



PFAS PENNVEST Funding: What You Need to Know to Apply & Comply

Presented by

Kyra Boston

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May 15, 2025

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RG1

Agenda – PFAS PENNVEST Funding

- PFAS PENNVEST Funding Availability & Eligibility
- Funding Compliance
- PFAS-Specific Project Considerations Using Case Studies
- Summary: Tips & Lessons Learned

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Slide 2

RG1 I have used a small “s” but was recently corrected to capitalize it. I think it stands for “Substances” and is not a generic plural like I thought!

Govelovich, Rachel Lenge, 2025-05-05T23:43:07.981

RG1 0 Please search and replace.

Govelovich, Rachel Lenge, 2025-05-05T23:44:52.431

PFAS PENNVEST Funding Availability & Eligibility

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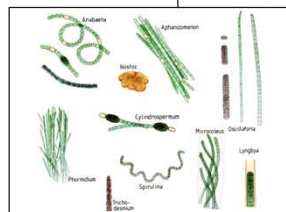
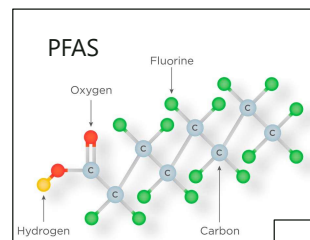
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What is PFAS PENNVEST Funding?

Funding set aside through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) to specifically address emerging contaminants (ECs) in water, wastewater, stormwater, and nonpoint source pollution.

Emerging Contaminants

- Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)
- Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products
- Microplastics/Nanoplastics
- Antimicrobial-resistant Bacteria
- 6PPD-quinone
- Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs)
- EPA Contaminant Candidate Lists
 - CCL1 – Draft CCL5
 - <https://www.epa.gov/ccl>



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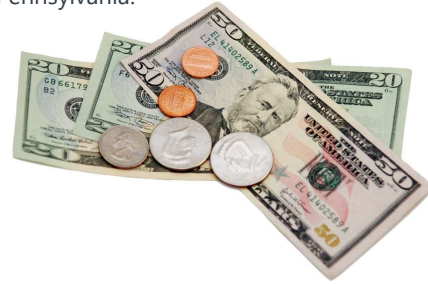
4

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How Much is Available & When?

- IJJA established the emerging contaminate funding as an annual allocation from EPA to the States over five (5) years.
- **REQUESTED** (Not Guaranteed) Amounts from EPA for FY2025 for Pennsylvania:
 - **\$25.21M** Drinking Water IJJA Emerging Contaminants
 - **\$8.42M** Clean Water IJJA Emerging Contaminants
- Quarterly PENNVEST Application Cutoffs & Board Meetings

Application Cut-Off	Board Meeting
May 7, 2025	July 16, 2025
July 30, 2025	October 15, 2025
October 29, 2025	January 21, 2026
February 4, 2026	April 15, 2026
⁵ April 29, 2026	TBD


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What is Available - Grant vs. Low Interest Loans

- Emerging Contaminant funding is **issued as principal forgiveness (grant), regardless of financial status**
- HOWEVER....If requests exceed availability for a given evaluation round...
 - Funding offer will be loan/grant split
 - Offers pro-rated: $\text{Ratio} = \frac{\text{Available Funds}}{\text{Total All Requests}}$



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Slide 5

RG1 Can change this graphic - just put it here for the info.
Govelovich, Rachel Lenge, 2025-05-06T03:32:54.377

Eligible Applicants

-  Public Entities
-  Private Entities
-  Otherwise Eligible Applicants

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Eligible Projects



Specifically address
≥1 emerging contaminant



Result in water
quality benefit



Environmental
Benefits In-hand



Design
Completed



Planning (water only)
Design, and Construction
Activities



Biddable Plans
& Specs

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Slide 8

KB1 Two columns which projects eligible for which funding pots
Boston, Kyra R., 2025-05-07T20:28:44.866

Funding Compliance

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RG2

Associated Federal Requirements

► Federally Funded Projects

- American Iron and Steel (AIS) KB3
- Davis-Bacon Wages
- Fiscal Sustainability Plan (CWSRF Only)

► Federal Equivalency Funded Projects – *Additional Requirements**

- Build America Buy America (BABA) KB1
- Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE)
- Single Audit
- A/E Procurement Rules (CWSRF Only)

**Funding source identifying signage is no longer required on the project site.*

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Don't Forget!

Applicable State Requirements
Still Apply:

- Competitive Procurement
- "Or-Equal" Provisions
- PA Steel Products Procurement Act
- PA Prevailing Wages

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Slide 10

KB1 Rachel - Do PA Steel or Prevailing wages need listed at all? Or fine without?

Boston, Kyra R., 2025-04-23T01:56:57.790

RG1 0 Let's do a "Don't forget Applicable State Requirements still apply..." and list them, too.

Govelovich, Rachel Lenge, 2025-05-06T03:01:22.155

RG2 Can expand on this Compliance Section a little if need more content overall. Can use prior presentation slides with general info.

Govelovich, Rachel Lenge, 2025-05-06T03:31:50.847

KB3 Add supporting slides at the end to reference during questions

Boston, Kyra R., 2025-05-07T20:34:33.961

PFAS-Specific Project Considerations



Borough of Emmaus PFAS Project

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1:

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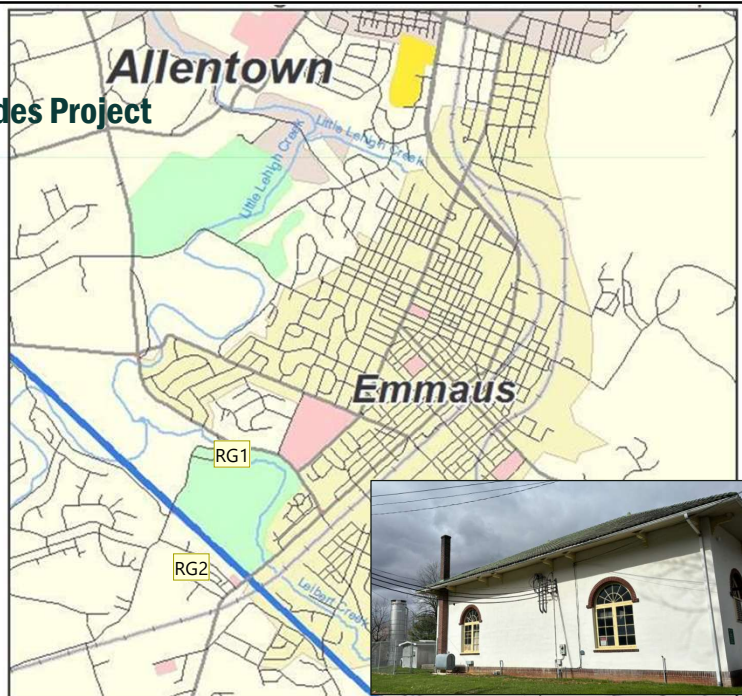
Borough of Emmaus PFAS Upgrades Project

► The System

- Located 50 miles from Philadelphia
- Lehigh County
- 4600 customers
- ADD = 1.3 mgd
- 5 Wells – CI Disinfection & Air Stripping for VOCs
- Elevated PFAS in Well Nos. 1 & 2

	PFOA	PFOS
PA MCL	14 ppt	18 ppt
Future Federal MCL	4 ppt	4 ppt

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Source/Copyright: ESRI StreetMap NA

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Slide 12

RG1 Need to check study for what the results were in the wells. Notes from Mike I can't tell what Well 1 was.

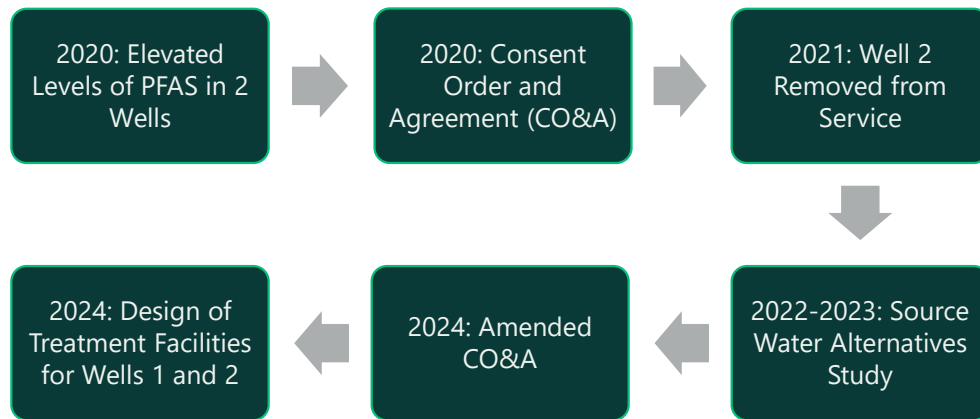
Govelovich, Rachel Lengle, 2025-05-06T01:30:58.055

RG2 Confirm.

Govelovich, Rachel Lengle, 2025-05-06T01:43:26.974

RG1

Borough of Emmaus PFAS Upgrades Project



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RG2

Borough of Emmaus PFAS Upgrades Project

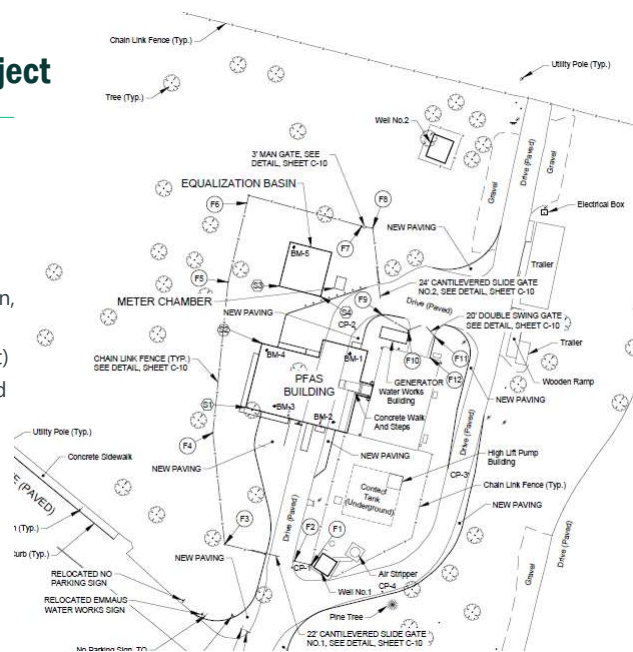
► The Project

- Update Treatment Process including:
 - Building Addition
 - PFAS Treatment: Two (2) lead/lag GAC trains
 - Process Wastewater: below-grade equalization basin, discharge to sanitary system or pump/haul
 - Sulfuric Acid Chemical Feed System (pH adjustment)
 - Supporting chemical, electrical, instrumentation and control work

► Project Costs & Funding

- Total: \$9.40M
- PV Funding Offer: **\$7.52M Grant** & \$1.88M Loan

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Slide 13

- RG1** Think its worth showing just a little history so I took this from Mike's slides.
limited to the first six boxes since the rest may be a repeat on slide on schedule.

Govelovich, Rachel Lenge, 2025-05-06T01:27:32.913

Slide 14

- RG1** Add # units and capacity.
- RG2** Add info on what facilities and discharge method.

Govelovich, Rachel Lenge, 2025-05-06T01:38:27.147

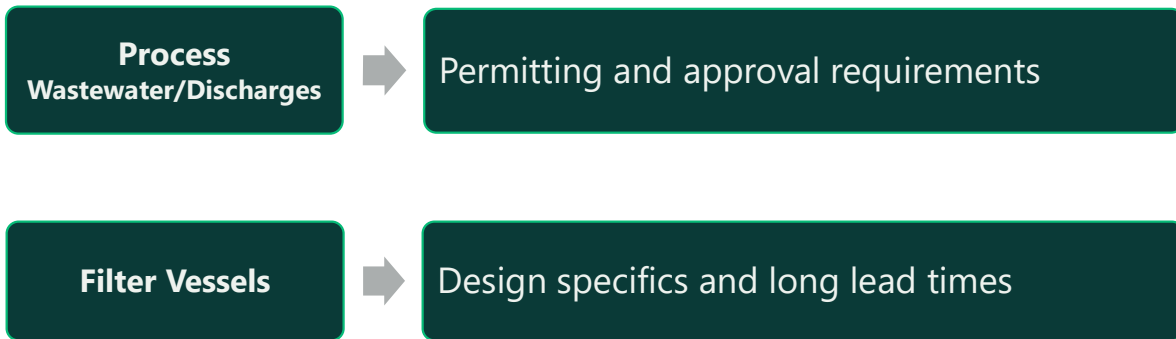
Govelovich, Rachel Lenge, 2025-05-06T01:43:11.698

- KB2 0** Kyra look into

Boston, Kyra R., 2025-05-07T21:00:31.259

KB1

Important Project Considerations



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RG1

Process Wastewater/Discharges

► Process Wastewater Equalization Tanks

- Check if Industrial Storage Tank Design Standards/Permitting/Approvals Required

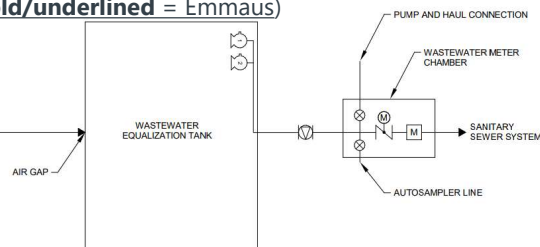
► Process Wastewater Disposal Method Options (**bold/underlined** = Emmaus)

- **Hauled**

- Receiving WWTP able to accept Industrial Flow?

- **Discharge to Sanitary Sewer System**

- Receiving WWTP able to accept Industrial Flow?
- Approvals Required?
 - Industrial Permit from WWTP System
 - **Act 537 Planning/Sewage Facilities Planning Module**
 - **limitations on connections/EDUs** (6 months for approval w/ available EDUs, greater if not available)
 - Act 537 Planning identified property for use with on-lot system
 - Infiltration Beds (Analyzer Discharge)
 - Recycle to Head of WTP



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Slide 15

KB1 We highlight in our planning outline including call out Act 537 considerations. My current plan is to frame it originally as an additional item that requires time which prolongs time until application and therefore settlement which impacts time until purchase is possible if not pre-purchased (essentially using as an additional rationale for pre-purchase) but then circling back in lessons learned and tips at the end to offer the idea of utilizing the temporary solution of hauled? To assist in moving along the Act 537 process?

Thoughts? Not sure my plan is the best method but currently can't think of an alternative.

Boston, Kyra R., 2025-04-23T02:38:04.505

RG1 0 I'm thinking with all the recent discussions I've heard on surprises related to the Wastewater Permitting maybe it can be its own slide. Going to try to lay this out so that this slide is almost a list of items to be discussed, then have a slide on each, then the graphic of the schedule and into the details of pre-purchased equipment. See what you think.

Govelovich, Rachel Lengle, 2025-05-06T00:26:29.609

RG1 1 Depending on where we are falling timewise - we can reduce this back to just this slide if needed. Right now my breakouts of individual slides for each one of these bullets are not too filled out except permitting.

Govelovich, Rachel Lengle, 2025-05-06T02:27:34.341

Slide 16

RG1 Need to confirm this was the reason for needing Act 537 Planning Module for Emmaus. Intent on this slide is to hit potential issues/considerations and bold items are items Emmaus has. We can tie all these (this slide, equipment identification slide, and lead time) together with "Time".

Govelovich, Rachel Lengle, 2025-05-06T02:22:36.281

KB3

Filter Vessels

- **Design Considerations**
 - Unique Vessel Configurations
 - Building Size
 - Operations/Backwash Frequency/Volume RG1
- **Timeline** RG2
 - 6-9 month lead times
 - Consent Order: 12 months in between Notice to Proceed and Certificate of Completion

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KB1

Solution:

Pre-purchase of equipment

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Slide 17

RG1 True?

Govelovich, Rachel Lenge, 2025-05-06T02:36:08.931

RG2 Probably quick conversation with Lori would confirm these reasons and others, if needed.

Govelovich, Rachel Lenge, 2025-05-06T02:37:20.619

KB3 Add line on timeline for 12 month due date

Boston, Kyra R., 2025-05-07T21:03:23.062

Slide 18

KB1 I feel like this may be the best place to introduce the use of COSTARS. Stating Emmaus selected use of costars for its apparent benefits at the time. Use of Costars seemingly “handled” or made Emmaus exempt from certain pre-purchase requirements.

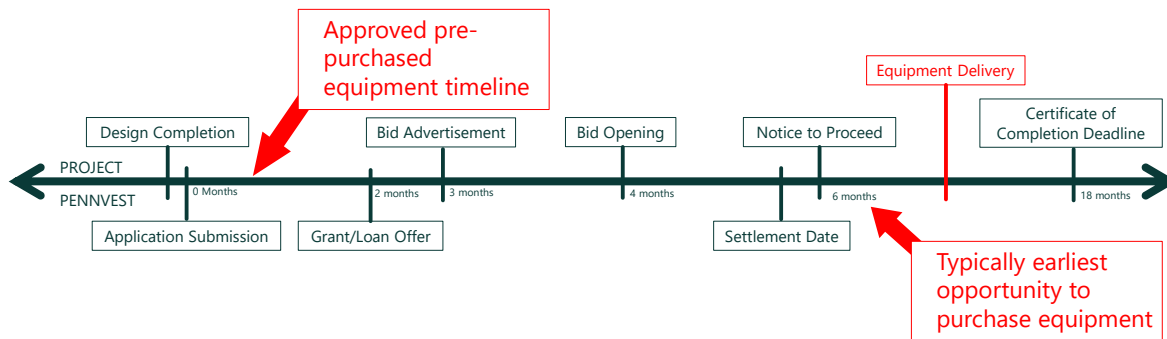
Then emphasize those benefits in requirements slide versus introducing them while reviewing requirements?

Boston, Kyra R., 2025-04-23T02:08:59.374

KB1 0 Seemingly explaining solution choice in that detail adds to the story-telling aspect?

Boston, Kyra R., 2025-04-23T02:09:28.172

Solution Timeline



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Pre-Purchased Equipment Requirements

- **PADEP Planning Consultation**
- **Equipment Only Acquisition Approval**
 - Letter of No Prejudice Form
 - Reimbursement Resolution
 - Interim Financing
- **Federal/State Regulations**
 - Procurement Rules (exception of COSTARS)
 - **DBE (COSTARS)**
 - Davis Bacon ^{RG2} wages
 - BABA/AIS



**DBE does NOT
apply if self-funded**

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Slide 20

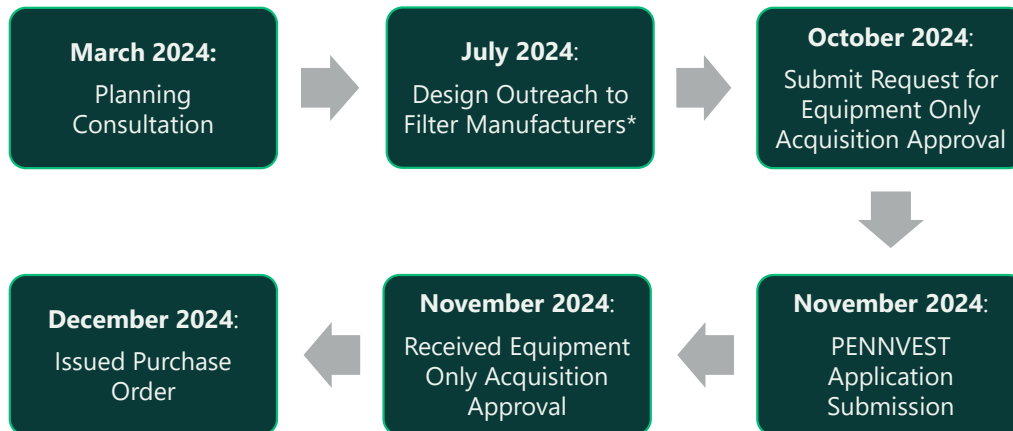
RG1 Consider adding a Idea/lightbulb graphic or something similar with either BABA/AIS apply even if self-funded OR converse - DBE does not apply if self funded.

Govelovich, Rachel Lenge, 2025-05-06T02:57:15.728

RG2 We could do several slides on BABA as well....again, depending on time.

Govelovich, Rachel Lenge, 2025-05-06T03:35:51.458

Emmaus Pre-Purchase Timeline



*Manufacturers were asked to confirm they were certified COSTARS at this time

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Ensuring DBE Compliance

➤ **Costars still requires DBE solicitation (as of 10/2024)**

➤ **Required Retroactive Revisions**

RG1

➤ **Modified DBE Submission**

- Recipient Compliance Statement
- Certified "Bid" Tabulation
- Initial and Subsequent Communications
- Procurement Breakdown Form
- Received Equipment Quotes

NOTE: This was a temporary solution

**COSTARS
≠
DBE
Compliant**

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RG1 Emphasis with format

Govelovich, Rachel Lenge, 2025-05-06T02:40:19.021

RG1

Moving Forward...Standardized DBE Submission

DEP Required Documentation:

- Recipient Compliance Statement
- Certified Bid Tabulation
- DGS Searches
- Copies of First and Second Solicitation Letter
- Proof of Solicitation Emails and Responses



What this means for you:

- 30-Day Solicitation Period
- Solicit firms from DGS search + COSTARS or other
- Consider: Do you have to publicly bid?

*Pennbid is encouraged

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Additional COSTARS Considerations

➤ Which Party is COSTARS certified (Manufacturer or Vendor)?

- Manufacturer miscommunication
- Vendor involvement required to ensure COSTARS
- Negotiated no mark-up

➤ Labor Involvement

- Contract Includes labor (i.e. delivery/installation)
- Davis Bacon Wages still apply



[This Photo](#) [CC BY-NC](#)

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RG1 Guessing most of the audience won't be able to picture what these items are and what they mean so while I think we keep them on the slide for completeness, we hit them verbally quickly and more emphasis on "what this means to them" - 30-day solicitation period; solicit firms from DGS search in addition to CoStars or other vendors invited (do they have to publically bid???). Maybe a graphic that shows arrow from this column of info to a second column that shows the what it means to borrower?

Govelovich, Rachel Lengle, 2025-05-06T02:46:27.875

KB1

Current Project Status



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Summary: Tips/Lessons Learned

RG1



Layout Timeline Early

- Include Project Goals, Funding Requirements & Milestones, Consent Orders, Permitting, Material/Equipment Lead Times
- Consider temporary process waste solutions
- Consider pre-purchasing equipment



Highlight Compliance Items Throughout Process

- Include compliance requirements in Purchase Order
- Perform DBE Solicitations



Ensure Open Communication with Manufacturer/Vendor

- Avoid misunderstandings when ensuring compliance



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Slide 25

KB1 7th button noting when delivery is now because of pre purchase
Boston, Kyra R., 2025-05-07T21:13:40.978

Slide 26

RG1 RACHEL - come back to this
Govelovich, Rachel Lenge, 2025-05-06T02:50:38.598



Group Discussion

Kyra Boston kboston@gftinc.com
Rachel Lenge Govelovich rgovelovich@gftinc.com

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Funding Requirements

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Funding Project Requirements – General

UER/CE	DBE
AIS	BABA
Davis Bacon	A/E

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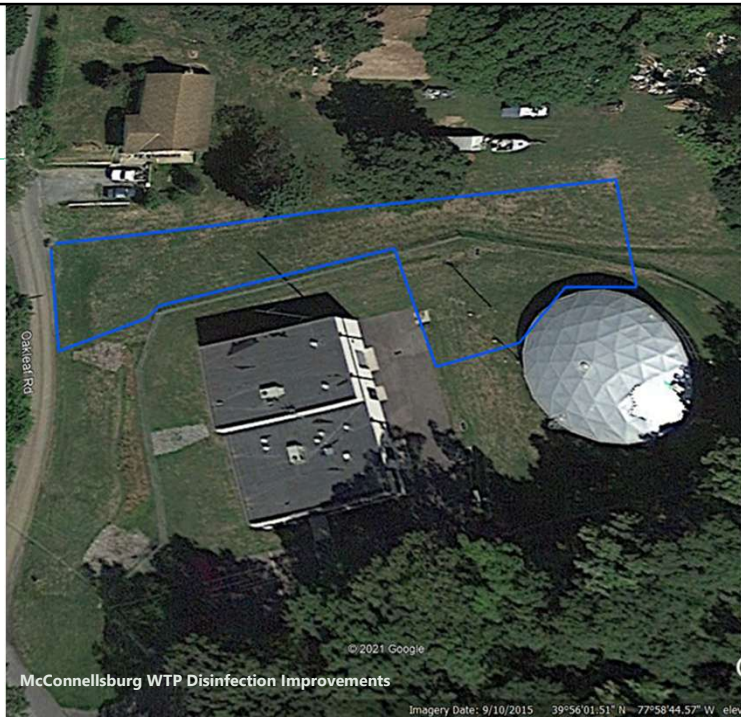
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Funding Requirements – UER vs. CE

- UER – Uniform Environmental Report
 - Chk of Potential Environmental Impacts
 - Online self-checks
 - Agency letter responses
 - Summary report
- CE – Categorical Exclusion
 - For projects located within Treatment Facility buildings, fence lines, previously disturbed areas, etc.
 - Need to meet criteria in 40 CFR 6.204
 - Less consultant effort
 - Public Notice & Comment Period

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Funding Requirements – DBE

- Disadvantaged Business Enterprise
- Solicitation NOT % Usage Requirement
- Follow Guidance from PV for
 - Borrower
 - Contractor



Pre-Bid Mtg Considerations

- review requirements
- submission of effort w/ bid if timeframe concern



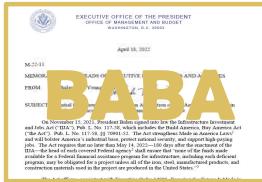
Bid Document Considerations

- PADEP DBE Approval Condition of Award
- Attach Guidance Manuals

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Funding Requirements – Made in PA/US

- Depending on funding source – **all 3** may be needed.



Build America, Buy America

- Effective May 14, 2022
- All Federal Infrastructure Financial Assistance (Equivalency)
- Compliance Made in America Office of OMB
- Documentation

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American Iron & Steel Act

- Effective January 17, 2014
- CW & DW Federal \$ (Equivalency)
- Compliance EPA
- Documentation



PA Steel Products Procurement

- Effective 1978
- PA Public Works Projects
- Self – Compliance
- Can rely on PA DGS exemptions
- Documentation

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Funding Requirements – Made in PA/US: AIS

- **“iron and steel products”**
 - products made primarily of iron or steel:
 - lined or unlined pipes and fittings,
 - Manhole covers and other municipal castings,
 - hydrants,
 - tanks,
 - flanges,
 - pipe clamps and restraints,
 - valves,
 - structural steel,
 - reinforced precast concrete, and
 - construction materials
- **Project Specific Waivers**
 - Public Interest – required for compatibility
 - Availability – in sufficient quantities or quality
 - Cost – increase project cost >25%

► National Waivers

► De minimis List

- Use of foreign-made/undetermined source up to 5%
- Construction material costs



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Funding Requirements – Made in PA/US: BABA

- all **iron and steel** used in the project are produced in the United States
- all **manufactured products** used in the project are produced in the United States
 - >55% of total cost of all components in US
- all **construction materials** are manufactured in the United States
- **Generally – everything but cement, cementitious materials and aggregates**



Bid Document Considerations

- Not Practical to check every vendor specified (2 plus or equal for EVERYTHING), changes happen from design to ordering
- DO CHECK Major Equipment

"Produced"

- all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States



Project Specific Waivers (Same as AIS)

National Waivers

- Temporary Sept 2, 2022 – March 2, 2023
- Projects initiated project design planning prior to May 14, 2022

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Funding Requirements – Davis Bacon Wages

Include Requirement in Specifications

Need to use latest as of 10-days prior to bid opening

Submit to DEP for approval

Ideally approval prior to Award

- Still Need to Comply with PA Prevailing Wage when applicable
 - Not always one w/ consistently higher rates
 - Mix and Match to determine minimum rate required

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Funding Requirements – A/E Procurement (Wastewater)

- WRRDA requirement
- Applies to Wastewater Projects Only at this time
- Requires competitive procurement for services if funded with Federal Equivalency Funds
- PV can fund engineering with State funds

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