

Attachment A: DWSRF Project Priority List Ranking Criteria

Nevada uses a ranking system to prioritize the order in which eligible projects will be financed as outlined in NAC 445A.67566 to NAC 445A.67574, inclusive. In general, priority is given to projects that facilitate compliance with national primary drinking water regulations applicable to the public water system under Section 1412 of the SDWA. Priority is also given to those projects which otherwise significantly further the health protection objectives of Section 1452 of the SDWA and for public water systems most in need on a per capita basis. The priority ranking system, described generally below, is described in detail in NAC 445A.67569. Projects are ranked into the following four classes, listed in order of priority.

1. Acute Health Risks;
2. Chronic Health Risks;
3. Infrastructure Rehabilitation; and
4. Refinance of existing debt that qualify under the DWSRF.

Points assigned, as specified in NAC 445A.67569, to address different problems within a class are additive. The initial ranking number is multiplied by the ratio of the State MHI to the public water system MHI. Within each of the above categories, the projects are ranked by type of public water system in the following order:

1. Community public water systems;
2. Non-profit, non-transient, non-community water systems;
3. Non-profit, transient, non-community water system;

On an annual basis, following a statewide solicitation for projects at the end of each calendar year, the Division develops a statewide priority list of water projects, which is made a part of this IUP. Placement on the priority list does not guarantee that a project will be funded. However, only those projects that are included on the priority list will be considered for possible funding. Any list, before it is adopted, must undergo the public review and comment process outlined in the regulations and must be approved by the BFWP.

The Division may revise the ranking of a project on an existing list at any time if information affecting the ranking of the project becomes available that was not available at the time the list was developed. The Division may, without obtaining the approval of the Board for Financing Water Projects or holding a public participation workshop, revise a priority list to correct minor typographical or technical errors.

If the scores for two or more projects are tied, ranking will be based on population, with the higher population given the higher ranking.

Eligible projects on the priority list may be bypassed if the applicant withdraws a project, requests that action be deferred, fails to meet submittal deadlines, or is not ready to proceed as determined by the Division. The projects that are bypassed will be provided notice by the Division and have an opportunity for objection.

Requests for financial assistance for emergency situations may be made to the Division at any time. In any emergency situation, an applicant may submit a loan application without waiting for a revision to the priority list. All other applicants on an approved priority list will be notified of an emergency request and be given an opportunity for any comments or objections. The Board for Financing will add the project to the priority list at the same time the Board approves the loan commitment.