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Alford, Bobby "Lee"
Lagod, Matthew; Purify, Johnnie
FY23 IUP and BIL Priorities follow up
Thursday, February 16, 2023 1:28:58 PM
image001.png image003.png 2022-DWSRF-IUP.pdf

Good afternoon, Lee!

Thank you again for your time today; we really appreciate it.

In this email, I'll recap the FY23 IUP comments and references, and I included the outstanding question about public comments we didn't get to today. And, either Matthew or myself will send an email addressing the COJ appropriation questions separately.

For the FY23 IUP, we discussed adding the following detail:

\* A notation between SRF / BIL funding rather than a group on the Project Priority List

\* Including additional project detail (on the Project Priority List) if Johnathan is able to transfer that information from the applications

\* Language referencing EPA's Strategic Goal of "Ensuring Clean and Safe Water for All Communities" (I've included examples at the bottom of this email

Regarding BIL Priorities:

\* I've attached the information we discussed about additional criteria for consideration when scoring for principal forgiveness (see page 6-7).

\* A question we didn't cover is related to the public comment period – If you could provide answers to the following

a. Process for reaching out to underserved communities to make them aware of the SRF program and the BIL funding?

*b.* What is the process for responding to comments and is this publicly available and easily accessible?

Please reach out with any additional comments or questions, and I'll touch base with you next week.

Thank you!

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## **Strategic Goals**

- Goal 1: Tackle the Climate Crisis
- Goal 2: Take Decisive Action to Advance Environmental Justice and Civil Rights
- Goal 3: Enforce Environmental Laws and Ensure Compliance
- Goal 4: Ensure Clean and Healthy Air for All Communities
- Goal 5: Ensure Clean and Safe Water for All Communities
- Goal 6: Safeguard and Revitalize Communities
- Goal 7: Ensure Safety of Chemicals for People and the

## maintenance for disadvantaged and low-income communities

U.S. EPA, in cooperation with the State, has designated the State Water Board as the "primacy agency" to implement and enforce the federal SDWA. As the state primacy agency, the State Water Board, through DDW, regulates more than 7,500 PWSs located throughout the State. To assist in this effort, through DDW, the State Water Board has also delegated its primacy authority to 30 local health departments, known as local primacy agencies (LPA), to regulate PWSs serving less than 200 service connections. The State Water Board also promotes safe and reliable drinking water through drought preparedness and water conservation measures; promoting water recycling projects; certifying drinking water treatment and distribution operators; supporting and promoting water system security; providing for small water system technical assistance (SWSTA) and mandating minimum standards for PWS technical, managerial, and financial (TMF) capacity.

The DWSRF program supports the <u>U.S. EPA Strategic Plan</u> Goal 1 (Core Mission), Objective 1.2: Provide for Clean and Safe Water – "Ensure waters are clean through improved water infrastructure and, in partnership with states and tribes, sustainably manage programs to support drinking water, aquatic ecosystems, and recreational, economic, and subsistence activities." Specifically, California established and is managing the DWSRF to provide affordable financing and other types of assistance to water systems to finance the cost of infrastructure projects to achieve or maintain compliance with SDWA requirements.

The DWSRF program supports the goals of the <u>California Water Action Plan</u> (Updated 2016), including more reliable water supplies and sustainably managed water resources system (water supply, water quality, flood protection, and environment) that can better withstand invertiable and unforeseen pressures in the coming decades. The DWSRF program also supports the California Water Action Plan actions of providing safe water

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