

E-Bulletin Newsletter



To provide affordable financial assistance to communities within Wisconsin for water infrastructure projects that protect and improve public health and water quality for current and future generations.



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New Market Rate Effective July 1

The DOA increased the market rate for assistance agreements approved by a borrower’s governing body on or after July 1, 2022, that have a final maturity of 20 years or less to 3.900% and of 21-30 years to 4.100%.

Learn about interest rates for the Clean Water Fund and Safe Drinking Water Loan Programs at dnr.wi.gov/aid/documents/EIF/guide/interest.html. Please direct any questions or concerns to DOA staff at DOAEIF@Wisconsin.gov

Loan Interest Rate Determination	% of Market Rate	≤ 20 yr term	21-30 yr term
CWFP & SDWLP – For eligible projects of municipalities not meeting the below financial need criteria.	55%	2.145%	2.255%
CWFP & SDWLP – For eligible projects of disadvantaged municipalities meeting the following financial need criteria: < 10,000 population; and ≤ 80% of Wisconsin *MHI.	33%	1.287%	1.353%
CWFP – For eligible projects of extremely disadvantaged municipalities meeting the following financial need criteria: < 1,000 population; and ≤ 65% of Wisconsin *MHI.	0%	0%	0%
CWFP – For the portion of eligible projects for receiving and storing septage and capacity for treating septage, and non-traditional pilot projects, e.g., water quality trading.	0%	0%	0%
MARKET RATE	<i>*MHI = Median Household Income</i>	3.900%	4.100%

Upcoming Deadlines

July 30
SFY 2023 SDWLP priority score reevaluation requests due.

July 31
ALL required documentation due for SFY 2022 SDWLP projects.

September 15
Last recommended date for submitting rate applications to PSC for SFY 2023 SDWLP projects.

September 28
SFY 2022 SDWLP final loan closing date.

September 30
SFY 2023 CWFP Application deadline for Principal Forgiveness projects (reminder: submit plans and specifications to DNR Water Quality as well as with the CWFP application).

Visual Aids for Deadlines & Timelines

The Environmental Loans Deadlines and Due Dates During SFYs 2023-2024 ([PUB-CF-048](#)) handout is a visual aid of important dates for the Safe Drinking Water Loan and Clean Water Fund Programs that was created to help clarify:

- Start of State Fiscal Years (SFYs) in relation to calendar years.
- Overlapping SFY funding cycles and corresponding deadlines.
- Separate deadlines and timelines amongst programs.

The Deadlines During SFY 2023 handout is a visual aid that was created to emphasize the application process and loan closing timelines.

- CWFP Deadlines During SFY 2023 ([PUB-CF-046](#))
- SDWLP Deadlines During SFY 2023 ([PUB-CF-047](#))

DNR, Environmental Loans Section—CF/2, 101 S. Webster Street, PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921
dnr.wi.gov/aid/eif.html | CWFP phone: 608-358-3330 | SDWLP phone: 608-692-4227 | [staff directory webpage](#)



Program implementation details are outlined in chs. [NR 162](#) and [NR 166](#), Wis. Adm. Code. [Legal notice](#): This document is intended solely as guidance and does not contain any mandatory requirements except where requirements found in federal regulations or state statutes or administrative rules are referenced. Any regulatory decisions made by the Department of Natural Resources in any matter addressed by this guidance will be made by applying the governing federal regulations and state statutes and administrative rules to the relevant facts. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunity in its employment, programs, services, and functions under an Affirmative Action Plan. If you have any questions, please write to Equal Opportunity Office, Department of Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240. This publication is available in alternative format upon request, call 608-267-9481 for more information.

Build America, Buy America (BABA) Updates

On July 13, 2022, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) updated its frequently asked questions and answers about the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law's State Revolving Funds (SRFs) to include a Q&A on whether [Build America, Buy America \(BABA\)](#) requirements apply to all SRF-funded projects or only those that are designated as [federal equivalency](#). For the entire answer, see question seven under the [Equivalency topic](#).

- In short, **BABA only applies to SRF-funded projects designated as federal equivalency.**

Note that the [American Iron and Steel](#) requirements in the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Clean Water Act continue to apply to all SRF-funded projects, including non-equivalency projects.

Effective date

BABA went into effect on May 14, 2022. The EPA needs to finalize their implementation waiver language regarding the effective date of BABA before SRF-funded pro-

jects designated as federal equivalency will know whether or not they need to comply.

The EPA is currently reviewing the requested Public Interest Waiver of BABA for SRF Projects with Submitted Plans and Specifications. Review the [deliberative, pre-decisional draft](#) (for which the public comment period is now closed).

The EPA informed the Wisconsin DNR that the SRF BABA waiver is being revised and that it will be somewhat closer to the approved WIFIA waiver. Nothing is for certain at this time. For WIFIA-funded projects, the BABA requirements do not apply if the applicants have initiated project design planning prior to May 14, 2022.

Related information

Read related articles in [E-Bulletin Volume 11, Issue 05](#):

- Federal Equivalency Updates - bottom of pg. 2
- BABA is New Federal Requirement - middle of pg. 3

New DOA Capital Finance Director, Aaron Heintz

As of July 3, 2022, Aaron Heintz is Wisconsin's new Capital Finance Director. This position was previously held by Dave Erdman, who recently retired from state service. Before this promotion, Aaron served as Deputy Director for the Capital Finance Office since December 2019.

Please join us in congratulating Aaron on his promotion!

In 2005, Aaron began his career with the Department of Administration (DOA). Almost 10 years later, he was promoted to Environmental Improvement Fund (EIF) Manager, providing an in-depth understanding of the State Revolving Fund Loan Programs.

Aaron has served as a Capital Finance Officer and a Finance Program Administrator for the Capital Finance Office. In October 2018, he was promoted to Deputy Director of the Capital Finance Office. In 2019, Aaron briefly served as a Financial Analyst for EPA in Washington, D.C., after which he returned to Wisconsin.

Brian Pahnke, Administrator of the Division of Executive Budget and Finance at DOA, shares with us:

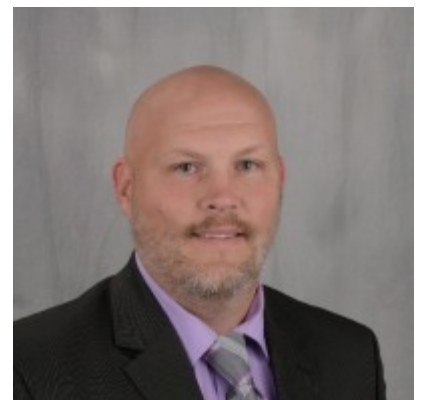
Aaron has played a significant role in his current position in managing the authorization, sale, issuance, and post-issuance compliance activities of several State of Wisconsin borrowing programs including General Obligation, General Fund Annual Appropriation, Master Lease Certifi-

cates of Participation, Environmental Improvement Fund Revenue, and Transportation Revenue.

In previous positions with the State, he has administered the State of Wisconsin Environmental Improvement Fund (EIF), a \$6 billion drinking water and wastewater infrastructure loan program that makes loans to Wisconsin municipalities and State of Wisconsin Petroleum Inspection Fee (PIF) Revenue Obligations, a revenue bond program whose proceeds were used to pay for soil and groundwater remediation costs under the Petroleum Environmental Cleanup Fund Award Program.

He has also long played an integral role in the State's Master Lease Program, which has assisted multiple state agencies with procuring capital equipment and has developed a complex analytical model for calculating debt service estimates on State of Wisconsin General Obligation debt that is used for budgetary purposes.

On a personal note, Aaron enjoys traveling and spending time with his wife and two young sons as they navigate campgrounds throughout the state in their RV.



Frank Fuja Retiring

After 32 years with the DNR, Frank Fuja is retiring. His last day in office will be Wednesday, August 10, 2022.

In his career with the DNR, Frank worked for the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Program as a Hydrogeologist and the Drinking Water and Groundwater (DG) Bureau as a Field Engineer and a Plan Review Engineer before spending the last 11 years with the Environmental Loans Section as our Southeast Region (SER) Construction Management Engineer (CME).



Frank remarked, "It's been a rewarding experience serving the residents of Wisconsin as an employee of the Department of Natural Resources."

Frank is a first-rate asset to our loan programs and the communities he serves. He specializes in lead service line replacements. He has helped DG review hundreds of Safe Drinking Water Loan Program Priority Evaluation and Ranking Forms/Formulas.

Please join us in congratulating Frank on his retirement!

We will miss Frank's thoroughness and friendly nature, and wish him the best in his retirement where we know he will continue his passion for bicycling, cross-county touring and bike packing.

Frank plans to enjoy retirement with family and as a 'grand-dad'. He and his wife, Margaret, hope to move back to Marquette, MI. Frank wants to travel the U.S. and Canada, including the Lake Superior Circle Tour, as well as visit Ireland, Poland, and Finland.

Frank's Projects Transfer to Brent

Frank Fuja's existing active projects will be transferred to Brent Binder, the new SER CME. Brent will be working closely with Frank ahead of his retirement. During this transition period, please include both Brent and Frank in any correspondences pertaining to SER CME work. Direct financial questions to the project's [DNR Loan Project Manager](#).

New CME, Brent Binder

We are pleased to introduce the newest member of the Environmental Loans Section, Brent Binder. He is the new Construction Management Engineer (CME) for the Southeast Region (SER). On July 5, 2022, Brent started his new position out of the DNR Service Center in Milwaukee, WI. Contact Brent at Brent.Binder@Wisconsin.gov and 608-444-3196.

Please give Brent a warm welcome!

Brent shares with us, "After graduating from UW-Madison with a degree in Agricultural Engineering, I worked for RMT as a staff engineer performing field services for LUST/UST removals, site assessments, and quarterly groundwater monitoring under the PECFA program. I joined DNR in 1999 with the Dam Safety and Floodplain Program overseeing the regulation of dams and land development in southeastern Wisconsin. A transfer to the Facilities & Lands - Engineering & Construction Management Section in 2010 came with the opportunity to design and deliver a range of capital development projects with a focus on dam and wetland projects statewide. I am excited to retool for this next phase of my career along with meeting and working alongside all of you.

I live with my wife, Sheila, on a rural property outside of Plymouth and together we travel as much as possible. As far as hobbies and interests are

concerned, chances are I have tried it and most likely enjoyed it. I currently spend the bulk of my free time around the yard growing fruits, nuts, and vegetables or in my wood shop."



Update Your Bookmarks

Please make sure your saved hyperlinks to Environmental Loans' publications, PDFs, images, and documents are correct. The department is in the process of migrating DNR's web assets to a content management system before the end of summer.

The Environmental Loans Section has updated the links to its web assets in its webpages, publications, and PDFs, but not in its forms or older E-Bulletins. The web addresses, aka URLs, for our web assets saved to the content management system typically start with **dnr.wi.gov/sites/default/files/topic/Aid/loans/**

Please make sure your saved links are up to date.

- Check your Favorites in Microsoft Edge
- Check your Bookmarks in Google Chrome
- Check your Internet Shortcuts in Internet Explorer

Depending on further instructions from the DNR, the Environmental Loans Section may need to update the links to its forms in its webpages, publications, and PDFs.

Please direct questions to the Environmental Loans Outreach Coordinator at Kay.Christensen@Wisconsin.gov.

Sign Up for E-Bulletins

If you have not already, sign up for E-Bulletins to read about the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), aka Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act; funding opportunities for emerging contaminants and lead service line replacements; the Build America, Buy America (BABA) requirement; federal equivalency projects; etc.

How to sign up

For timely delivery of future E-Bulletins and updates, please send an email request with your contact information to Kay Christensen, Outreach Coordinator, at Kay.Christensen@Wisconsin.gov. She will add you to the email distribution list. If you want, she can also remove you from this list serve.

Add to contacts

To ensure that E-Bulletin emails arrive in your inbox safely, you can add Suzan.Hasheider@Wisconsin.gov to your email contacts or Safe Sender list. This is the email address of our Environmental Loans Database Manager, Suzy Hasheider.

This is a screenshot of a recent E-Bulletin email, so you know what to look for in your inbox or junk email folder.

Past newsletters

Previous Environmental Loans E-Bulletin newsletters are available online at dnr.wi.gov/aid/loanNews.html.

Check Junk Email Folder

If you are signed up to receive E-Bulletin emails from the Environmental Loans Section but aren't receiving them, please check your junk, spam, and bulk email folders in case they are being delivered there instead of the inbox.

Not spam

Search for the email message you are missing in those email folders and then mark it as Not Spam.

- In both Gmail and Yahoo, check to see if the message has been sent to the Spam Folder, if so, select the message and click the Not Spam button.
- In Microsoft Outlook, find and select the message, click on the Actions menu, choose Junk Email, then select Add Sender to Safe Senders List.

-----Original Message-----

From: suzan.hasheider@wisconsin.gov <suzan.hasheider@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2022 9:52 AM

To: Christensen, Kay E - DNR <Kay.Christensen@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: DNR Environmental Loans Section News

This message was generated by the Environmental Loans Section of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Please click on the following link to view a new E-Bulletin related to the Clean Water Fund Program and/or the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program:

<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/aid/LoanNews.html>.