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Bret L. Mills

MEMO

August 25, 2005

To: Iowa city officials, mayors, engineers, financial advisors and other interested parties

From: Bret Mills, Iowa Finance Authority

Re: Planning and Design Loans

Water quality is vital to the livability of each Iowa community. All communities want to provide their citizens with safe drinking water and adequate wastewater treatment. Often, though, when improvements to these systems are necessary, cities struggle to find funding sources for the groundwork needed for water infrastructure projects. In an effort to ensure water quality for all Iowans, the Iowa Finance Authority (IFA) is launching a loan program specifically for entities in the early stages of water pollution control or drinking water projects.

New Planning and Design Loans will offer 0% interest for up to three years and do not include an initiation or servicing fee. In addition, there is no minimum or maximum loan amount. Eligible costs include engineering fees, archaeological surveys, environmental studies and fees related to project plan preparation and submission. The loans may be rolled into a State Revolving Fund (SRF) construction loan or can be repaid when permanent financing is committed. The project planning and design costs must be directly related to the proposed wastewater, storm water or drinking water projects.

Besides communities and counties, qualified entities include regional sewer/water districts, conservancy districts and water authorities eligible for water pollution control and drinking water SRF loans. Also, private and not-for-profit facilities eligible for drinking water SRF loans may apply for Planning and Design Loans. Learn more about the program and review the application at www.ifahome.com or www.iowasrf.com. Or contact Lori Beary at 515-242-4965 or lori.beary@iowa.gov or Tracy Scebold at 515-281-4003 or tracy.scebold@iowa.gov.

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