



Oregon
Kate Brown, Governor

Water Resources Department
725 Summer St NE, Suite A
Salem, OR 97301
(503) 986-0900
Fax (503) 986-0904

February 9, 2021

The Honorable Senator Betsy Johnson, Co-Chair
The Honorable Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward, Co-Chair
The Honorable Representative Dan Rayfield, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means
900 Court Street NE, H178
Salem, OR 97301-4048

Re: Retroactive Approval to Apply – United States Geological Survey Cooperative Agreement:
2021 National Groundwater Monitoring Network

Dear Co-Chairs,

Nature of the Emergency/Request

The Oregon Water Resources Department requests retroactive permission to apply for the Federal Fiscal Year 2021 United States Geological Survey (USGS) grant opportunity through the Cooperative Funding Agreements to Support National Groundwater Monitoring Network Data Providers program. Individual applications are restricted to a maximum annual funding level of \$150,000. No specific match rate is required; however, a 50/50 match of agency in-kind services to USGS funding is suggested. The electronic submission application deadline was January 21, 2021 and the Department applied for \$23,981 in federal funding on that date after submitting a 10- day letter back in November.

Agency Action

The Oregon Water Resources Department is a current data provider for the National Groundwater Monitoring Network (NGWMN). The goal of the NGWMN is to provide long-term data needed for planning, management, and development of groundwater supplies to meet current and future water needs and ecosystem requirements. Work to be accomplished under this proposal includes tasks that the Department has always deemed important, but for which it has not had sufficient resources. On January 21, 2021 the Department applied for a request of \$23,981 in federal funds in order to support existing database management and service efforts, purchase water level recording equipment, and potentially rehabilitate observation wells.

The Honorable Senator Betsy Johnson, Co-Chair
The Honorable Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward, Co-Chair
The Honorable Representative Dan Rayfield, Co-Chair
Joint Emergency Board
February 9, 2021
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Action Requested

The Oregon Water Resources Department requests retroactive permission to apply for the fiscal year 2021 National Groundwater Monitoring Network Cooperative. Should permission be granted, and the \$23,981 in federal funding be awarded to the Department, no increase in expenditure limitation is requested, as the Department has sufficient expenditure limitation in its 2019-2021 Legislatively Adopted Budget. The Department will match the federal funds through agency in-kind services.

Legislation Affected

None or not applicable.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. For additional information, please contact Lisa Snyder, Administrative Services Division Administrator, at (503) 983-5801.

Sincerely,



Thomas M. Byler
Director

cc: LFO Leg Requests, Legislative Fiscal Office
CFO Leg Requests, Chief Financial Office
Matt Stayner, Legislative Fiscal Office
Linnea Wittekind, Department of Administrative Services
Jason Miner, Governor's Office

Analysis

Water Resources Department

National Groundwater Monitoring Network

Analyst: Matt Stayner

Request: Approve, retroactively, the submission of a federal grant application in the amount of \$23,981 to the United States Geological Survey by the Water Resources Department for funding under the National Groundwater Monitoring Network Data Providers program.

Analysis: The United States Geological Survey (USGS) provides cooperative funding agreements to support long-term data collection activities for the planning, management, and development of groundwater supplies. For federal fiscal year 2021, USGS provided notice to eligible entities that program grant funds of up to \$150,000 would be available to support this work. The Water Resources Department (WRD) provided notice of its intent to apply for the federal grant in November 2020. The application deadline was January 21, 2021.

WRD applied for a grant from the program in the amount of \$23,981 to support their existing database management and services, purchase of additional water level recording equipment, and to potentially rehabilitate certain observation wells. There is no requirement for WRD to provide matching state funds, however, the agency has included existing budgeted expenditures in the application as in-kind match for the federal funds. WRD has sufficient Federal Funds expenditure limitation to expend the funding if awarded.

Legislative Fiscal Office Recommendation: The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends approval of the request.

Water Resource Department Wittekind

Request: Retroactive Authorization to apply for a grant of \$23,981 from the United States Geological Survey through the Cooperative Funding Agreement to support the National Groundwater Monitoring Network program.

Recommendation: Approve the request.

Discussion: The Oregon Department of Water Resources (WRD) requests retroactive authorization to apply for a grant for the National Groundwater Monitoring Network program through the United States Geological Survey (USGS). The goal of the network is to provide long-term data needed for planning, management, and development of groundwater supplies to meet current and future needs and ecosystem requirements.

A 10-day letter was submitted in November 2020. On January 21, 2021, WRD applied for a grant of \$23,981 in Federal Funds. If awarded, the funds would support existing database management and service efforts, purchase water level recording equipment, and potentially rehabilitate observation wells.

Matching funds are not required by USGS, but an in-kind match is encouraged. WRD plans to match any Federal Funds received through agency in-kind services. No expenditure limitation is needed.



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November 4, 2020

The Honorable Senator Peter Courtney, Co-Chair
The Honorable Representative Tina Kotek, Co-Chair
Joint Emergency Board
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301-4048

Re: 10-Day Notification Letter – United States Geological Survey Cooperative Agreement:
2021 National Groundwater Monitoring Network

Dear Co-Chairs,

Nature of the Emergency/Request

The Oregon Water Resources Department requests permission to apply for the Federal Fiscal Year 2021 United States Geological Survey (USGS) grant opportunity through the Cooperative Funding Agreements to Support National Groundwater Monitoring Network Data Providers program. The electronic submission application deadline is January 21, 2021. Individual applications are restricted to a maximum annual funding level of \$150,000. No specific match rate is required; however, a 50/50 match of agency in-kind services to USGS funding is suggested.

Agency Action

The Oregon Water Resources Department is a current data provider for the National Groundwater Monitoring Network (NGWMN). The goal of the NGWMN is to provide long-term data needed for planning, management, and development of groundwater supplies to meet current and future water needs and ecosystem requirements. Work to be accomplished under this proposal includes tasks that the Department has always deemed important but for which it has not had sufficient resources. The Department is considering a request for up to \$50,000 in order to support existing database management and service efforts, purchase water level recording equipment, and potentially rehabilitate observation wells.

The Honorable Senator Peter Courtney, Co-Chair
The Honorable Representative Tina Kotek, Co-Chair
Joint Emergency Board
November 4, 2020
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Action Requested

The Oregon Water Resources Department requests permission to apply for the fiscal year 2021 National Groundwater Monitoring Network Cooperative. Should permission be granted, and the funding be awarded to the Department, no increase in expenditure limitation is requested as the Department has sufficient expenditure limitation in its 2019-2021 Legislatively Adopted Budget.

Legislation Affected

None or not applicable.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. For additional information, please contact Lisa Snyder, Administrative Services Division Administrator, at (503) 983-5801.

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