



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

Presented by

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Agenda – PFAS PENNVEST Funding

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

PFAS PENNVEST Funding Availability & Eligibility

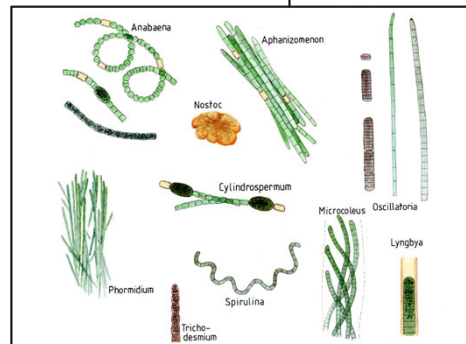
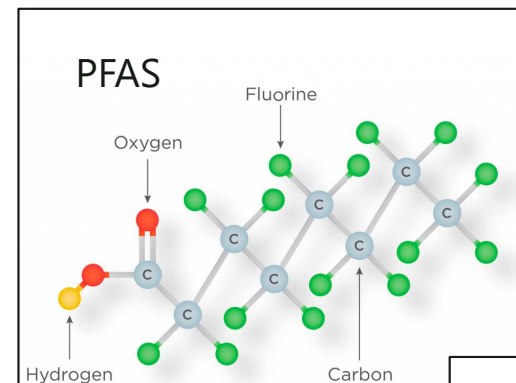
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What is PFAS PENNVEST Funding?

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>



How Much is Available & When?

- IIJA 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 IIJA Emerging Contaminants
 - **\$8.42M** Clean Water IIJA 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
April 29, 2026	TBD

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: $\text{Ratio} = \frac{\text{Available Funds}}{\text{Total All Requests}}$



Eligible Applicants



Public Entities

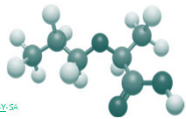


Private Entities



Otherwise Eligible Applicants

Eligible Projects



Specifically address
 ≥ 1 emerging contaminant



Result in water
quality benefit



Environmental
Permits In-hand



Design
Completed



Planning (water only)
Design, and Construction
Activities



Biddable Plans
& Specs

Funding Compliance

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Associated Federal Requirements

➤ Federally Funded Projects

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

➤ Federal Equivalency Funded Projects – *Additional Requirements**

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



Don't Forget!

Applicable State Requirements Still Apply:

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

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

PFAS-Specific Project Considerations



Borough of Emmaus PFAS Project

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Borough of Emmaus PFAS Upgrades Project

► The System

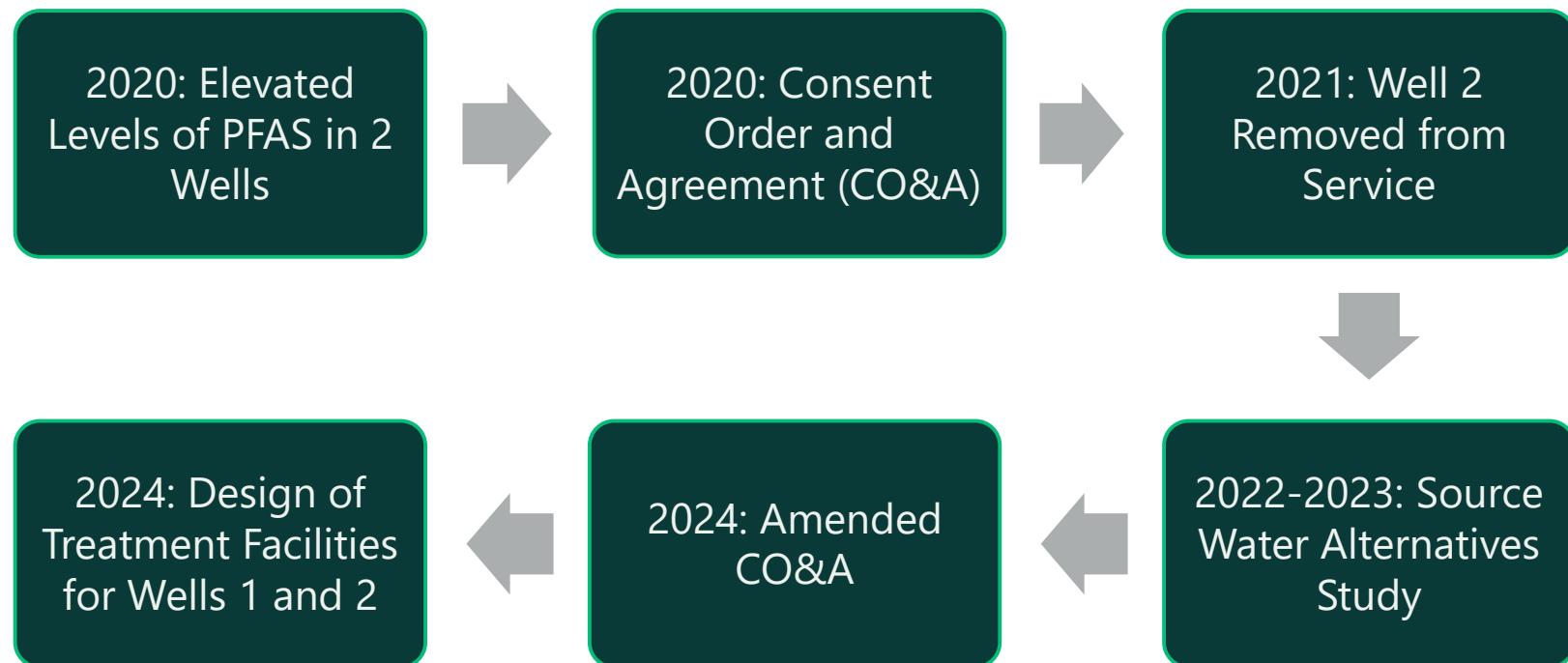
- Located 50 miles from Philadelphia
- Lehigh County
- 4600 customers
- ADD = 1.3 mgd
- 5 Wells – Cl Disinfection & Air Stripping for VOCs
- Elevated PFAS in Well Nos. 1 & 2

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



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Borough of Emmaus PFAS Upgrades Project



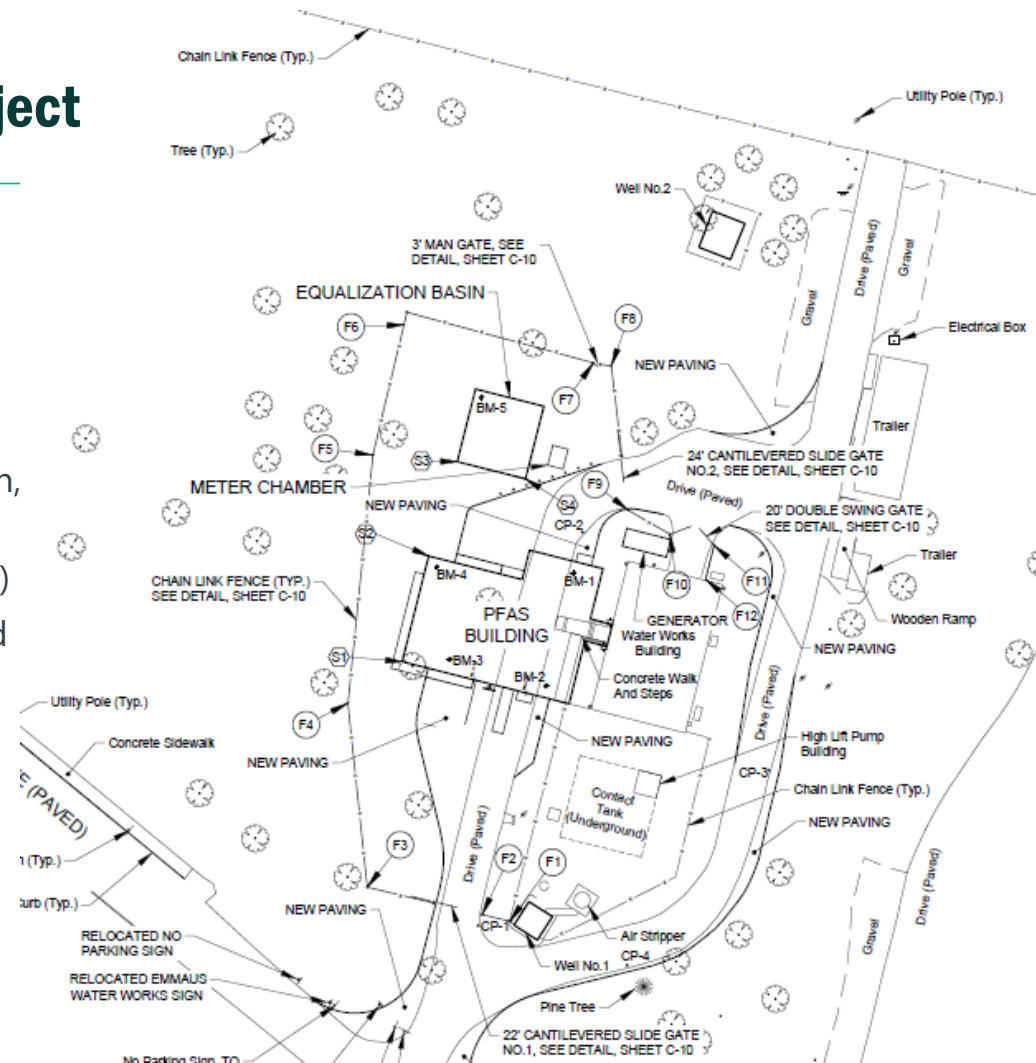
Borough of Emmaus PFAS Upgrades Project

➤ 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



Important Project Considerations

**Process
Wastewater/Discharges**



Permitting and approval requirements

Filter Vessels



Design specifics and long lead times

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?

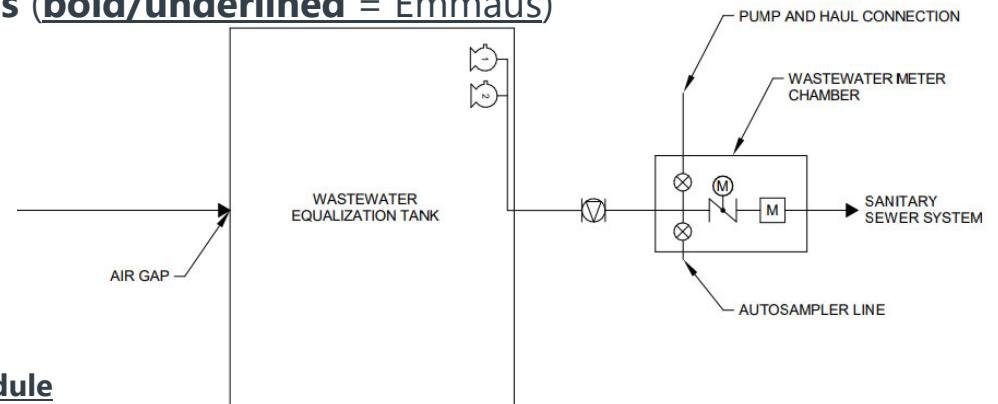
- Industrial Permit from WWTP System

- **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



Filter Vessels

➤ Design Considerations

- Unique Vessel Configurations
- Building Size
- Operations/Backwash Frequency/Volumes

➤ Timeline

- 6-9 month lead times
- Consent Order: 12 months in between Notice to Proceed and Certificate of Completion



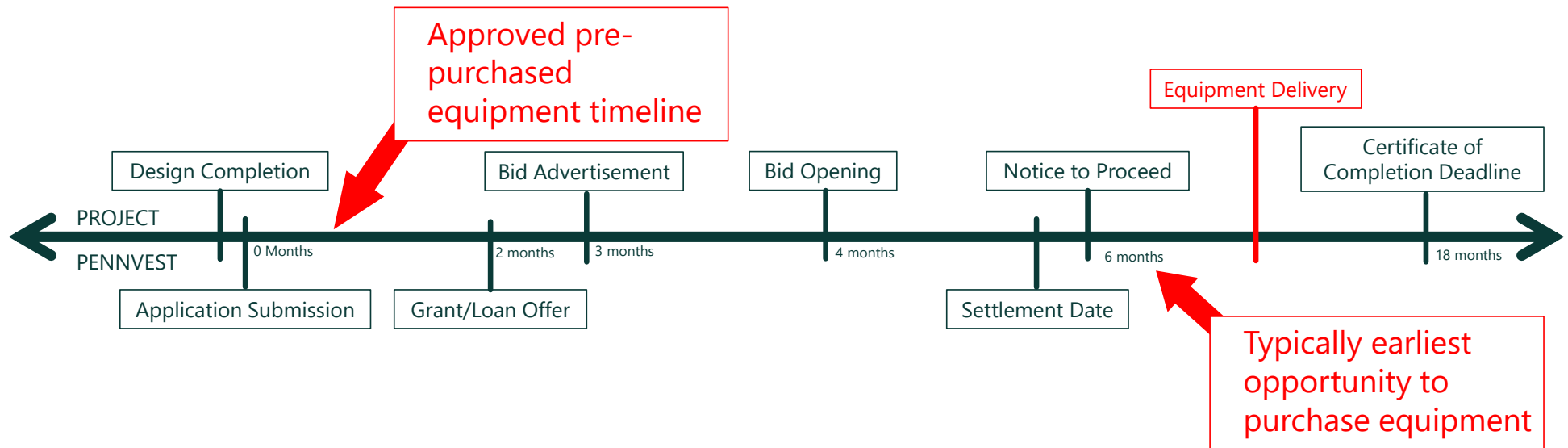


Solution:

Pre-purchase of equipment

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Solution Timeline



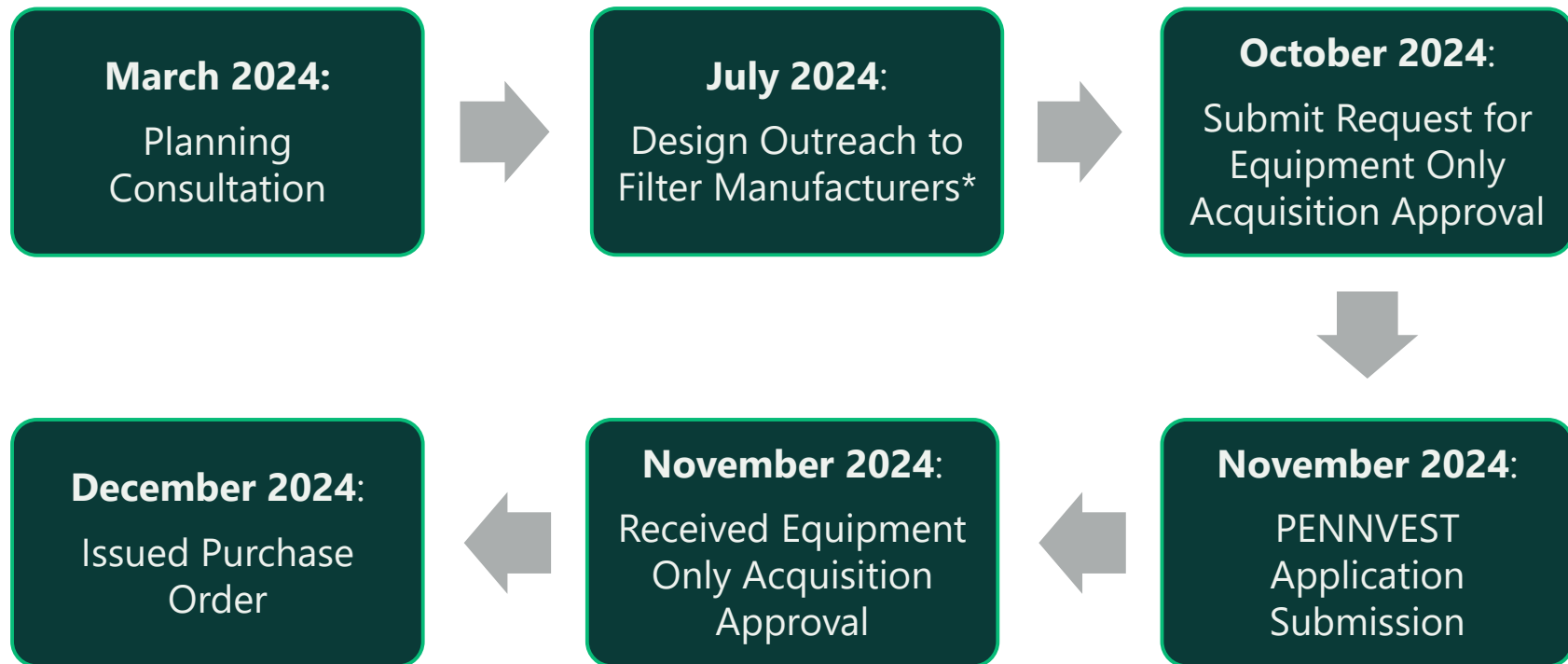
Pre-Purchased Equipment Requirements

- 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 Wages
 - BABA/AIS



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

Emmaus Pre-Purchase Timeline



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

Ensuring DBE Compliance

- Costars still requires DBE solicitation (as of 10/2024)
- Required Retroactive Revisions
- 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



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

Additional COSTARS Considerations

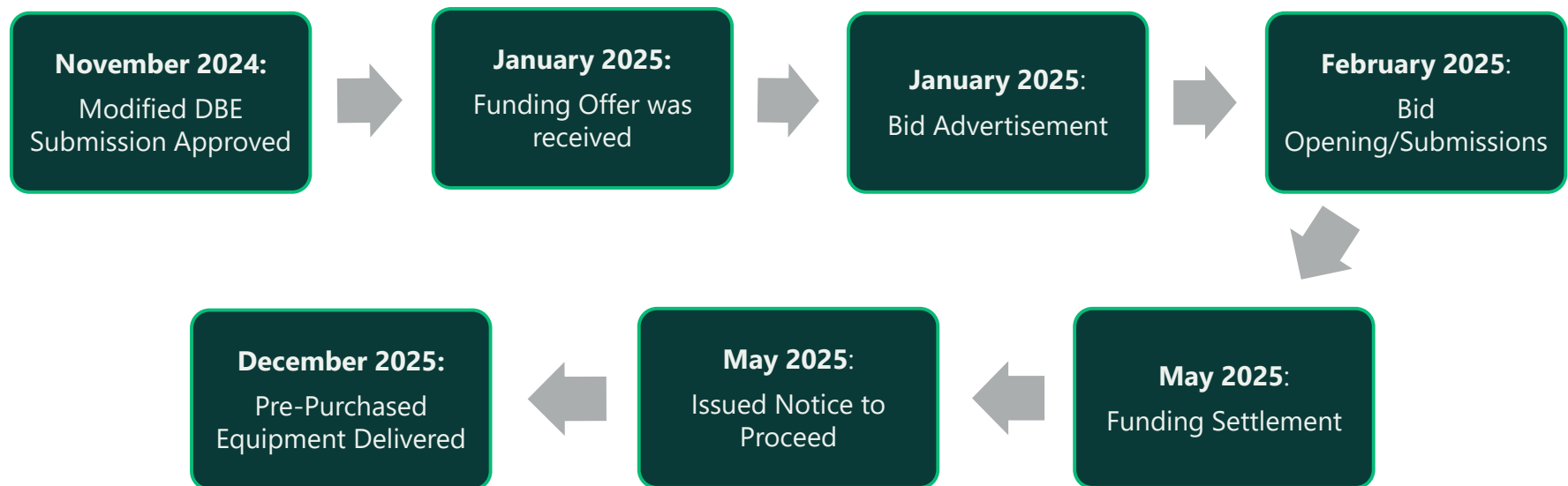
- Which Party is COSTARS certified (Manufacturer or Vendor)?
 - Manufacturer miscommunication
 - Vendor involvement required to ensure COSTARS
 - Negotiated no mark-up

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



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Current Project Status



Summary: Tips/Lessons Learned



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



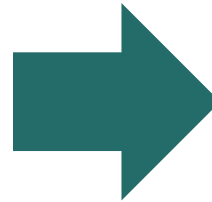
Highlight Compliance Items Throughout Process

- Include compliance requirements in Purchase Order
- Perform DBE Solicitations



Ensure Open Communication with Manufacturer/Vendor

- Avoid misunderstandings when ensuring compliance



Group Discussion

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