report. This form should be signed by a person legally authorized to obligate the recipient.

- **Program Performance Reports**

- The specific terms and conditions pertaining to the reporting requirements will be included in the financial assistance agreement. Interim performance reports submitted on at least a semi-annual basis, that include the following information:
 - A comparison of actual accomplishments to the milestones established by the financial assistance agreement for the period.
 - The reasons why established milestones were not met, if applicable.
 - The status of milestones from the previous reporting period that were not met, if applicable.
 - Whether the project is on schedule and within the original cost estimate.
 - Any additional pertinent information or issues related to the status of the project
 - Photographs documenting the feasibility study process are also appreciated.

- **Final Performance Report**

- A final performance report encompassing the entire period of performance that includes, but is not limited to the following information:
 - Whether the completed feasibility study was submitted to Reclamation for initial review
 - The reasons why established goals were not met, if appropriate
 - Additional pertinent information including, when appropriate, analysis and explanation of cost overruns or high unit costs.