

Date	Feb-15	Mar-15	Apr-15	May-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Aug-15	Sep-15	Oct-15	Nov-15	Dec-15	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	May-16	Jun-16	Total	
Option One: Accelerate Existing Process	Initial Application Opens (50 days)		Funding Application Opens (100 days)			Compliance Certification (15 days)	Application Review and Prioritization (45 days)	WTB Committee and Board Process (30 days)	NMFA LOC Review of Prioritized Project List (30 days)	NMFA LOC Endorsement			Legislative Session (30 days)	Legislation Signed	Spring Questionnaire	Project Management Team Recommendations	WTB Decision (30 days)	NMFA Decision (30 days)	17 months
Option Two: Revert to Prior Process				Full Application Opens (35 days)	Application Review and Prioritization (70 days)		Spring Questionnaire								14 months				
Option Three: Hybrid Process				Funding Application opens (60 days)	Application Review & Prioritization (45 days)		Readiness Application / Regulatory Review (6 months)								Regulatory Determination				14 months

Option One: Accelerate Existing Process

- Amend WTB rules to provide for presentation of prioritized list to Legislature
- Applicants given 150 days total to complete application & regulatory compliance
- Complete applications due in mid summer
- Projects culled based upon regulatory compliance prior to prioritization
- Prioritization occurs in late summer based upon Tier II criteria:

Tier II Pipe Criteria (each question assigned a reviewing agency)

Included in an ISC-accepted Regional Water Plan? (OSE)	5
Regional Nature of Project (NMED)	15
Local Contribution: Investment & Cost Sharing (NMFA)	10
Leveraging / Loan Component (NMFA)	10
Attention to Human Health and Safety (NMED)	10
Attention to Wildlife and Environmental Compatibility (G&F)	10
Contribution to Water Quality Improvement (NMED)	10
Integrated Water Conservation and Management (OSE)	10
Project Design and Execution (NMED)	10
Readiness & Long Term Stewardship (NMED)	10
Total Possible Points	100

Tier II Non-Pipe Criteria (each app reviewed by Dept. of Ag, EMNRD, NMED and G & F)

Contribution to Watershed Improvement	50
Attention to Health and Safety Concerns	10
Attention to Wildlife and Environmental Compatibility	10
Local Contribution	10
Project Design & Execution	10
Readiness & Long-term Project Stewardship	10
Total Possible Points	100

- Applicants submit Spring Questionnaire to capture updated project information (for award scope and sizing)
- Project Management Team reviews projects
- Awards made in order of priority
- Award size and scope based upon functional, stand-alone phases that can be achieved in 18 months
- Applicants not compliant with Executive Order 2013-006 will be by-passed

Option Two: Revert to Previous Process

- Amend WTB rules to provide for presentation of prioritized list to Legislature
- Applicants given 35 days to complete full application
- Complete applications due in mid-summer
- Projects culled on indicators of applicant governance and readiness ("Tier I")
- Prioritization occurs in late summer based upon Tier II criteria
- Applicants submit Spring Questionnaire that captures updated information
- Project Management Team reviews projects
- Awards made in order of priority
- Award size and scope based upon functional, stand-alone phases that can be achieved in 18 months
- Applicants not compliant with Executive Order 2013-006 will be by-passed
- Applicants lacking water rights and other certain readiness will be by-passed

72-4A-5. Board; duties.

The board shall:

A. adopt rules governing terms and conditions of grants or loans recommended by the board for appropriation by the legislature from the water project fund, giving priority to projects that have been identified as being urgent to meet the needs of a regional water planning area that has a completed regional water plan that has been accepted by the interstate stream commission; that have matching contributions from federal or local funding sources available; and that have obtained all requisite state and federal permits and authorizations necessary to initiate the project; (emphasis added)

B. authorize qualifying water projects to the authority that are for:

- (1) storage, conveyance or delivery of water to end users;
- (2) implementation of federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 collaborative programs;
- (3) restoration and management of watersheds;
- (4) flood prevention; or
- (5) water conservation or recycling, treatment or reuse of water as provided by law; and

C. create a drought strike team to coordinate responses to emergency water shortages caused by drought conditions.

History: Laws 2001, ch. 164, § 5; 2003, ch. 139, § 3; 2003, ch. 365, § 1; 2011, ch. 64, § 3.

Option Three: Hybrid Process

- Amend WTB rules to provide for presentation of prioritized list to Legislature
- Applicants given 60 days to complete Project Application
 - Project description
 - Project costs
 - Secured leveraging of local and federal funding
 - Project benefits: environmental, regional partners, populations served, human health and safety
 - Contribution to water quality improvement
 - Integrated water conservation and management
- Project applications due in mid-summer
- Applications culled for low project scores
- Prioritization occurs in late summer based upon new project criteria based upon Water Project Finance Act-directed priorities
 - Urgent projects that meet the needs of a regional water planning area that has a completed regional water plan that has been accepted by the interstate stream commission;
 - matching contributions from federal or local funding sources available;
- Applicants submit Readiness Applications in the Spring (after Governor's deadline for legislation signing has passed):
 - Three years of State Auditor-compliant financials
 - Copies of all debt secured by net system revenues or its equivalent
 - Evidence of complete funding
 - Evidence of proper planning (for all projects)
 - Evidence of completed plans and specs (for construction projects)
 - Evidence of secured easements and rights of way
 - Current Open Meetings Act resolution
 - Evidence that all requisite state and federal permits and authorizations necessary to initiate the project have been secured or can be secured shortly
 - Asset Management Plans or phases of Asset Management Plans
- Regulators certify compliance with relevant regulations; applicants not in regulatory or policy compliance will be by-passed
- Applicants not compliant with Executive Order 2013-006 will be by-passed
- Awards made in order of priority
- Award size and scope based upon functional, stand-alone phases that can be achieved in 18 months