

Among other things, the draft policy calls for a strengthened commitment to meaningful public involvement, greater attention to the specific concerns and interest of affected people and entities, and use of a wider variety of public involvement techniques. In this regard, the RCRA Expanded Public Participation Rule can serve as an example to other EPA programs of how to achieve many of the goals of the policy. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control numbers for EPA's regulations are listed in 40 CFR part 9 and 48 CFR chapter 15.

The EPA would like to solicit comments to:

(i) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(ii) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(iii) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(iv) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Burden Statement: EPA estimated respondent burden hours for the information collection requirements associated with the pre-application meeting and the information repository requirements. The estimated number of likely respondents subject to public participation activities required under this collection of information is 33. The total annual burden to respondents, as estimated for all public participation reporting and recordkeeping activities under this collection of information is 3,005 hours. The total estimated average annual burden cost to respondents required to perform public participation activities under this information collection request is \$162,834 (\$159,425 in labor cost, \$546 in total capital cost, and \$2,863 in O&M cost). The estimates for O&M cost include preparation of multilingual notices and the purchase of a file cabinet to retain copies and other required documentation. Burden means the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or

provide information to or for a Federal agency. This includes the time needed to review instructions; develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; adjust the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; train personnel to be able to respond to a collection of information; search data sources; complete and review the collection of information; and transmit or otherwise disclose the information.

Dated: January 15, 2002.

Matthew Hale,

Deputy Director, Office of Solid Waste.

[FR Doc. 02-1498 Filed 1-18-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-M

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7130-8]

Guidelines on Awarding Section 319 Grants to Indian Tribes in FY 2002

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: EPA has developed guidelines for awarding Clean Water Act section 319 nonpoint source grants to Indian tribes in FY 2002. As was the case in FY 2002 and 2001, Congress has authorized EPA to award nonpoint source pollution control grants to Indian tribes under section 319 of the Clean Water Act in FY 2002 in an amount that exceeds the statutory cap (in section 518(f) of the Clean Water Act) of 1/3% of the total 319 appropriation. The guidelines are intended to assist all tribes that have approved nonpoint source assessments and management programs and also have "treatment-as-a-state" status to receive Section 319 funding to help implement those programs. The guidelines describe the process for awarding base funding in FY 2002, including submissions of proposed work plans. The guidelines also describe the competitive process and schedule to select watershed projects for FY 2002 funding, including submissions of watershed project summaries and the selection criteria for funding watershed projects.

DATES: The guidelines are effective January 22, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Persons requesting additional information or a complete copy of the document should contact Ed

Drabkowski at (202) 260-7009; drabkowski.ed@epa.gov; or U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (4503F), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Persons requesting additional information or complete copy of the document should contact Ed Drabkowski at (202) 260-7009; drabkowski.ed@epa.gov; or U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (4503F), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20460. The complete text of today's guidelines is also available on EPA's Internet site on the Nonpoint Source Control Branch homepage at <http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The full text of the *Guidelines on Awarding Section 319 Grants to Indian Tribes in FY 2002* is published below.

Dated: December 27, 2001.

Suzanne E. Schwartz,

Acting Director, Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds.

Memorandum

Subject: Guidelines on Awarding Section 319 Grants to Indian Tribes in FY 2002.

From: Suzanne E. Schwartz (for) Robert H. Wayland III, Director, Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds.

To: EPA Regional Water Division Directors, Regional Tribal Coordinators/Program Managers, Tribal Caucus, EPA Tribal Operations Committee.

I am very pleased to report that Congress has, for the third year in a row, authorized EPA to award nonpoint source pollution control grants to Indian tribes under section 319 of the Clean Water Act ("CWA") in FY 2002 in an amount that exceeds the statutory cap (in section 518(f) of the CWA) of 1/3% of the total 319 appropriation. This will enable all of the tribes that have approved nonpoint source assessments and management programs and "treatment-as-a-State" ("TAS") status (hereinafter referred to as "approved tribes") by January 30, 2002, to be eligible to receive Section 319 funding to help implement those programs.

The repeated allowance of increased funding for tribal nonpoint source ("NPS") programs in FY 2002 reflects Congress' continuing recognition that Indian tribes need and deserve increased financial support to implement nonpoint source programs that address critical water quality concerns on tribal lands. EPA shares this view and will continue to work closely with the tribes to assist them in developing and implementing effective

tribal nonpoint source pollution programs. To date, EPA has already approved 66 tribal nonpoint source management programs, covering more than 35 million acres of land (representing more than 71% of all Indian country), and we expect to approve additional programs in FY 2002.

As was the case last year, the new authorization to exceed $\frac{1}{3}\%$ applies only to the current year (FY 2002). As in the past, EPA will work with the tribes to continue to demonstrate that increased 319 funds for tribes can be used effectively to achieve water quality improvement. We were pleased by the high quality of the tribes' work plans that formed the basis of the grants awarded to tribes in FY 2001, which included both base grants for all approved tribes as well as grants for specific watershed projects awarded to forty-five of these tribes through a competitive process. We believe that the tribes and EPA succeeded in directing the FY 2001 grants towards high-priority activities that will produce on-the-ground results that provide improved water quality. We believe that this success warrants continued substantial investment of 319 grant dollars in FY 2002 to address the extensive NPS control needs throughout Indian country, as discussed below. In recognition of this fact, we are once again authorizing a total of \$6,000,000 to tribes for FY 2002.

Summary of Process for FY 2002 Grants to Tribes

In FY 2002, we will set aside \$6,000,000 for tribal nonpoint source grants. This amount is based on three factors:

1. We will continue to support all eligible tribes with base grants.
2. We will award base funding to eligible tribes as follows:
 - a. \$30,000 in base funding will be awarded to eligible tribes whose land area is less than 1,000 square miles (640,000 acres).
 - b. \$50,000 in base funding will be awarded to eligible tribes whose land area is greater than 1,000 square miles (640,000 acres).
3. We will award the remaining funds to eligible tribes through a competitive process to support the implementation of priority watershed projects.

Detailed Discussion of Process for FY 2002 Grants to Tribes

1. Base Funding

Each tribe that has an approved nonpoint source assessment and management program (and TAS status)

as of January 30, 2002, will receive base funding based on the following land area scale:

| Square miles (acres) | Base amount |
|---|-------------|
| Less than 1,000 sq. mi. (less than 640,000 acres) | \$30,000 |
| Over 1,000 sq. mi. (over 640,000 acres) | 50,000 |

EPA considered whether other factors such as population and water resources should be used, in addition to or instead of land area, to distinguish tribes with the greatest needs from other tribes. EPA recognizes that each of these factors is relevant and in some circumstances significant. EPA ultimately chose land area as the deciding factor for a cutoff because nonpoint source pollution is strongly related to land use; thus land area is a reasonable criterion that generally is highly relevant to identifying tribes with the greatest needs (recognizing that many tribes have needs that significantly exceed available resources).

The base funding as outlined above may be used for a range of activities that implement the tribe's approved NPS management program, including hiring a program coordinator; conducting nonpoint source education programs; providing training; and implementing, alone or in conjunction with other agencies or other funding sources, on-the-ground watershed projects. In general, this base funding should not be used for assessment activities.

Each tribe that requests base funding must submit to the appropriate EPA Regional office a proposed work plan that conforms to applicable legal requirements (see 40 CFR 35.505 and 35.507) and is consistent with the tribe's approved nonpoint source management program. This proposed work plan should clearly describe each significant category of activity to be funded; the roles of any federal, local, or other partners in completing each activity; the schedule and budget for implementing funded activities; and the outputs to be produced by performance of the activity. Outputs of activities should be quantified; results of projects should be measurable and indicators to do so clearly stated. Tribes should submit their proposed work plans to their appropriate Regional office by March 4, 2002. If a tribe does not submit an approvable proposed work plan by that date, its allocated amount will be added to the competitive pool, discussed immediately below, which will be used to fund tribal NPS program and watershed project priorities.

Regions should work with the tribes to expeditiously award the base grants. However, if the tribe will be awarded additional funds to implement a watershed project, as discussed below, the tribe or the Region may prefer combining the formal process for submission of the final application for both the base and competitive funds. Regions should confer with their tribes and endeavor to proceed in a manner and on a schedule that is most compatible with the tribes' and Regions' needs and preferences.

2. Competitive Funding: Process and Schedule to Select Watershed Projects for FY 2002 Funding

The remaining funds will be awarded to tribes that have approved nonpoint source management programs as of January 30, 2002, on a competitive basis to provide funding for on-the-ground nonpoint source watershed projects that are designed to achieve additional water quality improvement. Each selected project will be eligible to receive up to \$150,000, depending on the demonstrated need. The funds will be awarded using the process described below.

a. Watershed Project Review Committee

As we did for the FY 2001 grants, EPA will establish a Watershed Project Review Committee comprised of nine EPA staff, including three EPA Regional Nonpoint Source Coordinators, three EPA Regional Tribal Coordinators, two staff members of the Nonpoint Source Control Branch, and one staff member of the American Indian Environmental Office. The committee will then make funding decisions in accordance with the process described below.

b. Watershed Project Summaries

Tribes that have approved nonpoint source assessments and management programs as well as TAS status as of January 30, 2002, are invited to apply for watershed project funding by submitting watershed project summaries for proposed projects up to a maximum budget of \$150,000. (This funding is in addition to the base funding that each approved tribe will receive, as described above.) Tribes that apply for funding for watershed projects should submit a brief (e.g., 3–5 pages) summary of a watershed project implementation plan by March 4, 2002, to the appropriate EPA Regional office for initial screening. (Complete grant applications should not be submitted until after projects are selected, pursuant to review by the Watershed Project Review Committee, as described below.) The Regional office will, by March 18, 2002, forward the

proposals that meet the required criteria to EPA Headquarters for distribution to the Watershed Project Review Committee. (E-mail versions would be appreciated where possible because they can be shared among the reviewers most rapidly and easily.)

The watershed project summary should outline the nonpoint source pollution problem and the on-the-ground improvement to be addressed; the project's goals and objectives and the expected water quality benefit to the receiving waterbody; the lead implementing agency (either the tribe or another organization authorized by the tribe to be the project leader) and other agencies that will be authorized to expend project funds; the types of best management practices or measures that will be implemented; the projected implementation schedule; the project's budget items including construction costs; and the environmental performance measures that will be used to evaluate the success of the project. Each watershed plan summary should be clearly written with enough detail to show why the proposed project should be selected for competitive funding. This is critical to help ensure that the best projects are funded.

c. Selection Criteria for Funding Watershed Projects

In ranking the projects, each reviewer on EPA's Watershed Project Review Committee will consider the extent to which the following factors are present in each project.

1. The watershed plan summary includes a clear and specific identification of the on-the-ground improvement project and the water quality problem to be addressed, including the pollutants of concern and their sources (including critical areas to be treated, if known), and clearly describes the project to be constructed or installed.

2. Where relevant, the watershed project consists of implementation actions or load calculations that are intended to help restore an impaired waterbody for which an approved nonpoint source total maximum daily load (NPS TMDL) has been developed or the NPS components of mixed-source TMDL's. [Note: EPA recognizes that most tribes have not yet developed NPS TMDLs. However, Section 319 funding may be used to develop and implement approved NPS TMDLs for any 303(d) listed waterbody. Where a tribe has developed a relevant water quality standard and NPS TMDL and seeks Section 319 funding to assist in the implementation of the NPS TMDL, that should be considered by reviewers to be

a relevant factor supporting the funding request.]

3. The proposed project is listed as a priority implementation project in the tribal NPS management program.

4. The proposed project is designed to include cooperation and/or combination of resources with other agencies and other parties to provide additional technical and/or financial assistance to the project.

5. The watershed plan summary includes a clear and objective statement of the project's goals and objectives, in terms of controlling nonpoint sources and/or of improving/protecting water quality.

6. The summary identifies the best management practices or measures to be implemented and the location where these measures and practices will be implemented.

7. The summary outlines the construction cost of the project and the amount of Section 319 grant dollars that are requested, not to exceed \$150,000. Please note that a 40% non-federal match is also required. However, pursuant to section 35.635(b), EPA's Regional Administrator may increase the maximum Federal share if the tribe or intertribal consortium can demonstrate in writing to the satisfaction of the Regional Administrator that fiscal circumstances within the tribe or within each tribe that is a member of the intertribal consortium are constrained to such an extent that fulfilling the match requirement would impose undue hardship. In no case, will the Federal share be greater than 90 percent.

8. The summary includes an implementation schedule.

9. The summary includes a statement of how the project will be evaluated to determine its success and to derive lessons that will assist the tribe (and other tribes) in future projects.

d. Award of Grants for Tribal Watershed Projects

(i) *Award Decisions.*—The Watershed Project Review Committee will hold a conference call by April 8, 2002, to ensure that all Committee members fully understand and agree on how to objectively apply the criteria discussed above. Rankings will be developed by considering all of the factors as a whole, in accordance with a weighting system to be decided upon by the Committee.

By April 19, 2002, the Committee will compile the ranking of proposed watershed projects based on the selection criteria and then forward their rankings to the Nonpoint Source Control Branch at EPA Headquarters. Headquarters will tally the Committee's

rankings and then hold a conference call to provide a final opportunity for members of the Review Committee to discuss the rankings among themselves. By April 29, 2002, EPA will select the highest ranked proposals and announce to the Regions which tribes' watershed projects have been selected for funding. These tribes will be notified immediately by phone or e-mail, with a written letter to follow.

(ii) *Final Work Plans/Full Grant Applications.*—Once a Region and tribe have been notified of the amount that will be awarded to the tribe, they will negotiate a final work plan consistent with 40 CFR 35.507. After making appropriate changes, the tribe must submit a final work plan to the Region by June 10, 2002. If a tribe fails to or is unable to submit an approvable work plan by June 10, 2002, the 319(h) grant will instead be awarded to the next highest ranking unfunded application. Regions should endeavor to finalize the grant awards no later than 60 days after receipt of a complete grant application with an approvable work plan.

(iii) *Match Requirements.*—The match requirement for Section 319 grants is 40 percent of the approved work plan costs, which include both the base funding and competitive funding components discussed above. In general, consistent with 40 CFR 31.24, the match requirement may be satisfied by allowable costs borne by non-federal grants, by cash donations from non-federal third parties, or by the value of third party in-kind contributions.

EPA's regulations also provide that EPA may decrease the match requirement to as low as 10% if the tribe can demonstrate in writing to the Regional Administrator that fiscal circumstances within the tribe or within each tribe that is a member of the intertribal consortium are constrained to such an extent that fulfilling the match requirement would impose undue hardship. (See 40 CFR 35.635.)

In making grant awards to tribes that provide for a reduced match requirement, Regions should include a brief finding that the tribe has demonstrated that it does not have adequate funds to meet the required match.

Intertribal Consortia

Some tribes have formed intertribal consortia to promote cooperative work. An intertribal consortium is a partnership between two or more tribes that is authorized by the governing bodies of those tribes to apply for and receive assistance under this program. (See 40 CFR 35.502.) The intertribal consortium is eligible only if the

consortium demonstrates that all its members meet the eligibility requirements for the Section 319 program and authorize the consortium to apply for and receive assistance in accordance with 40 CFR 35.504. An intertribal consortium must submit to EPA adequate documentation of the existence of the partnership and the authorization of the consortium by its members to apply for and receive the grant. (See 40 CFR 35.504.)

Technical Assistance to Tribes

In addition to providing nonpoint source funding to tribes, EPA remains committed to providing continued technical assistance to tribes in their efforts to control nonpoint source pollution. During the past several years, EPA has presented many workshops to tribes throughout the United States to assist them in developing: (1) Nonpoint source assessments to further their understanding of nonpoint source pollution and its impact on water quality; (2) nonpoint source management programs to apply solutions to address their nonpoint source problems; and (3) specific projects to effect on-the-ground solutions. The workshops also have provided information on related EPA and other programs that can help tribes address nonpoint source pollution, including the provision of technical and funding assistance. EPA intends to continue providing nonpoint source workshops to interested tribes around the United States in FY 2002 and to provide other appropriate technical assistance as needed.

Non-Tribal Lands

The following discussion explains the extent to which Section 319(h) grants may be awarded to tribes for use outside the reservation. We discuss two types of off-reservation activities: (1) Activities that are related to waters within a reservation, such as those relating to sources upstream of a waterway entering the reservation, and (2) activities that are unrelated to waters of a reservation. As discussed below, the first type of these activities may be eligible; the second is not.

1. Activities That Are Related to Waters Within a Reservation

Section 518(e) of the CWA provides that EPA may treat an Indian tribe as a State for purposes of section 319 of the CWA if, among other things, "the functions to be exercised by the Indian tribe pertain to the management and protection of water resources which are * * * within the borders of an Indian reservation." 33 U.S.C. 1377(e)(2). EPA

already awards grants to tribes under section 106 of the CWA for activities performed outside of a reservation that pertain to reservation waters, such as evaluating impacts of upstream waters on water resources within a reservation. Similarly, EPA has awarded section 106 grants to States to conduct monitoring outside of state borders. EPA has concluded that grants awarded to an Indian tribe pursuant to section 319(h) may similarly be used to perform eligible section 319(h) activities outside of a reservation if: (1) The activity pertains to the management and protection of waters within the reservation, and (2) just as for on-reservation activities, the tribe meets all other applicable requirements.

2. Activities That Are Unrelated to Waters of a Reservation

As discussed above, EPA is authorized to award section 319(h) grants to tribes to perform eligible section 319(h) activities if the activities pertain to the management and protection of waters within a reservation and the tribe meets all other applicable requirements. In contrast, EPA is not authorized to award section 319(h) grants for activities that do not pertain to waters of a reservation. For off-reservation areas, including "usual and accustomed" hunting, fishing, and gathering places, EPA must determine whether the activities pertain to waters of a reservation prior to awarding a grant.

Milestones Summary

Date Tribes to be Eligible for 319 Grants: January 30, 2002
Tribes Submit Base Grant Work Plans to Region: March 4, 2002
Tribes Submit Competitive Grant Proposals to Region: March 4, 2002
Region Forwards Proposals to Headquarters: March 18, 2002
Review Committee Discusses Proposals: April 8, 2002
Review Committee Forwards Ranking Scores to HQ: April 19, 2002
Headquarters Notifies Regions/Tribes of Selections: April 29, 2002
Tribes Submit Final Grant Application to Region: June 10, 2002

Statutory and Regulatory Requirements

All section 319(h) grants will be awarded and administered consistent with the statutory requirements in section 319(h) and 518(e) of the Clean Water Act and applicable regulations in 40 CFR parts 31 and 35.

Conclusion

By once again lifting the 1/3% statutory cap in FY 2002, Congress has

continued to provide the tribes and EPA with an excellent opportunity to further tribal efforts to reduce nonpoint pollution and enhance water quality on tribal lands. EPA looks forward to working closely with the tribes to assist them in implementing effective nonpoint source programs in FY 2002 and creating a sound basis to assure that adequate funds will continue to be provided in the future.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me or have your staff contact Ed Drabkowski at (202) 260-7009 (or e-mail at drabkowski.ed@epa.gov).

cc: Director, American Indian Environmental Office, EPA; Jeff Besougloff, AIEO; Jerry Pardilla, National Tribal Environmental Council; Billy Frank, Northwest Indian Fisheries Council; Don Sampson, Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission; James Schlender, Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission; All Tribes that have an approved Nonpoint Source Management Program; Regional Water Quality Branch Chiefs; Regional Nonpoint Source Coordinators

[FR Doc. 02-1499 Filed 1-18-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Change in Bank Control Notices; Acquisition of Shares of Bank or Bank Holding Companies

The notificants listed below have applied under the Change in Bank Control Act (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)) and § 225.41 of the Board's Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.41) to acquire a bank or bank holding company. The factors that are considered in acting on the notices are set forth in paragraph 7 of the Act (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)(7)).

The notices are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The notices also will be available for inspection at the office of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing to the Reserve Bank indicated for that notice or to the offices of the Board of Governors. Comments must be received not later than February 5, 2002.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta
(Cynthia C. Goodwin, Vice President)
1000 Peachtree Street, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30309-4470:

1. *Wiley Thornton Gibson and Rebecca D. Gibson*, both of Union Springs, Alabama; to retain voting shares of USAL Bancorp, Inc., Union