

13.0 Project Priority Lists

13.1 Project Selection Process

Both federal and state laws required that New York develop a DWSRF Project Priority Ranking System. The priority ranking system establishes a list of eligible projects to be funded in a manner consistent with the SDWA such that the most serious risks to public health are given the highest priority. The DOH has given the highest priority to acute public health risks, particularly those related to microbiological organisms. The next priority was given to situations that pose chronic and longer-term risks to consumers, such as organic chemical contamination. The scoring criteria also consider issues that are related to infrastructure upgrading or replacement. The project ranking system also considers, as mandated by the SDWA, special allocations and restrictions on the use of DWSRF monies for disadvantaged and small systems. A detailed description of the Project Priority Ranking System and Scoring Criteria are included as Attachment I to this IUP.

13.2 Description and Use of Project Lists

Projects must be listed in the IUP to receive DWSRF financing. This IUP includes the following prioritized lists of eligible projects being considered for financing from the DWSRF:

- The **Project Annual List** for this IUP includes all projects for which an engineering report is submitted to the DOH by the IUP Listing Update Deadline. Projects must be included on this list to be considered ready to apply and to receive financing. DOH reserves the right to require an updated engineering report for projects that have been on the Annual List for more than two years or have an engineering report that DOH has determined is outdated. A project is deemed “ready” when all technical submittals have been received by the DOH. Projects that have submitted Listing Forms, but have not submitted an engineering report, have been included on the Multi-Year List.

The Project Annual List includes a subsidized funding line. Projects listed above this subsidy funding line comprise the Funding List, which includes all those projects expected to qualify for subsidized interest rate financing within the current IUP financing period. Provisions are made in the Project Priority Ranking System to by-pass projects that may not progress as expected (see Attachment I). The DOH may proceed with an accelerated by-pass of those non-hardship projects that have been on the Project Annual List, above the subsidy funding line for two or more consecutive IUP periods and fail to submit a complete financing application by December 31 of the funding cycle.

The project cost presented on the Project Annual List reflects the applicant’s estimated project cost.

For some larger projects there may not be sufficient funds available in a single IUP financing period for their complete financing. As necessary, DOH at its discretion and in consultation with the applicant will segment and/or phase finance on a cash flow basis and DWSRF program needs for larger projects over several IUP financing periods to maintain a statewide program of maximum effectiveness.

- The **BIL-GS Eligible Project List** includes all projects determined by DOH to be eligible recipients of BIL-GS funding (Section 8.2.1 of this IUP). Eligible projects will appear on the BIL-GS Eligible Project List in public health priority score order. **BIL-GS eligible projects will be awarded additional subsidy and/or interest free financing in amounts as outlined in Section 8.2.2 of this IUP, in public health priority score order until the available funds are exhausted.**

- The **BIL-EC Eligible Project List** includes all projects determined by DOH to be eligible recipients of BIL-EC funding (Section 8.3.1 of this IUP). Eligible projects will appear on the BIL-EC Eligible Project List in public health priority score order. **BIL-EC eligible projects will be awarded additional subsidy as outlined in Section 8.3.2 of this IUP, in public health priority score order until the available funds are exhausted.** Projects on the BIL-EC Eligible Project List are indicated as DAC and/or PFAS projects as applicable for reference.
- The **Multi-Year List** includes all eligible projects for which Listing Form forms have been submitted and reviewed, including those projects on the preceding Multi-Year List. The DOH accepts Listing Forms on a continuous basis. All eligible projects for which Listing Forms are submitted on or before the IUP Listing Update Deadline will be included on the Multi-Year List in the final IUP.

The Project Annual List, BIL-GS Eligible Project List, BIL-EC Eligible Project List, and the Multi-Year List follow at the end of this section.