

Innovative Uses of DWSRF Set-Asides

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Mary Anna Peavey

Loan Program Coordinator, Idaho DEQ



Eric Crawford

Director, Financial Assistance Center, Missouri DNR



William F. Moody, P.E., BCEE

Director, MSDH - Bureau of Public Water Supply

A Look Back: How is the DWSRF Structured?

- Fed and state funded (20% state match)/5:1
- State implemented and operated
- Flexibility in assistance provided
 - Type of assistance: i.e. loans, technical assistance
 - Loan terms: i.e. interest rate, repayment period, projects funded
- Set asides - up to 31% of CAP grants – unique to DWSRF unlike CWSRF

The Set - Asides

- DWSRF Administrative Expenses
 - 4% Maximum
 - Used for cost associated with program implementation
 - Can be used for technical assistance to PWS for DWSRF
 - Can be banked for use in later years
 - Workplan required if use for activities outside initial administrative scope

The Set - Asides

- State Program Management – PWSS
 - 10% Maximum
 - Used to Administer the state PWSS program
 - Can be used to administer/provide technical assistance including source water protection
 - Development/Implementation of Capacity Development
 - Development/Implementation of Operator Certification
 - Requires additional dollar for dollar match
 - Can be banked for use in later years
 - Requires workplan from primacy program

The Set - Asides

- Small System Technical Assistance
 - 2% Maximum
 - Used to provide technical assistance to PWSs serving less than 10,000 pop
 - Can be banked for use in future years
 - Suggested use – support small system in seeking DWSRF
 - Can be used to support a TA team or contractors
 - Workplan required to outline activities

The Set - Asides

- Local Assistance and Other State Programs
 - 15% Maximum w/no more than 10% for any one activity
 - Used to develop/implement of local drinking water protection initiatives
 - No banking allowed
 - Can be used for loans w/ 20 year payoff – priority ranking
 - Land acquisition/conservation easements-source water protection
 - Assistance to CWS to implement incentive-based source water quality protection measures
 - Use to delineate and/or assess source water protection
 - Used to establish wellhead protection programs
 - Funding to PWS for capacity development assistance (T & F)
 - Workplan required to outline activities

State Perspectives and Set-Aside Uses



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund

William (Bill) F. Moody, P.E., BCCE
Director, Bureau of Public Water Supply

Before I begin...

I need to share a phrase that I believe has a profound effect on the country today...

That profound meaning extends to many languages...

圍棋狗 (Wéiqí gǒu) – Chinese

ゴ一犬 (Gō inu) - Japanese

Aller Chiens – French

Go Hunde – German

Vai Cani – Italian

Idź Psy – Polish

Перейти Собаки (Pereyti Sobaki) - Russian

이동 개 (idong gae) - Korean

¡Ir Perros! - Spanish

And in English...

GO DAWGS!!!



Mississippi State University

#1

Flexibility for Our Needs

- Historically, Mississippi has great compliance record for the state's PWSs
- In Mississippi, we are always looking for opportunities to provide our PWSs with help in areas that they may be deficient.
- With that thought process, Bureau staff get together to discuss needs facing state's PWSs.
- Who better to figure out solutions than the field staff who see it first hand



In Process Now...

- 2%
 - Intermediate Technical Assistance
 - Comprehensive Technical Assistance
 - Hands On Operator Training
 - PEER Review Program
 - Board Management Training and Coordination
- 15%
 - Wellhead Abandonment Coordinator
 - Wellhead Abandonment Contractor
- 10% - Using in full to support PWSS
- 4% - Using in full for DWSRF Administrative support



MS Capacity Assessment

- Some of you may recall that the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1996 required each state to establish rating criteria for **Technical, Managerial**, and **Financial** competence.
- Who is it applied to:
 - Community water systems
 - Non-community/Non-transient water systems
- Systems are rated annually during sanitary survey on a **0 - 5 point scale** like MS's public school systems
- Mississippi's program was designed to examine those above mentioned areas as an **indicator of problems** that the rated public water system should address.



Typical Capacity Assessment Questions

- Technical
 - Was the water treatment process functioning properly?
 - Is the water system overloaded?
- Managerial
 - Does the system have a long range improvements plan?
 - Appropriate policies and procedures in place?
- Financial
 - Water rate review policy present?
 - Does the system have a adopted budget available for review?



MS Capacity Assessment

- Gets the public involved in their water system
- Used it to identify our “problem children”
- Identifies specific areas of concern to plug in the right technical assistance provider



Intermediate Assistance

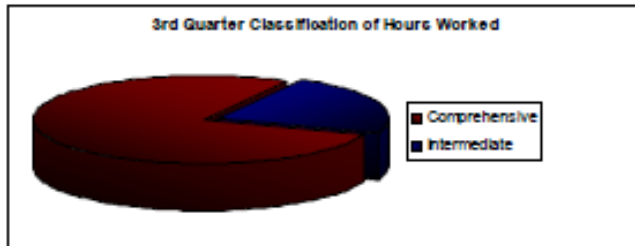
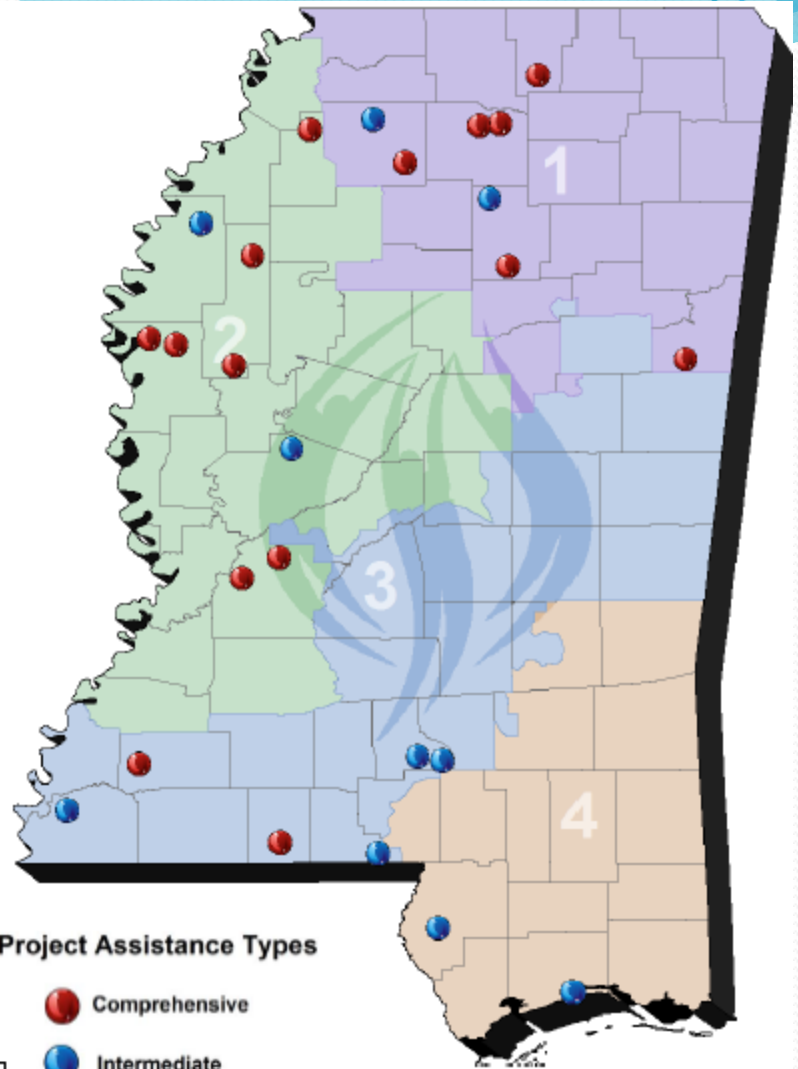
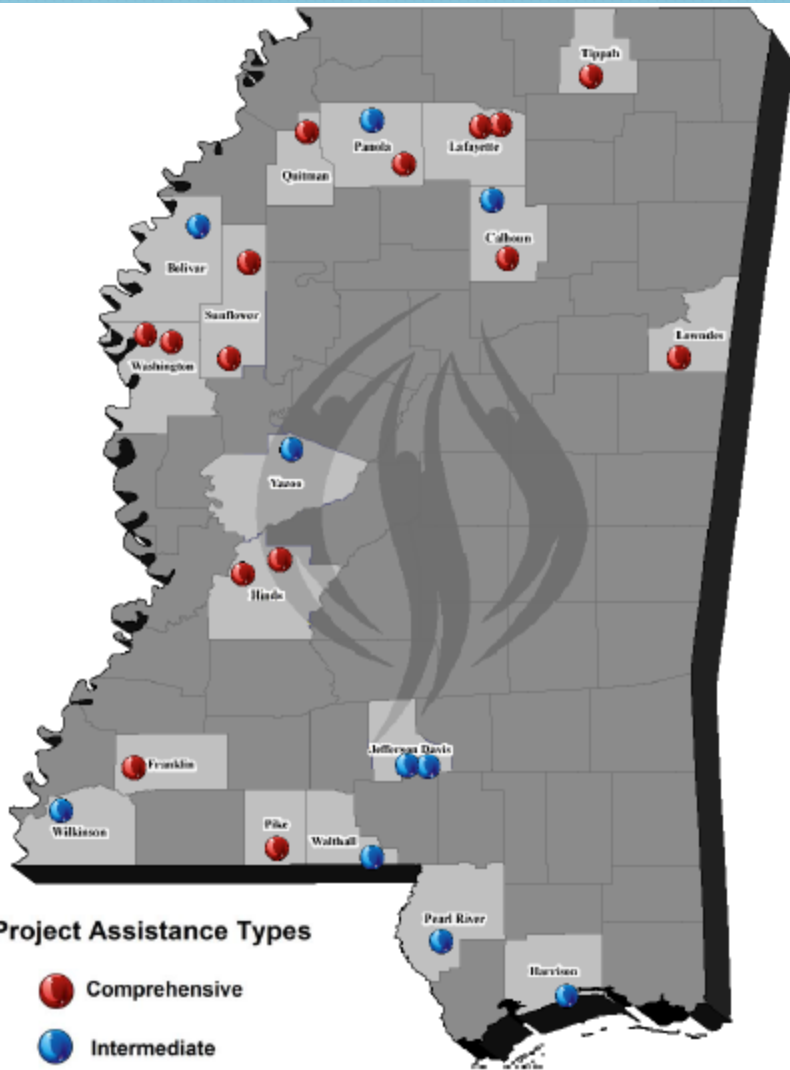
- With 2% set-aside
- Aims toward managerial and financial areas
 - Minor policy needs
 - Minor financial suggestions
- Eligible systems on MSDH list compiled from latest capacity assessment scores given to RCAP – CRG
- Individual workplans developed for the system
- Contact hours varies – average 6-10



Comprehensive Assistance

- With 2% set-aside
- Aims toward managerial and financial areas
 - Major policy needs
 - Major financial suggestions – rate analysis, long term planning, audits
- Eligible systems from MSDH list – similar to Interm.
- Assistance during contract year
- Comprehensive assistance all year long
- Geared for the most problematic system
- Allows for time consuming needs for the system





PEER Review

- With 2% set-aside
- Performed with contract with MS Rural Water
- 1 day in length
- Provides opportunity for system to be independently “inspected” prior to MSDH’s annual inspection – voluntary
- Operator to operator interaction w/Officials
- System name remains unknown to MSDH
- Report to provided to system & MSDH that includes suggested action(s)
- Operator focused and not just a capacity assessment review



Hands-On Operator Trainings

- With 2% set-aside
- Graying of the industry stated by EPA, AWWA, etc.
 - Retirements
 - Deaths
- Standard certification misses day to day activities
- Specialized training for system operators
 - Some operators lack key skills
 - Potential cost savings to the systems they operate
- “Hands-On” approach that combines classroom instruction with a hands-on instruction
- Potential cost savings by learning new skills





Wellhead Abandonment Issues

- Mississippi is a groundwater state
- Through the original source water assessment many wells were identified as high and medium risk to potential contamination
- Most systems lack the disposable income to abandon old wells
- Wanted it to be easy for PWSs
- Significant deficiencies with wells began with GWR
- Is accomplished through two contracts
 - Coordination contract
 - Well decommissioning contractor



Coordination Contractor

- With 15% set-aside
- Meet with MSDH to review wells needing to be decommissioned
- Contacts PWSs with the risky wells to encourage participation
- Incorporates newly identified wells and wells designated as significant deficiencies from surveys into a priority list
- Makes periodic visits to well sites including the final observation at the conclusion of decommissioning
- Helping in resolving transient situations
- Processes paperwork back to MSDH



Well Decommissioning Contractor

- With 15% set-aside
- License well driller
- Is fairly mobile
- Send preliminary cost estimate for review
- We send notice to proceed
- Coordinator receives processes paperwork
- Have abandoning wells in this order
 - Wells sited as affecting system compliance
 - Wells deemed high risk then medium
- Squeeze in as many as possible



The Future of MS set-asides

Depends on long term funding...

- Auto Dialer?
- Set-asides that allow capacity assessment uses may lend to salary adjustments
- Planning grants for small public water supplies





Questions

