



April 1, 2020

Re: Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act (ASADRA)

To Whom It May Concern:

We are pleased to announce the opening of the call for projects for the 2020 ASADRA Intended Use Plan (IUP). This supplemental appropriation provides low-interest financing for communities impacted by Hurricane Michael. Potential projects include:

- Projects that prevent interruption of water distribution system operation or collection system operation in the event of a flood or natural disaster.
- Projects that prevent floodwaters from entering a treatment works.
- Projects that maintain the operation of a drinking water treatment plant, intake, or well in the event of a flood or natural disaster.
- Projects that preserve and protect water or wastewater system equipment in the event of a flood or natural disaster.
- Planning projects that assess a treatment works' vulnerability to flood damage or that analyze the best approach to integrate system and community sustainability/resiliency priorities in the face of a variety of uncertain futures, including natural disasters and more frequent and intense extreme weather events.

To be eligible for ASADRA funding, submit an ASADRA pre-application via GEFA's website by Friday, April 24, 2020. A pre-application does not obligate you to apply, nor does it guarantee funding. The pre-application and additional guidance are available at <https://gefa.georgia.gov/water-resources/additional-supplemental-appropriations-disaster-relief-act-call-projects>.

Please note the affordability criteria on page five of this letter. Criteria and formulas developed by the Environmental Finance Center at the University of North Carolina will be utilized to provide principal forgiveness to communities with the greatest need.

Please contact the Water Resources Division at 404-584-1000 or waterresources@gefa.ga.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Clark". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kevin Clark
Executive Director

**Georgia Environmental Finance Authority
2020 ASADRA Call for Projects
Project Submission Guidelines and Program Requirements**

All pre-applications must be submitted via <https://gefa.georgia.gov/water-resources/additional-supplemental-appropriations-disaster-relief-act-call-projects>. Pre-applications will only be accepted via the GEFA website.

Deadline	Pre-application Website	Questions
5:00 p.m., April 24, 2020	https://gefa.georgia.gov/water-resources/additional-supplemental-appropriations-disaster-relief-act-call-projects	404-584-1000

Who Can Apply For ASADRA Loans

- Georgia cities, counties, or water authorities that were damaged, demonstrated impact, or had a loss or disruption of a mission-essential function, including loss of function where there was potential impact to public health, caused by Hurricane Michael.

Minimum Criteria for Eligibility

- Only those counties and municipalities certified as Qualified Local Governments by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) and the water and sewer authorities within those certified governments may receive funding under this program.
- Only applicants within counties that have current DCA-certified Service Delivery Agreements (HB 489) may receive funding under this program and the proposed project must be consistent with the verified strategy.
- Applicants must be in compliance with state audit requirements. Compliance questions can be answered at audits.state.ga.us.
- All applicants within the Metro North Georgia Water Planning District (MNGWPD) must be certified by the director of the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) as either being in compliance or making a good faith effort to comply with all MNGWPD plans and/or enforcement measures.
- Project must conform to applicant’s regional Water Development and Conservation Plan, once adopted.
- All applicants must adopt and enforce the state minimum standard plumbing code provisions outlined in O.C.G.A. Section 8-2-3 in order to be eligible to receive funding.

Eligible Drinking Water ASADRA Projects

- Physical “hardening” or waterproofing of pumps and electrical systems at pump stations and other components throughout the distribution system;
- Relocation of critical equipment, pump stations, or other distribution system facilities to less flood prone areas;
- Construction of interconnections with neighboring water systems which could provide for an emergency water supply;
- Installation of physical barriers around pump stations, treatment processes, or distribution system facilities;
- Installation of back-up generators or alternative energy sources at pump stations or other distribution system facilities.
- Construction of green infrastructure that reduces the risk of flooding by reducing stormwater runoff;
- Risk and vulnerability assessments.

Note: See “ASADRA Drinking Water Eligibilities” for a comprehensive list of eligible projects

Eligible Clean Water ASADRA Projects

- Physical hardening or waterproofing of pumps, electrical equipment, and facilities at treatment works and throughout the collection system;
- Relocation of critical equipment, pump stations, or other collection system facilities to less flood prone areas;
- Regionalization project that enables diversion of wastewater flows to an alternate system for emergency wastewater collection and treatment services;
- Projects that prevent floodwaters from entering a treatment plant or pump stations;
- Installation of back-up generators or alternative energy sources that service pump stations or collection system facilities;
- Construction of green infrastructure that reduces the risk of flooding by reducing stormwater runoff;
- Risk and vulnerability assessments.

Note: See “ASADRA Clean Water Eligibilities” for a comprehensive list of eligible projects

Project Priority and Rank

Project ranking is based on factors including readiness to proceed, compliance benefits, and project benefits. Projects will be listed in priority order on the ASADRA Fundable Priority List, incorporated into the IUP, and submitted to EPA. GEFA will score all pre-applications and rank projects in descending order. It is important that you complete the pre-application in its entirety, including all supplemental attachments, to ensure the project is accurately scored.

ASADRA Principal Forgiveness Eligibility

GEFA's affordability criteria is based on weighted factors for median household income (MHI), unemployment rate, and population trends of the borrower. The affordability criteria are included on page five of this document. For projects that receive principal forgiveness, the amount forgiven is provided in proportion to the amount awarded at each principal advance. To qualify for the full amount of principal forgiveness, all funds must be advanced.

ASADRA Incentives

Projects funded through the ASADRA may be eligible for the following financial incentives:

- 0% interest rate on ASADRA loans
- Waived origination fee
- 0% construction interest

Proposed Timeline for Funding

April 1, 2020 – 2020 Call for projects opens

April 24, 2020 – Deadline to submit pre-application via GEFA's website at gefa.georgia.gov

May 8, 2020 – IUP posted on GEFA's website

May 13, 2020 – *Tentative* public meeting for the 2020 ASADRA IUP and Fundable Priority List

May 15, 2020 – IUP submission to EPA for approval

FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS

Davis-Bacon Wage Requirements

Davis-Bacon wage rate requirements apply to all projects funded by the ASADRA program. The Borrower shall insert in full in any contract in excess of \$2,000 that is entered into for actual construction, alteration and/or repair of a public treatment works, financed in whole or in part from the ASADRA program, and that is subject to the requirements of the Davis-Bacon Act, the document entitled "Supplemental General Conditions for Federally-Assisted State Revolved Fund," which can be located on the GEFA website at gefa.georgia.gov/loan-documents.

American Iron and Steel

American Iron and Steel (AIS) requirements apply to any project that is funded by the ASADRA program. The Borrower shall insert in full in any contract that is entered into for construction, alteration, and/or repair of a public treatment works, financed in whole or in part from ASADRA program, the document entitled "American Iron and Steel (AIS) Special Conditions," which can be located on the GEFA website at gefa.georgia.gov/loan-documents.

State Environmental Review Process

All projects funded by the ASADRA program must undergo an environmental review via the EPA-approved State Environmental Review Process (SERP). This environmental review is conducted by EPD through either a Categorical Exclusion (CE) or Notice of No Significant Impact (NONSI) process. This process is designed to address issues such as environmental impact, potential historical preservation issues, potential endangered species concerns, and permit compliance. Borrowers should review the "Guidance Document for Project Requirements" document, which can be located on the GEFA website at gefa.georgia.gov/loan-documents.

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)

As a part of GEFA's loan agreement, loan recipients are required to encourage the participation of minority- and women-owned businesses in all project subcontracts. The state's ASADRA percentage goals through September 30, 2020, are 4 percent for Minority Business Enterprises (MBE) and 4 percent for Women Business Enterprises (WBE). Borrowers should review the "Supplemental General Conditions for Federally-Assisted State Revolved Fund," which can be located on the GEFA website at gefa.georgia.gov/loan-documents.

Georgia Environmental Finance Authority 2020 ASADRA Affordability Criteria

GEFA's affordability criteria uses data on median household income, unemployment rate, percentage not in labor force, poverty rate, percentage on Social Security, percentage on Supplemental Security Income (SSI), percentage with cash public assistance, percentage with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), age dependency ratio, and population trend from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2018 American Community Survey. The borrower's data is categorized in percentiles. GEFA will award principal forgiveness to Georgia's most disadvantaged communities.

1. Median Household Income (MHI)

State Percentiles	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile
MHI	\$31,701	\$40,155	\$52,234

2. Unemployment Percent

State Percentiles	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile
Unemployment Percent	2.20%	3.6%	5.10%

3. Percentage not in the Labor Force

State Percentiles	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile
Percentage not in Labor Force	36.6%	43.8%	50.9%

4. Poverty Rate

State Percentiles	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile
Poverty Rate	13.2%	21.2%	28.7%

5. Percentage on Social Security

State Percentiles	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile
Percentage on Social Security	28.9%	35.7%	42.6%

6. Percentage on SSI

State Percentiles	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile
Percentage on SSI	3.9%	6.8%	9.9%

7. Percentage with Cash Public Assistance

State Percentiles	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile
Percentage with Cash Public Assistance	0.5%	1.3%	2.5%

8. Percentage with SNAP

State Percentiles	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile
Percentage with SNAP	11.6%	18.8%	26%

9. Age Dependency Ratio

State Percentiles	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile
Age Dependency Ratio	57.8	67	77.3

10. Population Trend

The following will be the categories used for determining scoring for change in population from 2011 to 2018.

- Positive growth or no growth
- Between -0.01% to -1%
- Between -1.01% and -2%
- Greater than -2%

**Georgia Environmental Finance Authority
2020 DWSRF ASADRA Call for Projects
Project Ranking Criteria**

Projects will be rated in four categories to determine eligibility and selection for funding under the DWSRF Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act (ASADRA) Program.

DWSRF ASADRA Project Ranking Criteria

DWSRF Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act Scoring System (maximum 100 points)

1. Readiness to proceed (maximum 15 points)
2. Public health and water quality compliance benefits (maximum 10 points)
3. Project benefits (maximum 70 points)
 - a. Emergency water supply and management benefits
 - b. Flood reduction benefits
 - c. Energy production and efficiency benefits
4. Other applicant or project attributes (maximum 5 points)

ASADRA Scoring System – Detailed Breakdown

1. Readiness to Proceed

- | | |
|---|--------|
| a. State Environmental Review Process (SERP) complete (if selected you must attach the approved planning documents for the NONSI or CE) | 10 pts |
| b. NONSI or CE issued (if selected, you must attach the issuance) | 5pts |

2. Public Health and Water Quality Compliance Benefits

- | | |
|---|--------|
| a. Project is needed to fully address deficiencies documented in an enforcement action, e.g. Notice of Violation, Consent Order, Administrative Order, etc. (Order # _____) | 10 pts |
|---|--------|

3. Project Benefits

Emergency Water Supply and Management Benefits

CHECK ALL BELOW THAT APPLY

- | | |
|---|---------|
| a. Project includes construction of interconnections with neighboring water systems which could provide an emergency water supply. | 10 pts |
| b. Project includes installation of chemical storage safety equipment (e.g. chemical release alarms). | 2.5 pts |
| c. Project includes installation of shut-off valves. | 2.5 pts |
| d. Project includes construction of larger capacity water or chemical storage facilities (e.g. raw water reservoirs, backwash tanks, contact basins). | 5 pts |
| e. Project includes installation of a SCADA system to allow remote or multiple system operation locations. | 5 pts |

Flood Reduction Benefits

CHECK ALL BELOW THAT APPLY

- | | |
|---|--------|
| a. Project includes relocation of facilities to less flood prone areas. | 10 pts |
|---|--------|

- b. Project includes construction of physical barriers around a facility, floodproofing/sealing of a structure, or waterproofing of electrical equipment. 10 pts
- c. Project includes construction of green infrastructure, natural systems, or features to reduce the risk of flooding around a treatment facility. 5 pts

Energy Production and Efficiency Benefits

CHECK ALL BELOW THAT APPLY

- a. Project includes installation of back-up energy supply or alternative energy sources. 10 pts
- b. Project will replace damaged equipment with more energy-efficient equipment. 5 pts
- c. Project will install a larger capacity fuel storage tank for back-up generators. 5 pts

4. Other Applicant or Project Attributes

- a. Applicant maintains a central asset inventory (with descriptive information about assets such as age, size, construction materials, location, installation date, condition, and remaining useful life) and a complete water system map. 5 pts

* GEFA reserves the right to verify any information submitted within the pre-application.

**Georgia Environmental Finance Authority
2020 CWSRF ASADRA Call for Projects
Project Ranking Criteria**

Projects will be rated in four categories to determine eligibility and selection for funding under the CWSRF Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act (ASADRA) Program.

CWSRF ASADRA Project Ranking Criteria

CWSRF Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act Scoring System (maximum 100 points)

1. Readiness to proceed (maximum 10 points)
2. Public health and water quality compliance benefits (maximum 10 points)
3. Project benefits (maximum 75 points)
 - a. System operation and management benefits
 - b. Flood reduction benefits
 - c. Energy production and efficiency benefits
4. Other applicant or project attributes (maximum 5 points)

ASADRA Scoring System – Detailed Breakdown

1. **Readiness to Proceed**
 - a. State Environmental Review Process (SERP) complete (if selected, you must attach the approved planning documents for the NONSI or CE). 10 pts
 - b. NONSI or CE issued (if selected, you must attach the issuance). 5pts

2. **Public Health and Water Quality Compliance Benefits**
 - a. Project is needed to fully address deficiencies documented in an enforcement action, e.g. Notice of Violation, Consent Order, Administrative Order, etc. (Order # _____) 10 pts

3. **Project Benefits**

System Operation and Management Benefits
CHECK ALL BELOW THAT APPLY

 - a. Project includes diversion of wastewater flows to an alternate system for emergency wastewater collection and treatment. 10 pts
 - b. Project includes installation of a SCADA system to allow remote or multiple system operation locations. 5 pts
 - c. Project includes installation of chemical storage safety equipment (e.g. chemical release alarms). 2.5 pts
 - d. Project includes installation of redundant collection system components and equipment. 2.5 pts

Flood Reduction Benefits
CHECK ALL BELOW THAT APPLY

 - a. Project includes relocation of facilities to less flood prone areas. 10 pts
 - b. Project includes construction of physical barriers around a facility, floodproofing/sealing of a structure, or waterproofing of electrical equipment. 10 pts

- c. Project includes construction of green infrastructure, natural systems, or features to reduce the risk of flooding around a collection system facility. 5 pts
- d. Project will correct significant infiltration and inflow or combined sewer overflows. 5 pts

Energy Production and Efficiency Benefits

CHECK ALL BELOW THAT APPLY

- a. Project includes installation of a back-up generator that will serve a pump station or other collection system facility. 10 pts
- b. Project will replace damaged equipment with more energy-efficient equipment. 5 pts
- c. Project will install a larger capacity fuel storage tank for back-up generators. 5 pts

4. Other Applicant or Project Attributes

- a. Applicant maintains a central asset inventory (with descriptive information about assets such as age, size, construction materials, location, installation date, condition, and remaining useful life) and a complete sewer system map. 5 pts

* GEFA reserves the right to verify any information submitted within the pre-application.