

STATE OF VERMONT JOINT FISCAL OFFICE

MEMORANDUM

To: Joint Fiscal Committee members

From: Daniel Dickerson, Fiscal Analyst

Date: December 31, 2018

Subject: Grant Request #2942 - 2944

Enclosed please find three (3) items, which the Joint Fiscal Office has received from the Administration. The Administration has requested expedited review of these grants by the JFC. Members will be contacted by January 7, 2019 for a decision unless the member has responded prior to that time.

JFO #2942 – \$10,000 from the Castanea Foundation to the VT Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets. Funds from this grant will be paired with \$50,000 in funds from the USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant program to provide a third round of Vermont Produce Safety Improvement Grants (VPSIG) since 2017. The VPSIG funds go to produce growers to implement on-farm food safety practice improvements, transition to compliance with the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule, and meet market demands for on-farm food. VPSIG funds will be awarded by March 2019 with work to be completed by December 31, 2019.

[JFO received 12/28/18]

JFO #2943 – \$219,213 from the Northern Border Regional Commission to the VT Dept. of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Funds from this grant will be used for pilot projects in 3 northern Vermont villages aimed at comprehensive wastewater infrastructure planning and implementation. The ultimate goal of the project is to determine how the state might adjust funding, permitting and assistance programs for local wastewater improvement projects in order to improve outcomes for communities in need of wastewater improvements but with a small base of users from which to draw funding. DEC will hire a consultant to serve as coordinator for the 3 pilot communities and provide more in-person support from project start to finish. The 3 pilot communities are Wolcott, East Burke and West Burke. The pilot will take place over three years. A local match will be provided in the form of state funding and local in-kind volunteer effort. State match will total approximately \$112,000 over the three-year project period. [*JFO received 12/28/18*]

JFO #2944 – \$279,330 from Green Mountain Power to the VT Public Service Department. \$270,000 in funding would come from Nuclear Electricity Insurance Ltd. (NEIL) credits associated with Green Mountain Power's share of Vermont Yankee. The remaining \$9,329.70 would come from a premium refund to GMP from American Nuclear Insurers Corp. (ANI). PSD would use \$150,000 to establish a low-income energy pilot program to help GMP ratepayers with limited means to fund home renewable energy projects. The remaining \$130,000 would fund a stove to wood pellet change-out program for low and moderate income households focused mainly in Rutland County where particulate air quality issues are most acute. [*JFO received 12/28/18*]

Please review the enclosed materials and notify the Joint Fiscal Office (Daniel Dickerson at (802) 828-2472; <u>ddickerson@leg.state.vt.us</u>) if you have questions or would like an item held for legislative review. Unless we hear from you to the contrary by January 7, 2019 we will assume that you agree to consider as final the Governor's acceptance of these requests.



RE

State of Vermont

Department of Finance & Management 109 State Street, Pavilion Building Montpelier, VT 05620-0401

[phone] 802-828-2376 [fax] 802-828-2428 Agency of Administration DEC 28 2018

JOINT FISCAL OFFICE

STATE OF VERMONT FINANCE & MANAGEMENT GRANT REVIEW FORM

| Grant Summary: | | | | | | | ies in wastewater i n 3 villages in nor | infrastructure planning and thern Vermont. |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|--------|--------------------|----------------|--|--|
| | | | | | | | | |
| Date: | | | 12/17/ | 2018 | | | | |
| Department: | | | Enviro | nmen | tal Cons | ervation | | |
| Legal Title of Gra | nt: | 8 | Waster | water | Solution | ns for Village | S | 17 1 |
| Federal Catalog # | | | 90.601 | | | | | * |
| Grant/Donor Nan | e and Ade | dress: | | | rder Re 1 03301 | | ission, 53 Pleasan | t Street, Suite 1201, |
| Grant Period: | From: | | 10/1/2 | 018 | To: | 9/30/2021 | - A., | |
| Grant/Donation | | | | | | | | |
| | SFY | 1 | SI | FY 2 | | SFY 3 | Total | Comments |
| Grant Amount: | \$127 | ,785 | \$12 | 27,785 | | \$127,786 | \$383,356 | \$219,213 Federal; \$112,000 State; \$52,143 local volunteer hour match |
| | | 1 11 10 1 | | | | 10 | | |
| Position Informat | ion | # Posi | tions 0 | Expl | anation | /Comments | | |
| Additional Comm | | | <u> </u> | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Department of Fina | unce & Ma | inageme | nt | | | 7 | MG | (Initial) |
| Secretary of Admin | istration | | | | | | BA | (Initial) |
| Sent To Joint Fisca | l Office | | 4 | | | 4. 14 | 12 27 18 | Date |
| 5 | | 5 | | | | - S | | |

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RECEIVED

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STATE OF VERMONT REQUEST FOR GRANT (*) ACCEPTANCE (Form AA-1)

| BASIC GRANT INFORMA | TION | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| 1. Agency: | Natural Resources | | | |
| 2. Department: | Environmental Conser | vation | | |
| | Birrin officiation of the officiation | | | |
| 3. Program: | Water Infrastructure En | ngineering | | |
| 4. Legal Title of Grant: | Wastewater Solutions | for Villages | | |
| 5. Federal Catalog #: | 90.601 | tor vinages | | |
| 5. rederal Catalog #: | 90.001 | | | |
| 6. Grant/Donor Name and A | Address: | | | |
| | | leasant Street, Suite 1201 | , Concord, NH 0330 | 01 |
| 7. Grant Period: Fro | 1 | To: 9/3 | | |
| | | | | |
| 8. Purpose of Grant: | | | | |
| | | State assistance in three pi | | |
| | | rural communities achiev | e their economic go | als. |
| 9. Impact on existing progra | | | | |
| | | ressing wastewater infrast | | |
| | | nall user bases from furthe | | |
| and implement solution | ons, the process is long, | complex and difficult for | small towns that lac | ck resources. |
| 10. BUDGET INFORMATI | ION | | | |
| | SFY 1 | SFY 2 | SFY 3 | Comments |
| Expenditures: | FY 2019 | FY 2020 | FY 2021 | |
| Personal Services | \$17,000 | \$17,000 | \$17,000 | |
| Operating Expenses | \$110,785 | \$110,785 | \$110,786 | |
| Grants | \$ | \$ | \$ | |
| Tota | I \$127,785 | \$127,785 | \$127,786 | |
| Revenues: | | | | |
| State Funds: | \$ | \$ | \$ | |
| Cash | \$37,333 | \$37,333 | \$37,334 | |
| In-Kind | \$ | \$ | \$ | |
| Federal Funds: | \$ | \$ | \$ | |
| (Direct Costs) | \$70,068 | \$70,068 | \$70,068 | |
| (Statewide Indirect) | \$ | \$ | - \$ | |
| (Departmental Indirect) | \$3,003 | \$3,003 | \$3,003 | |
| (| | | | |
| Other Funds: | \$ | \$ | \$ | |
| Grant (source Local | · | | | |
| Volunteer Hours) | \$17,381 | \$17,381 | \$17,381 | |
| Tota | \$127,785 | \$127,785 | \$127,786 | |
| Ammunut day Mr. 214 | 10040000 | 4 | ¢107.705 | 1 |
| Appropriation No: 614 | 10040000 | Amount: | \$127,785 | |
| | | | \$ | |
| | | | \$ | |
| | | | \$ | |
| | | | \$ | |
| | | | \$ | |

OCT 2 6 2018

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STATE OF VERMONT REQUEST FOR GRANT (*) ACCEPTANCE (Form AA-1)

| | | \$ | |
|--|----------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| | | Total \$ | 27,785.00 |
| | | | |
| PERSONAL SERVICE IN | TODMATION | | |
| | | e or more Personal Service Contr | ants? Nyas No |
| | | icate intent to follow current compe | |
| | | 0 | 7 |
| Appointing Authority Name | e: Emily Boedecker, Com | missioner Agreed by: <u>ELU</u> | (initial) |
| 12. Limited Service | | | |
| Position Information: | # Positions | Title | |
| | | | |
| * | | | |
| | | | |
| Total Positions | | | |
| 12a. Equipment and space positions: | for these Is p | presently available. | btained with available funds. |
| 13. AUTHORIZATION A | GENCY/DEPARTMEN | T | |
| I we certify that no funds beyond basic application | Signature: | c flok | Date: 10/24/15 |
| preparation and filing costs | Title: Acting Com | missioner, Dept. of | Environental |
| have been expended or | 0 | , rec | ruleication |
| committed in anticipation of Joint Fiscal Committee | Signature: | | Date: |
| approval of this grant, unless | | | |
| previous notification was made on Form AA-1PN (if | Title: | | |
| applicable): | | | |
| 14. SECRETARY OF ADM | INISTRATION | | |
| | (Secretary or designee signature | e)(| Date: |
| Approved: | 11/1 | 8 | 18/19/18 |
| | | | |
| 15. ACTION BY GOVERN | IUR - | | |
| Check One Box: Accepted | 700 | | |
| | (Governor's signature) | | Date |
| | IL XON | | 12/21/10 |
| Rejected | | | 14010 |
| 16. DOCUMENTATION R | REQUIRED | | |
| | Required G | RANT Documentation | |
| Request Memo | | Notice of Donation (if any) | • • • • |
| Dept. project approval (if Notice of Award | applicable) | Grant (Project) Timeline (if appl Request for Extension (if application) | |
| Grant Agreement | | Form AA-1PN attached (if appli | |
| Grant Budget | | | |
| | En | d Form AA-1 | |
| | | um of money or thing of value to be acc | cepted by any agency, |
| department, commission, board, | , or other part of state gover | nment (see 32 V.S.A. §5). | |

S.

| | MEMORANDUM | |
|----------|--|-----|
| TO: | PHIL SCOTT, GOVERNOR, STATE OF VERMONT | |
| THROUGH | I: BRAD FERLAND, DEPUTY SECRETARY, AGENCY OF ADMINISTRATION | · . |
| THROUGH | ADAM GRESHIN, COMMISSIONER, FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT, AGENCY OF ADMINISTRATION | |
| THROUGH | I: MICHAEL MIDDLEMAN, BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT ANALYST, AGENCY OF ADMINISTRATION | |
| THROUGH | : CHRISTINE GILHULY, PRIVATE SECRETARY, AGENCY OF ADMINISTRATION | |
| THROUGH | E EMILY BOEDECKER, COMMISSIONER, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMETNAL CONSERVATION (DEC) | |
| FROM: | KIM MCKEE, GRANT PROGRAMS MANAGER, DEC FINANCIAL OPERATIONS | |
| SUBJECT: | DEC CONTRACT FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL | |
| DATE: | 9/25/2018 | |

Enclosed, please find the following AA-1 Grant Acceptance Form related to a Federal grant the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation has been awarded from the Northern Border Regional Commission being forwarded to you for review and approval by the Agency of Administration and Governor's Office. This grant award is generally on the subject of wastewater treatment planning for three communities in the Northern Border Region.

| | | Federal Award |
|------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| Grant # | Granting Agency | Received |
| NBRC18VT02 | Northern Border Regional Commission | \$219,213.00 |

If you have any questions regarding this contract amendment, please do not hesitate to contact me at (802) 477-3349.

DCT 2 6 2018

Thank you for your time.

Daniel Dickerson

| From: | Boedecker, Emily <emily.boedecker@vermont.gov></emily.boedecker@vermont.gov> |
|--------------|--|
| Sent: | Thursday, December 27, 2018 12:40 PM |
| То: | Daniel Dickerson |
| Cc: | Gilhuly, Christine; Middleman, Michael; Mckee, Kimberley; Marshall, Renita |
| Subject: | Fwd: Approved Grant |
| Attachments: | DEC - Wasetwater Solutions for Villages.pdf |

Dan, This email is to request expedited processing of the Wastewater Solutions for Villages grant. Thank you Emily

Emily Boedecker, Commissioner, Environtmental Conservation

From: Gilhuly, Christine <<u>christine.gilhuly@vermont.gov</u>>
Sent: Thursday, December 27, 2018 10:31 AM
To: Boedecker, Emily; Mckee, Kimberley
Cc: Middleman, Michael
Subject: Approved Grant

Good morning,

Attached please find the approved Wastewater Solutions for Village grant. Please be advised that the original is being routed to Dan Dickerson in the JFO today (via pink mail).

Thank you,

Chrissy Gilhuly Department of Finance and Management <u>christine.gilhuly@vermont.gov</u> ph: (802) 828-2376



Northern Border Regional Commission

Grant Agreement Between Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) And Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

July 25, 2018

NBRC Agreement Number: NBRC18GVT02

Project Title: Wastewater Solutions for Villages

| Grantor: |
|--|
| Northern Border Regional Commission |
| Contact: Christine Frost |
| 53 Pleasant Street, Suite 1201, Concord, NH 03301 |
| 603-369-3001 |
| admin@nbrc.gov |
| www.nbrc.gov |
| Special Projects Director/ Legislative Liaison |
| email: <u>Tim.Tierney@vermont.gov</u> |
| http://www.thinkvermont.com |
| 03-6000274 |
| 80-9800303 |
| July 25, 2018 |
| |

| Date of Amendments | N/A | |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Total Project Amount: | \$383,356 | |
| Amount of Federal NBRC Funds Awarded: | \$219,213 | ÷ |
| Total Other Funds/Match: | \$164,143 | |
| Reimbursement Rate: | 57% | |
| CFDA Number and Name: | #90.601 /Economic and Infrastructure Development Grant Program | |
| Project Description: | Wastewater treatment planning for three communities | |
| Infrastructure Award: | No | |
| Approved Indirect Cost Rate: | N/A | |

I. Grant Provisions Specific to This Award

- I. <u>Statement of Purpose</u> Incorporation of Proposal: This agreement implements a Grant/Investment made under the authorities of 40 USC Subtitle 5, to provide funding to the **Vermont Dept of Environmental Conservation.** This project shall be carried out in general accord with Recipient's proposal, received by Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) prior to May 11, 2018. Recipient's proposal is incorporated by reference as the Scope of Service. To the extent this agreement conflicts with the incorporated proposal, this Agreement shall control.
- II. <u>Order of Precedence:</u> This Grant Agreement is subject to the provisions of 40 USC Subtitle 5, 2 CFR 200, General Federal Grant Provisions, this Grant Agreement, the most recent NBRC Federal Grant Investment Manual(with the exception of the final paragraph of Section IV.4, Award Conditions), and any incorporated Supplements. Any conflict among these provisions shall be resolved giving precedence to these authorities in the order in which they are listed above.
- III. **Period of Performance:** The Investment period of Performance shall be from the date a Notice to Proceed is issued, through September 30, 2021.
- IV. NBRC Agreement Number: The Grant Agreement number that has been assigned to this project <u>must</u> be included in any and all communications regarding this award, this includes filing progress reports and reimbursement requests as well as incidental communication and inquiries.

- V. **Obligation of Funds:** The following items are required to be filed with NBRC no later than **September 1, 2018**, to ensure that funds are obligated for this specific project in the current federal fiscal year.
 - A signed copy of this Grant Agreement
 - Completed SF3881 Automated Clearing House (ACH) Enrollment Form.
- VI. <u>Notice to Proceed:</u> No work may begin prior to a Notice-To-Proceed being issued by NBRC. No documented match or invoices generated by the Recipient will be considered part of the project until a Notice-To-Proceed has been issued by NBRC. Reimbursements shall not cover costs incurred prior to the date of a Notice to Proceed from NBRC. The following items are required for this project in order to receive a Notice-To-Proceed:
 - Signed Grant Agreement returned to NBRC
 - SF3881 Automated Clearing House (ACH) returned to NBRC
 - NBRC Form 1002 listing committed match (maximum 80% federal)
 - Participate in a 1 hour Kick Off meeting with NBRC

VII. Project Scope:

A. As outlined in the application submitted on or before May 11, 2018.

VIII. Reporting Requirements :

A. Quarterly Reporting

1. <u>Progress Reports:</u> Using the Performance Progress Report (SF-PPR), each Recipient is required to provide quarterly progress reports beginning October 1, 2018. These reports are required even when no activity has taken place during that time period (state that no activity has taken place). Reimbursements will not be processed if Progress Reports are up not up to date. Reports are due as follows:

Reporting Period:(Quarter 1) October 1 - December 31 - **Report Due January 31** Reporting Period:(Quarter 2) January 1 - March 30 - **Report Due April 30** Reporting Period:(Quarter 3) April 1 - June 30 - **Report Due July 31** Reporting Period: (Quarter 4) July 1 - September 30 - **Report Due October 30**

B. Annual Reporting

1. <u>Financial Reports:</u> The SF-425 Federal Financial Report is due on October 30 of each federal fiscal year (October 1 to September 30) and 45 days after the close of the project. Reimbursements will not be processed if Annual Financial Reports are up not up to date.

C. Close Out Reporting

Five percent (5%) of the NBRC award will be held until all Project Close Out documents are received by NBRC.

1. Performance Measures:

- a) GPRA: The recipient agrees to report on program performance measures and program outcomes in such form and at such intervals as may be prescribed by NBRC in compliance with the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) of 1993. Performance measures and reporting requirements that presently apply to program activities funded by this grant will be provided in a separate GPRA information collection document. GPRA reporting will include # of jobs created (these jobs are a result of the project not temporary employment during the project) and amount of private investment as a result of the project.
- b) Project Specific Performance Measures:
 - # of properties redeveloped
 - # of gallons of wastewater capacity
- 2. <u>Final Report</u>: Final Reports using the SF-SPPR shall be due 45 days after the close of the project. This report covers the entire project, not the remainder of the project since your last quarterly report.
- 3. <u>Video:</u> A maximum 3-minute video describing the results of the project shall be submitted to NBRC.
- 4. Final Financial Report: SF-425 Federal Financial Report including the entire project.
- 5. <u>Equipment Purchase Documentation</u>: **If** equipment was purchased as part of the project the following shall be submitted to NBRC:
 - a) Inventory listing any equipment purchased as a result of the project;
 - b) Depreciation schedule of the equipment.
- <u>Real Property Documentation</u>: If property is purchased.
 a) A copy of recorded deed restrictions for property purchased as part of the project and the SF 429A.
- 7. <u>Leases:</u> Copy of any and all leases developed as part of the project shall be submitted to NBRC.
- IX. <u>Budget:</u> Under the terms of the Award, the total approved/authorized budget is:
 \$383,356. Costs will be determined in general accord with the budget outlined in the proposal or subsequently negotiated. Recipients must obtain prior written approval when any line item within the budget is changed by more than 10% of the line item.

| Budge | t , |
|--|-----------|
| Administration | |
| Real Estate, Easements, etc | |
| Architectural and Engineering/Other Contractual/Professional Services | \$302,404 |
| Construction | |
| Equipment | |
| Supplies | \$1,884 |
| Travel | \$2,420 |
| Personnel & Fringe | \$51,000 |
| Indirect Costs | \$9,009 |
| Other Direct | \$16,639 |
| Total | \$383,356 |

X. <u>Matching Share of Project Costs</u>: Prior to receipt of Notice To Proceed and any initial disbursement of funds, the Total Project Costs must be identified. Form NBRC1002 must be submitted identifying all match that will be used in order to complete the project.

XI. Program Income: N/A

- XII. <u>Architect/Engineer Agreement:</u> The agreement must provide for all services required by the Recipient for the design and engineering phases of the project. The recipient must select the architect/engineer in accordance with the procurement standards set forth in 12 C.F.R. 200.319. The "cost-plus-a-percentage-of-cost" and "percentage of construction cost" methods of contracting are specifically prohibited.
- XIII. **Construction Management Agreement:** The award and compensation for Construction Management services are subject to the same rules as those for architect/engineer services. The Construction Management Agreement must spell out who is responsible for construction inspection, approval of construction and supply contracts, change orders and other areas of possible conflicts (i.e., the division of responsibility and authority between the Recipient, the Architect/Engineer and the Construction Management).
- XIV. <u>Sub-Awards:</u> It is understood that certain work activities undertaken as part of the project funded through this Financial Assistance Award will be accomplished through sub-awards by the Recipient. Before the disbursement of any funds awarded through this

Financial Assistance Award for any costs incurred by a sub-awardee, the Recipient will provide to NBRC:

- 1. A sub-award agreement acceptable to NBRC between the Recipient and the subawardee governing the sub-awardee's work activities. The sub-awardee agreement must include a description of the activities to be performed, the amount of the subaward, the total cost of the activities to be undertaken, and the requirement that the sub-awardee comply with all of the terms and conditions of this Financial Assistance Award, and;
- A written opinion from the Recipient that the sub-awardee is an entity eligible as outlined in the guiding legislation of NBRC: specifically, a "States or local governments, Indian tribes, or public or nonprofit organization (defined as an organization described in section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation under 501(a).
- XV. **Procurement:** Appendix II of 2 CFR 200 will guide the work of all Recipients and any sub-recipients that are awarded funds through NBRC. In addition to other provisions required by the Federal agency or non-Federal entity, all contracts made by the Recipient entity under the Federal award must contain provisions covering the following, as applicable.

For competitive awards, recipients must disclose any competition related Conflicts of Interest, consistent with the recipient's Conflict of Interest Policy. If the recipient does not have a Conflict of Interest Policy, one must be created prior to any contracts of subawards.

Electronic and Information Technology Accessibility Recipients are subject to the program accessibility provisions of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, codified in 40 CFR Part 7, which includes an obligation to provide individuals with disabilities reasonable accommodations and an equal and effective opportunity to benefit from or participate in a program, including those offered through electronic and information technology ("EIT"). In compliance with Section 504, EIT systems or products funded by this award must be designed to meet the diverse needs of users (e.g., U.S. public, recipient personnel) without barriers or diminished function or quality. Systems shall include usability features or functions that accommodate the needs of persons with disabilities, including those who use assistive technology. At this time, the NBRC will consider a recipient's websites, interactive tools, and other EIT as being in compliance with Section 504 if established under Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, codified at 36 CFR Part 1194. While Section 508 doesn't apply to the receipts current EIT, it does apply to any products that are created by the recipients using federal funds.

All Contracts:

Equal Employment Opportunity. Except as otherwise provided under 41 CFR Part 60, all contracts that meet the definition of "federally assisted construction contract" in 41 CFR Part 60-1.3 must include the equal opportunity clause provided under 41 CFR 60-1.4(b), in accordance with Executive Order 11246, "Equal Employment Opportunity" (30 CFR 12319, 12935, 3 CFR Part, 1964-1965 Comp., p. 339), as amended by Executive Order 11375, "Amending Executive Order 11246 Relating to Equal Employment Opportunity," and implementing regulations at 41 CFR part 60, "Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity, Department of Labor."

Debarment and Suspension (Executive Orders 12549 and 12689)—A contract award (see 2 CFR 180.220) must not be made to parties listed on the governmentwide exclusions in the System for Award Management (SAM), in accordance with the OMB guidelines at 2 CFR 180 that implement Executive Orders 12549 (3 CFR part 1986 Comp., p. 189) and 12689 (3 CFR part 1989 Comp., p. 235), "Debarment and Suspension." SAM Exclusions contains the names of parties debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, as well as parties declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than Executive Order 12549.

Contracts in excess of \$10,000:

- All contracts in excess of \$10,000 must address termination for cause and for convenience by the Recipient entity including the manner by which it will be affected and the basis for settlement.
- Equal employment opportunity and labor standards requirements for federally assisted construction and modernization must be specified in the information provided to potential bidders/offerors on construction contracts under NBRC grants and must be included in the resulting contract documents; "Will not discriminate on the basis of race, color religion, sex or national origin."
- Except as otherwise provided in the conditions of the award, when a publication or similar copyrightable material is developed from work supported by NBRC, the author is free to arrange for copyright without approval of the NBRC. However, copyrighted materials are subject to a royalty-free, nonexclusive, and irrevocable license to the Federal government to reproduce them, translate them, publish them, and use and dispose of them, and to authorize others to do so for Federal government purposes.

Contracts in excess of \$100,000:

- Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 3701-3708). Where applicable, all contracts awarded by the Recipient in excess of \$100,000 that involve the employment of mechanics or laborers must include a provision for compliance with 40 U.S.C. 3702 and 3704, as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 5). Under 40 U.S.C. 3702 of the Act, each contractor must be required to compute the wages of every mechanic and laborer on the basis of a standard work week of 40 hours. Work in excess of the standard work week is permissible provided that the worker is compensated at a rate of not less than one and a half times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in the work week. The requirements of 40 U.S.C. 3704 are applicable to construction work and provide that no laborer or mechanic must be required to work in surroundings or under working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous or dangerous. These requirements do not apply to the purchases of supplies or materials or articles ordinarily available on the open market, or contracts for transportation or transmission of intelligence.
- Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (31 U.S.C. 1352)—Contractors that apply or bid for an award exceeding \$100,000 must file the required certification. Each tier certifies to the tier above that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal contract, grant or any other award covered by 31 U.S.C. 1352. Each tier must also disclose any lobbying with non-Federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any Federal award. Such disclosures are forwarded from tier to tier up to the non-Federal award.

Contract in excess of \$150,000:

- Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q.) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251-1387), as amended—Contracts and subgrants of amounts in excess of \$150,000 must contain a provision that requires the Recipient to agree to comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251-1387). Violations must be reported to the Federal awarding agency and the Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
- Contracts over \$150,000, authorized by 41 U.S.C. 1908, must address administrative, contractual, or legal remedies in instances where contractors violate or breach contract terms, and provide for such sanctions and penalties as appropriate.

See §200.322 Procurement of recovered materials.

[78 FR 78608, Dec. 26, 2013, as amended at 79 FR 75888, Dec. 19, 2014]

XVI. Procurement of Real or Other Property and/or Equipment:

- 1. **Real Property:** Real property shall only be used for the original purpose of this Agreement until the property has served its purpose. In such situations where the property is not being used for the original purpose, the Recipient must obtain permission from NBRC to do one of the following;
 - a) Retain the property after compensating NBRC. The amount paid to NBRC will be computed by applying NBRC's percentage of participation in the cost of the original purchase (and cost of any improvements) to the fair market value of the property, or;
 - b) Sell the property and compensate NBRC. The amount paid to NBRC will be calculated by applying NBRC's percentage of participation in the cost of the original purchase (and cost of any improvements) to the proceeds of the sale after deduction of any actual and reasonable expenses of the sale.
 - c) Transfer title to the NBRC or to a third party approved by NBRC. The Recipient is entitled to be paid an amount calculated by applying the Recipient's percentage of participation in the purchase of the property after NBRC has been compensated its pro-rated percentage.
- 2. NBRC has established that real property shall be encumbered for the purpose of the Investment for a period of 20 years from the time of acquisition.
- 3. With the exception of State Agencies and county or municipal entities, NBRC requires that the Recipient records this encumbrance as a deed restriction and provides NBRC with a copy of the documentation.
- 4. An SF 429A must be filed with NBRC at the end of the project.
- Equipment: The Recipient shall hold title to any equipment that is purchased through NBRC funds. Recipients shall follow 2 CFR 200.313 outlining equipment purchases. The following conditions are highlighted:
 - a) Equipment must be used by the Recipient in the program or project for which it was acquired as long as needed, whether or not the project or program continues to be supported by NBRC;
 - b) Equipment must not be encumbered, sold, or disposed of without prior approval by NBRC;
 - c) Must not use equipment to generate fees that are less than what private companies charge for equivalent services

- d) Must provide NBRC an inventory of property that is purchased for the project;
- e) Must contact NBRC when equipment is fully depreciated.
- 6. NBRC has established that equipment shall be encumbered for the purpose of the Investment until the equipment has been fully depreciated.
- XVII. <u>Method of Payment:</u> Prior to any disbursement, Recipients must complete the SF-3881, "ACH Vendor/Miscellaneous Payment Enrollment Form" and submit it to the NBRC at <u>admin@nbrc.gov</u>. In order to receive payments, Recipients must submit an SF-270 "Request of Reimbursement" for the applicable period electronically to <u>admin@nbrc.gov</u>. NBRC will review and process the request. All payments will be on a reimbursable basis, using the reimbursement rate indicated on the first page of this Agreement.

XVIII. <u>Receipt of Financial Award:</u> A signed copy of this Agreement along with the ACH form must be returned to NBRC via mail or email at <u>admin@nbrc.gov</u> on or before September 14, 2018. If this deadline cannot for any reason be met you must contact Christine Frost at 603-369-3001 immediately. If arrangements have not been made and a signed Agreement has not been received by September 1, 2018, the Federal Co-Chair, or Congress's designee, may assign these funds to other propriety projects within your state.

II. General Federal Grant Provisions

I. <u>Recipient's Duty to Refrain from Employing Certain Government</u>

Employees: For the Agreement period of performance, the Recipient(s) agree that it will not employ, offer any office or employment to, or retain for professional services any person who:

- (I) On the date the NBRC executed this award or with the one-year period ending on that date, served as an officer, attorney, agent, or employee of NBRC; and
- (II) Occupied a position or engaged in activities that the Federal Co-Chair determines involved discretion with respect to the award of NBRC.

The associated restrictions referenced above also shall apply beginning on the date of the NBRC executes any cost amendment to this award that provides additional funds to the. Recipient.

- II. <u>Audit Requirements:</u> In accordance with 2 CFR 200.501(a), the recipient hereby agrees to obtain a single audit from an independent auditor, if their organization expends \$750,000 or more in total Federal funds in their fiscal year. The recipient must submit the form SF-SAC and a Single Audit Report Package within 9 months of the end of the recipient's fiscal. The SF-SAC and a Single Audit Report Package MUST be submitted using the Federal Audit Clearinghouse's Internet Data Entry System available at: https://harvester.census.gov/facides/(S(3wauez2yufokbe3engv0dtek))/account/login.aspx.
- **III. Lobbying and Litigation**: The chief executive officer of this recipient agency shall ensure that no grant funds awarded under this assistance agreement are used to engage in lobbying of the Federal Government or in litigation against the U.S. unless authorized under existing law. The recipient shall abide by the Cost Principles available at 2 CFR

200 which generally prohibits the use of federal grant funds for litigation against the U.S. or for lobbying or other political activities. In accordance with the Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment, any recipient who makes a prohibited expenditure under Title 40 CFR Part 34 or fails to file the required certification or lobbying forms shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such expenditure.

- IV. Goals for Women and Minorities in Construction: Consistent with 2C.F.R 200.321 non-Federal entities should take necessary steps to assure that minority and women's business and labor surplus area firms are used when possible. Affirmative steps must include:
 - 1. Placing qualified small and minority businesses and women's business enterprises on solicitation lists;
 - 2. Assuring that small and minority businesses, and women's business enterprises are solicited whenever they are potential sources;
 - 3. Dividing total requirements, when economically feasible, into smaller tasks or quantities to permit maximum participation by small and minority businesses, and women's business enterprises;
 - 4. Establishing delivery schedules, where the requirement permits, which encourage participation by small and minority businesses, and women's business enterprises;
 - 5. Using the services and assistance, as appropriate, of such organizations as the Small Business Administration and the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce; and
 - 6. Requiring the prime contractor, if subcontracts are to be let, to take the affirmative steps listed in paragraphs (1) through (5) of this section.
- V. **Freedom of Information Act and Record Retention:** NBRC is responsible for meeting its Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 522) responsibilities for its records. Consistent with 2 CFR 200.333, financial records, supporting documents, emails, statistical records and all other non-Federal entity records pertinent to a Federal award must be retained for a period of three years from the date of submission of the final expenditure report.
- VI. <u>Fair Labor Standards Act</u> (29 USC S 207) Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 USC S327)
- VII. <u>Transparency Act Reporting:</u> All Recipients of awards are required to comply with reporting requirements under the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Transparency Act).

VIII. Project Costs:

1. Allowable Costs:

a) Advertising and public relations. §200.421 Allowable

The only allowable advertising costs are those which are solely for:

(1) The recruitment of personnel required by the non-Federal entity for performance of a Federal award (See also §200.463 Recruiting costs);

(2) The procurement of goods and services for the performance of a Federal

award;

(3) The disposal of scrap or surplus materials acquired in the performance of a Federal award except when non-Federal entities are reimbursed for disposal costs at a predetermined amount; or

(4) Program outreach and other specific purposes necessary to meet the requirements of the Federal award.

b) Bonding costs. §200.427 Allowable

(1)Bonding costs arise when the Federal awarding agency requires assurance against financial loss to itself or others by reason of the act or default of the non-Federal entity. They arise also in instances where the non-Federal entity requires similar assurance, including: bonds as bid, performance, payment, advance payment, infringement, and fidelity bonds for employees and officials.
(2)Costs of bonding required pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Federal award are allowable.

(3)Costs of bonding required by the non-Federal entity in the general conduct of its operations are allowable as an indirect cost to the extent that such bonding is in accordance with sound business practice and the rates and premiums are reasonable under the circumstances.

c) Compensation-fringe benefits. §200.431 Allowable

Fringe benefits are allowances and services provided by employers to their employees as compensation in addition to regular salaries and wages. Fringe benefits include, but are not limited to, the costs of leave (vacation, family related, sick or military), employee insurance, pensions, and unemployment benefit plans. Except as provided elsewhere in these principles, the costs of fringe benefits are allowable provided that the benefits are reasonable and are required by law, non-Federal entity-employee agreement, or an established policy of the non-Federal entity.

d) Equipment and other capital expenditures. §200.439 Allowable These need to be specific to the purpose of the award. See §§200.13 Capital expenditures, 200.33 Equipment, 200.89 Special purpose equipment, 200.48 General purpose equipment, 200.2 Acquisition cost, and 200.12 Capital assets.

e) Materials and supplies costs, including costs of computing devices. §200.453 Allowable

f) Professional service costs. §200.459 Allowable

Costs of professional and consultant services rendered by persons who are members of a particular profession or possess a special skill, and who are not officers or employees of the non-Federal entity, are allowable, subject to paragraphs (b) and (c) when reasonable in relation to the services rendered and when not contingent upon recovery of the costs from the Federal Government. In addition, legal and related services are limited under §200.435 Defense and prosecution of criminal and civil proceedings, claims, appeals and patent infringements.

g) Proposal costs. §200.460 Allowable

Proposal costs are the costs of preparing bids, proposals, or applications on potential Federal and non-Federal awards or projects, including the development of data necessary to support the non-Federal entity's bids or proposals. Proposal costs of the current accounting period of both successful and unsuccessful bids and proposals normally should be treated as indirect (F&A) costs and allocated currently to all activities of the non-Federal entity. No proposal costs of past accounting periods will be allocable to the current period.

h) Publication and printing costs. §200.461 Allowable

Publication costs for electronic and print media, including distribution, promotion, and general handling are allowable. If these costs are not identifiable with a particular cost objective, they should be allocated as indirect costs to all benefiting activities of the non-Federal entity.

i) Training and education costs. §200.472 Allowable

The cost of training and education provided for employee development is allowable.

- j) Transportation costs. §200.473 Allowable See § 200.473 for specifics.
- k) Travel costs. §200.474 Allowable
- 2. Unallowable Costs:
 - a) Alcoholic beverages. §200.423 Unallowable
 - b) Bad debts. §200.426 Unallowable
 - c) Contributions and donations. §200.434 Unallowable
 - d) Entertainment costs. §200.438 Unallowable
 - e) Fines, penalties, damages and other settlements. §200.441 Unallowable
 - f) Fund raising and investment management costs. §200.442 Unallowable
 - g) Goods or services for personal use. §200.445 Unallowable Costs of goods or services for personal use of the non-Federal entity's employees are unallowable regardless of whether the cost is reported as taxable income to the employees.
 - h) Interest. §200.449 Unallowable
 - i) Lobbying. §200.450 Unallowable
 - j) Losses on other awards or contracts. §200.451 Unallowable
 - k) Pre-award costs. §200.458 Unallowable Unless specifically outlined in the grant agreement.
 - 1) Selling and marketing costs. §200.467 Unallowable

Costs of selling and marketing any products or services of the non-Federal entity (unless allowed under §200.421 Advertising and public relations). Are unallowable, except as direct costs, with prior approval by the Federal awarding agency when necessary for the performance of the Federal award.

- IX. Non-Relocation: In signing this award of financial assistance, Recipient attest that NBRC funding is not intended by the Recipient to assist its efforts to induce the relocation, or the movement of existing jobs from one region to another region in competition with those jobs. In the event that NBRC determines that its assistance was used for such purposes, NBRC retains the right to pursue appropriate enforcement action, including suspension of disbursement of a debt requiring the Recipient to reimburse NBRC.
- X. Hatch Act: The Hatch Act restricts political activity of executive branch employees of the federal government and District of Columbia government employees (5 U.S.C. 7321– 7328) and State or local officers or employees (5 U.S.C. 1501–1528). "State or local officer or employee" means an individual employed by a State or local agency whose principal employment is in connection with an activity that is financed in whole or in part by loans or grants made by the United States or a Federal agency.



Northern Border Regional Commission

Grant Agreement Between Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) And Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

July 25, 2018

NBRC Agreement Number: NBRC18GVT02

Project Title: Wastewater Solutions for Villages

Emily Boedecker, Commissioner of Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation Recipient's Authorized Representative Name and Title (print)

N.K.

e-Signed by Emily Boedecker on 2018-09-19 15:11:23 GMT

September 19, 2018

Recipient's Authorized Representative (signature) (By signing this document, you affirm that you have read this document and are prepared, and shall maintain the capacity, to carry out all the obligations that comedate with these Investment funds).

Christine Frost, Program Director

NBRC Authorized Representative Name and Title (print)

NBIRC Authorized Representative (signature)

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Page 13 of 13



Vermont Department of Environmental ConservationCommissioner's OfficeOne National Life Drive, Main 2[phone]802-828-1556Montpelier, VT 05620-3520[fax]802-828-1541

May 11, 2018

Northern Borders Regional Commission

53 Pleasant Street

Concord, NH 03301

RE: 2018 Economic & Infrastructure Development Investments Application.

Dear Members of Northern Border Regional Commission,

We appreciate this opportunity to apply for funds that will enable us to resolve a longstanding economic problem in Vermont – how to help rural towns obtain the wastewater infrastructure they need to revitalize their villages. Our agency recently adopted a strategic planning goal to support 5 villages to achieve wastewater solutions over 5 years and have formed an interagency task force to make it happen. The need for this work is clearly stated in the statewide Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and in other state, regional and local plans. This funding could not come at a better time.

Agency of Natural Resources

Through discussion with partners and stakeholders we have identified the challenges that small towns face and the gaps in existing programs that pose barriers. Our proposed NBRC grant project allows us to test new and comprehensive approaches to state assistance in three pilot villages to address those gaps. We will apply what we learn from working with the pilots towards adjusting our funding, permitting and assistance programs to help other rural communities achieve their economic goals.

For the pilot projects we have selected three villages in two towns based on their readiness to engage and opportunities to use wastewater infrastructure to create new jobs, housing and community improvements. Each village has different issues and opportunities, with circumstances typical of what we see in communities throughout the Northern Border region (see attached photo of each village):

- Wolcott conducted a village wastewater study over a decade ago that identified solutions the town found to be far too expensive – an issue that has stalled projects in many other small towns that have received funding for feasibility studies. The town selectboard and other officials are eager to see the commercial/industrial buildings, formerly Bucks Furniture, now owned by MSI, used for more than warehousing. The town also wants to help village residents improve their properties with more business and housing options in the village, especially in anticipation of the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail that will run through Wolcott village, mid-way between Morrisville and Hardwick.
- In West Burke, wastewater solutions were identified as a priority by the town during a Community Visit
 organized by Vermont Council on Rural Development in 2017. There are several prominent vacant buildings in
 town that are in need wastewater options and the community wants to see these properties used for workforce
 housing and business opportunities that could be stimulated by the planned Kingdom Trails linkage between
 West and East Burke villages. Burke has an active community organization One Burke that is in the process
 of seeking a USDA-RD SEARCH grant for a wastewater feasibility study. The proposed work plan for the NBRC

To preserve, enhance, restore, and conserve Vermont's natural resources, and protect human health, for the benefit of this and future generations.

grant would complement the SEARCH grant project and DEC funds will be available for the work if the town does not receive the SEARCH grant.

 In East Burke, visitor services are steadily expanding thanks to the recreational opportunities available at Kingdom Trails and Burke Mountain. Businesses have indicated that they need wastewater options to expand. One Burke is eager to investigate wastewater solutions for East Burke in addition to West Burke. A drinking water system expansion is now being implemented but many of the individual village lots are too small for onsite septic to allow this water to support additional development.

The NBRC grant will allow us to assist these communities by providing "wrap-around" services that expand on what is offered through the typical engineering feasibility studies that we now fund through our Planning Advance and Clean Water Revolving Loan fund programs. In particular, as shown on the attached Path to Solutions chart, we propose to hire a coordinator for each project to manage the pre-and post-engineering tasks and to ensure good communications with the town and community throughout the process. The NRBC funds will fund in-depth data gathering such as testing of individual wells in the village to determine if there is contamination, and training community volunteers to collect landowner information about their septic systems. This will help fine-tune the solutions proposed for the community. DEC will also prepare outreach information to provide guidance for other rural communities seeking wastewater solutions.

Once the pilots are complete and ready to move to final design and construction, we will evaluate our funding programs and work with our partners to consider restructuring them in a way that successfully supports wastewater solutions in rural communities. Without the NRBC funds, it will be impossible to test our theories adequately within a reasonable period of time.

Our team sincerely appreciates the assistance of NBRC's staff in providing valuable information towards preparation of this submittal. We are eager to get started. Thank you for your consideration of this application, which is of substantial importance to Vermont.

Sinceret

Neil Kamman, Senior Policy Advisor Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

To preserve, enhance, restore, and conserve Vermont's natural resources, and protect human health, for the benefit of this and future generations.

Path to Wastewater Solutions for Villages

TYPICAL ENGINEERING STUDIES

Feasibility Study

Hire an engineering firm

· Conduct soil tests and other

site investigations (obtain

archeological review)

Conduct environmental

wastewater solutions

Evaluate alternatives

Identify pros and cons of

Develop cost estimates

Identify finance strategies

management structures

and possible fee structures.

Identify alternative

Propose 3 or more

each alternative

Identify long term

alternatives

Determine existing

· Review work to date

conditions:

review

Pre-Engineering Tasks

Help for a local wastewater steering committee What do you want?

- Identify community vision to be furthered
- Ask businesses & residents about plans for future
- What do you need?
- Survey locations and status of existing wells and septic systems
- Identify permitting and enforcement concerns including archeological
- Test wells to determine if there is contamination What solutions are passible?

possible?

- GIS analysis of soils and environmental constraints
 Preliminary soil tests if needed
- Investigate available technologies
- How to Proceed?
- Define a scope of services
- Discuss with community and key stakeholders
- Select an engineering consultant
- Obtain funds for engineering

Preliminary Engineering Report (PER)

Engineer completes a PER if project will involve public funds for construction Report on work so far:

- · Existing conditions
- Need for project
- Alternatives considered

Recommend a wastewater project:

- · Preliminary design
- Project schedule
- Permit requirements
- Sustainability
- Financing

Other Tasks -Depending on Proposal

Additional work may be necessary before proceeding to final design Secure land

- Legal agreements with landowners, land trusts and other entities
- Preliminary purchase and sale
- Zoning and other land use permitting issues

Secure funding

- Coordinate with business and housing projects that need wastewater
- Income surveys to qualify for USDA-RD funds
- Apply for public funds
- Engage public in preparation for bond vote
- Set up a local loan program
 Decide on system

management

- Who will be responsible for long term system management?
- How will fees be structured and collected?

PROJECT COORDINATOR

Work normally funded by DEC and USDA

Work proposed for funding by NBRC and MPG

5/7/18 DHCD & DEC

project ready for bond vote final design

GOAL

Wastewater

· OMB Number: 4040-0004

Expiration Date: 12/31/2019

| Application for | Federal Assista | ince SF-424 | |
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| State Use Only: | | | |
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| 8. APPLICANT INF | ORMATION: | | |
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| Prefix: Mr. | | First Nan | Neil |
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| * Last Name: Kam Suffix: | man | 1 | |
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| Application for Federal A | ssistance SF-424 | | | | | |
| 16. Congressional Districts Of | 5. | | | | | |
| * a. Applicant VT-001 | | | * b. Program/Project | Vt-all | | |
| Attach an additional list of Progra | m/Project Congressional District | s if needed. | | | - | |
| | | Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment | | |
| 17. Proposed Project: | | 1 | | | | |
| *a. Start Date: 10/01/2018 | + | | * b. End Date: | 09/30/2021 | | |
| 18, Estimated Funding (\$): | | | • • | | 3 | |
| * a. Federal | 250,000.00 | | | | | |
| * b. Applicant | 0.00 | | 24 | | | 2 |
| * c. State | 164,142.00 | | | | | 12 |
| * d. Local | 0.00 | | - J | | | |
| * e. Other | 0.00 | * | | | | 1412 |
| * f. Program Income | 0.00 | ¥.; | | | 2 | |
| * g. TOTAL | 414,142.00 | | | | | |
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SECTION III - APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

If you need additional information or have questions please contact Christine Frost at admin@nbrc.gov, or (603) 369-3001.

CONTENT TO BE UPLOADED INTO NBRC GRANT PORTAL

Application deadline is 5pm on Friday, May 11, 2018

A. General Information

1.

NAME OF ENTITY APPLYING: Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)

Data Universal Number System Number (DUNS): 809800303

- 2. CO-APPLICANT IF APPLICABLE: N.A.
- AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: Emily Boedecker, Commissioner, Department of Environmental Conservation
- 4. PROJECT PRIMARY CONTACT: Neil Kamman, Senior Policy Advisor, Department of Environmental Conservation
- 5. AMOUNT BEING REQUESTED: \$250,000
- 6. PREVIOUS RECIPIENT: No. DEC has not received an NBRC grant in the past.
- 7. WHAT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT IS THE ENTITY LOCATED IN: Northern Vermont Economic Development District
- 8. WAS THE APPLICANT REQUIRED TO SUBMIT A SINGLE AUDIT IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS: YES
- B. WAS THE APPLICANT REQUIRED TO SUBMIT A SINGLE AUDIT IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS? YES. The Department of Environmental Conservation is included in the annual State of Vermont audit for federal funding programs.

C. Project Information

- 9. TIMELINE: Oct 1, 2018 September 30, 2021
- 10. STATE and CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Vermont VT-00: NBRC counties
- 11. WHAT COUNTY OR COUNTIES WILL THE PROJECT TAKE PLACE IN? Two pilot projects in Caledonia County, one in Lamoille County and statewide activities that will affect all of the

Vermont counties in the NBRC region.

12. ISOLATEDAREAS OF DISTRESS: There are no isolated areas of distress in 2018.

- 13.PROJECT DESCRIPTION: DEC will help three pilot villages that have no municipal sewers arrive at financially viable approaches to wastewater treatment that can be replicated throughout Vermont, facilitating job creation by making redevelopment of vacant buildings possible and priming villages for business investment.
- 14. WHAT IS THE TYPE OF ACTIVITY THAT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED? Non-Construction.

15. WILL THE ACTIVITY RESULT IN INFRASTRUCTURE? YES.

16. WILL THE PROJECT CREATE OR RETAIN JOBS? YES.

17. WILL THE PROJECT IMPROVE WATER OR SEWER SERVICE? YES.

18. WILL THE PROJECT TRAIN INDIVIDUALS AS PART OF A WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM? NO.

19. PROJECT LOCATION: Upload a pdf of a map indicating the physical location of the project,

and provide a narrative of the location of the project.

Projects are in state designated Village Centers.

20. PROJECTFOCUS: Section I.7 of this Application Manual lists the Eligible Purposes of Northern Border Investments. Please identify one or more of the Eligible Purposes outlined and provide a narrative of how your project is consistent with the intended purposes of NBRC funding.

WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE

State, regional, and local agencies identified wastewater infrastructure as the top priority to strengthen rural communities. While DEC helps towns plan and implement wastewater solutions, the process is long, complex, and difficult especially for rural towns.

DEC notes that towns undertaking feasibility studies often lack the resources to implement the solutions. Experts agree that enhanced local coordination from start to finish can fill gaps to ensure rural communities obtain the infrastructure needed to support their economic development goals. High costs of typical wastewater solutions prevent villages with small user bases from further actions. State funding, permitting and assistance programs need adjustment to enable solutions that are affordable and manageable.

DEC proposes pilot projects establishing wastewater solutions for three villages. Beyond engineering studies, the grant enables a coordinator to assist each community throughout the feasibility study process. It would also supplement the typical engineering feasibility study with additional community outreach, detailed data collection and other services as needed. See flyer.

The three villages identified for the pilot projects offer prime opportunities for economic development and each have engaged committees eager to tackle their wastewater woes. See photos.

- Wolcott village is located along a future segment of the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail and has a large complex of vacant and underused commercial/industrial buildings (formerly Bucks Furniture now MSI). Onsite wastewater capacity is limited in the village and must be expanded for the community to take advantage of the economic opportunities.
- East Burke, a gateway to year-round recreation at the Burke Mountain ski area and the Kingdom Trails mountain biking area, has growing tourism needs that require new wastewater options.
- West Burke contains several vacant buildings in prominent locations, that with wastewater options, could offer business opportunities and worker housing especially when trails are expanded linking it to East Burke.

By actively assisting these pilot communities and evaluating them, DEC and its partners will gain knowledge on ways to adjust programs, and explore innovative financing, technologies, and management practices. Implementing these process improvements and communicating the lessons learned will help other villages in Vermont arrive at their own wastewater solutions.

21. ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE PROJECT: Provide justification that the outcomes anticipated by the NBRC investment will result in positive economic growth for the region and cite the basis for the justification. Explain how the project may assist in any of the following:

- create and/or retain jobs
- raise per capita income
- lower poverty in the region
- lower regional unemployment
- lowerregionaloutmigration rates

It is important for the reviewers to understand how you arrived at your understanding of economic impact. What economic studies or experts can you reference to justify economic impact.

Wastewater infrastructure for villages supports rural development in keeping with regional and state economic and land use goals. According to <u>one study</u>, for every public dollar invested in water/wastewater infrastructure, three dollars of economic outputs are generated including increased employment. Vermont's <u>Statewide Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy</u> highlights the need for wastewater solutions in villages: "More than 200 historic village centers have no public wastewater treatment facilities. Without this critical infrastructure, development is difficult and costly" (p 62).

Bringing wastewater treatment to villages helps the pilot communities and the northern border economy:

- Wastewater solutions translate to lower business start-up costs, providing greater cash-flow to reinvest or expand and more disposable income to reinvest in the economy
- Breweries and restaurants that use local products can redevelop vacant buildings
- New housing units can be built in town, providing for workforce needs, revitalizing villages and avoiding displacing farm and forest land
- Enable creative and recreation-based businesses that improve the quality of life and spark investment
- Employment options are increased which can lead to less out-migration, higher average incomes, and lower poverty rates.

The strategies and initiatives in our CEDS (pp 44-45) specifically recommend addressing the lack of

wastewater treatment in villages as proposed in this application. Helping three pilot villages in the Northern Borders region achieve wastewater solutions, while adjusting state funding, permitting and outreach programs, and sharing what is learned from the pilots with other un-sewered villages throughout the region will directly implement the state CEDS.

The regional <u>CEDS for Vermont's Northern Border region</u>, also supports this project through its five goals, especially # 3: "Improve and Expand Infrastructure." This goal recognizes that "Iack of infrastructure/failing infrastructure affects business growth" (p16). Actions for furthering this goal include: "8. Support municipal efforts to improve/add/remove infrastructure" (page 20).

The businesses and attractions that are stimulated by wastewater options will further Goal #5 of the regional CEDS: "Promote Quality of Life in Communities," with actions such as "# 6. Promote infill and redevelopment to enhance the region's downtowns, and surrounding areas, as one of the priorities for business development" (p 22).

- 22. OUTCOMES OF THE PROJECT: Outcome measurements (often referred to as Performance Measures) are <u>documentable</u> ways to assess the extent to which a program/project has achieved its intended outcomes. List between two and four Outcome Measures that can demonstrate the impact of your investment over time. Below are examples of potential outcomes. These are meant to provide ideas. They are not the only outcomes that may be appropriate for your application. What is important is that the outcomes you choose are not outputs (items such as linear feet of pipe installed), they are results (the changes). Note: Make sure these are reasonable and obtainable, as the success of your project will be gauged in the future on the measurements that you choose. Your outcome should be bulleted and not more than 5-10 words, i.e "The project will result in new businesses moving into the project area."
 - Vacant and underused village properties are redeveloped
 - Communities arrive at affordable village wastewater solutions

The Governor's priorities are advanced through wastewater systems that enable environmentally sound revitalization that strengthens the economy, increases the housing supply for greater affordability, and protects the health of the vulnerable by avoiding water contamination. In the process of arriving at solutions, communities gain capacity that makes them more resilient.

23. WORK PLAN: Provide a Work Plan that lists tasks relating to any outputs that will be completed in order to achieve the Outcome Measures outlined in #22. Your work plan is what should be reported on when you submit a quarterly report. So, when you are writing this keep in mind how you're going to report on what you're writing. If you can't, don't include it. Be concise! **Do not** make this a long narrative. This should be a well thought out plan for implementing your project. Even when a project is technical assistance in nature there still should be deliverables that clearly demonstrate work completed as outlined. This work plan will be part of the Grant Agreement if awarded. So, it is important that tasks are thought through and vetted with partners and staff that will be involved in the project. The example below is a broad outline, but provides some idea for an outline to use. Some narrative of the tasks could be helpful, project timelines are required.

Please see additional documents for the Work Plan.

NBRC funds will be used to hire a multidisciplinary project coordinator to assist the communities through the pre- and post-engineering tasks and to fund additional services needed to reach a solution. Unlike traditional public wastewater projects that apply a single centralized solution, in rural villages the solutions can include decentralized community or private systems. Aligning the village wastewater solutions with proposed investment in senior housing, community building improvement or expanding business can help reduce costs for the community. For this reason, the project includes an outreach component for engaging landowners, businesses, and housing developers arriving at sewage solutions for the village. It also involves testing of wells and information gathering about existing septic systems. This helps ensure the wastewater solutions are targeted and based on well-documented data.

24. REGIONAL PLAN: In many regions there may be a number of documents from which to draw. What is important is that the project is consistent with regional strategies. A regional plan could be any number of documents; a Regional Plan, a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), an Economic Planning document or any number of titles. What is important is that it has been developed through a broad public process, and it is supported by leaders in the region and municipal leaders are engaged in the process. NBRC does not determine which regional plan should be consulted. Rather, it is important that your project is part of a coordinated effort that helps efficient and impactful delivery of very limited public dollars. Therefore, your project should be consistent with a plan that is regional in nature and has been widely adopted by municipal governments and general public within your area. Consult your Local Development District, found at <u>www.nbrc.gov</u>.

In addition to the CEDS goals noted above, the <u>North East Kingdom Regional Plan</u> has goals for Utilities and Facilities and Land Use to serve existing villages with wastewater treatment and other infrastructure as a path to economic development. The <u>Lamoille County Regional Plan</u> expresses similar aspirations, including an Implementation Strategy that directly supports this project (p 12): *Work with municipalities to develop community wastewater management districts serving Center Areas and/or to develop low-interest loan programs for septic repair and upgrades..*

25. STATE PLANNING: How does the project fit into a statewide economic development plan? There may not be a state planning document endorsed by your state for economic development. It is important that the project is consistent with state strategies. You may be able to reference a number of documents, but the most appropriate document should be one that is supported by leaders within the state and that the plan was created through a broad inclusive process. Consult the following Program Managers within your state if you have questions about how to reference a specific document.

<u>Vermont's Statewide CEDS</u> recommends this type of project to improve the state economy (see response # 21 above). It furthers the CEDS Steps to Success by helping rural towns find financing for infrastructure focused on a designated village center, supporting the Vermont Brand of compact centers surrounded by working landscape. It cultivates innovative solutions at both the local and state levels and helps small towns build the capacity that will help them become more resilient.

26. STRATEGIC PLAN: The NBRC Strategic Plan can be found at <u>www.nbrc.gov</u>. Explain how this project will help advance the goals of the Strategic Plan and/or explain how the project could contribute to meeting the performance measures outlined.

This project will help the NBRC achieve Goal 1 – modernizing infrastructure by increasing the number of households and businesses with improved infrastructure – this number can be estimated at the project

end. The project will also advance Goal #3.1 – leadership and community capacity by helping the pilot communities gain knowledge and experience in addressing community infrastructure needs. Once implemented, the wastewater solutions are expected to increase jobs in keeping with Goal #2.

27. N/A.

28. N/A.

29. N/A.

30. N/A.

31. N/A.

32. N/A.

33. Project Financial Overview. Requested amount: \$250,000 Match: \$164,142 Total Project Cost: \$414,142

34. Budget. Refer to attached documents.

35. Identify match.

Regional Planning Advance – State Funds - \$112,000 – Secured Local Committee Volunteer Hours – Volunteer - \$52,142 - Secured

36. Capital investments. N/A.

Sustainability. The pilot projects will develop a user base and utility rate structure as part of the final report. They will also include a Fiscal Sustainability Plan as part of the Preliminary Engineering Report to provide recommendations for short term asset management. For improving the processes for assisting rural towns with wastewater solutions, DEC will evaluate the pilot projects and work with partners to determine how best to re-structure funding programs to achieve successful results for other rural towns beyond the pilots. This will be documented in the final report.

(574 out of 1,500)

37. Property. The villages may choose to purchase an option on a property.

38. Ownership. The villages will own the PERs generated. They may also own an option to purchase at the end of the project, depending on their circumstances.

Financial Need. State and Federal funding that is currently available to communities seeking wastewater solutions are generally in the form of loans and are designed to pay mainly for engineering services. Small towns are debt adverse due to existing high property taxes and with the uncertainty of arriving at an acceptable solution, they routinely decline funding opportunities that are not grant based. The towns selected as pilots are typical in that their partnership was contingent on committing no town funds to this work. Instead, they offered substantial in-kind services that will ensure local engagement in the project. The town of Burke is pursuing a SEARCH grant from USDA Rural Development for engineering services, but the maximum grant amount can only cover West Burke (not the East village) and will not fund the additional services that we propose for this grant. We are working with USDA to ensure funding and matches are coordinated, but it is premature to assume Burke will receive the SEARCH grant. DEC has Planning Advances that it proposes to provide the pilot communities for the engineering services that are necessary to arrive at viable wastewater solutions in small towns, including funding for the coordinator role. (1339) out of 1,500)

BUDGET INFORMATION - Non-Construction Programs

OMB Number: 4040-0006 Expiration Date: 01/31/2019

| - | | 1 | | | _ | ON A - BUDGET SUMMA | - | | | | | |
|----------|---|---------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------------|----|----------------|----|--------------------|-----|------------|
| | Grant Program Catalog of Federal Function or Domestic Assistance | | | Estimated Unobl | igated Funds | New or Revised Budget | | | | | | |
| e: ji | Activity (a) | Number (b) | - | Federal (c) | | Non-Federal (d) | | Federal (e) | 1 | Non-Federal (f) | | otal g) |
| 1. | Northern Border Regional Development | 90.601 | \$ | | \$ | \$ | \$ | 250,000.00 | 5 | 164,142.00 | s | 414,142.00 |
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Standard Form 424A (Rev. 7-97)

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SECTION B - BUDGET CATEGORIES

| . Object Class Categories | | GRA | NT PROGRAM, FUNCTION | OR ACTIVITY | | Total |
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| a. Personnel | \$ 36,7 | 57.00 \$ | \$ | \$ | \$\$ | 36,75 |
| b. Fringe Benefits | . 14,5 | 43.00 | | • | | 14,24 |
| c. Travel | 2, | 120.00 | | | | 2,42 |
| d. Equipment | | | | | | |
| e. Supplies | 5, | 764.00 | | | | 5,78 |
| f. Contractual | 277, | 149.00 | | | | 277,14 |
| g. Construction | | | | | | |
| h. Other | 68, | 780.00 | | | | 68,78 |
| i. Total Direct Charges (sum of 6a-6h) | 405, | 133.00 | | | \$ | 405,13 |
| j. Indirect Charges | 9, | 009.00 | | | \$ | 9,00 |
| k. TOTALS (sum of 6i and 6j) | \$ 414, | 142.00 \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | 414,14 |
| . Program Income | \$ | s [| s | \$ | | |

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| (a) Grant Program | | | (b) Applicant | | | (c) State | | d) Other Sources | | (e)TOTALS |
| 8. Northern Border Regional Development | | | \$ | * | \$ | 164,142.00 | \$ | | \$ | 164,142.00 |
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| 12. TOTAL (sum of lines 8-11) | 1 | | \$ | 1 | \$ | 164,142.00 | \$ | | \$ | . 164,142.00 |
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| 4.) | · Total for 1st Yea | ar | | 1st Quarter | | 2nd Quarter | | 3rd Quarter | | 4th Quarter |
| 13. Federal | \$ 83,3 | 32.00 | \$ | 20,833.00 | \$ | 20,833.00 | \$ | 20,833.00 | \$ | 20,833.00 |
| 14. Non-Federal | \$ 54,7 | 12.00 | - | 13,678.00 | | 13,678.00 | | 13,678.00 | | 13,678.00 |
| 15. TOTAL (sum of lines 13 and 14) | \$ 138,0 | 44.00 | \$ | 34,511.00 | \$ | 34,511.00 | \$ | 34,511.00 | \$ | 34,511.00 |
| SECTION E - BU | DGET ESTIMATES C | F FEL | DERA | L FUNDS NEEDED | FOR | R BALANCE OF THE | PR | OJECT | | |
| (a) Grant Program | 9 ¹⁴ | | FUTURE FUNDING PERIODS (YEARS) | | | | | | | |
| | | | | (b)First | - | (c) Second | | (d) Third | * | (e) Fourth |
| 16. Northern Border Regional Development | | | \$ | 83,334.00 | \$ | 83,334.00 | \$ | | \$ | |
| 17. | | + | | | E | | | | | |
| 18. | | | | | | | | | L. | |
| 19. | | | | | E | | | | E | * |
| 20. TOTAL (sum of lines 16 - 19) | | • | \$ | . 83,334.00 | | 83,334.00 | \$ | | \$ | |
| | SECTI | ONF | - OTH | ER BUDGET INFOR | | and the second se | | 3 | | |
| 21. Direct Charges: 405133 | | | | 22. Indirect | Cha | rges: 5009 | | | | |
| 23. Remarks: | | * | | | | | | | | 1 |

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Wastewater Solutions for Villages: Budget Narrative

The budget for this project was prepared by listing the tasks proposed for the project and the individuals and other roles involved with the project in a matrix. This matrix was then used to estimate the number of hours that could be associated with the work involved with each task and who would be responsible for the work. The person-hour estimates were ultimately used to develop the total staff time involved in the project, as well as the overall time needed for consulting services and coordinator services and the anticipated volunteer hours from the wastewater committees that will contribute to match. The value of these volunteer hours combined with state matched dollars will comprise the non-federal match.

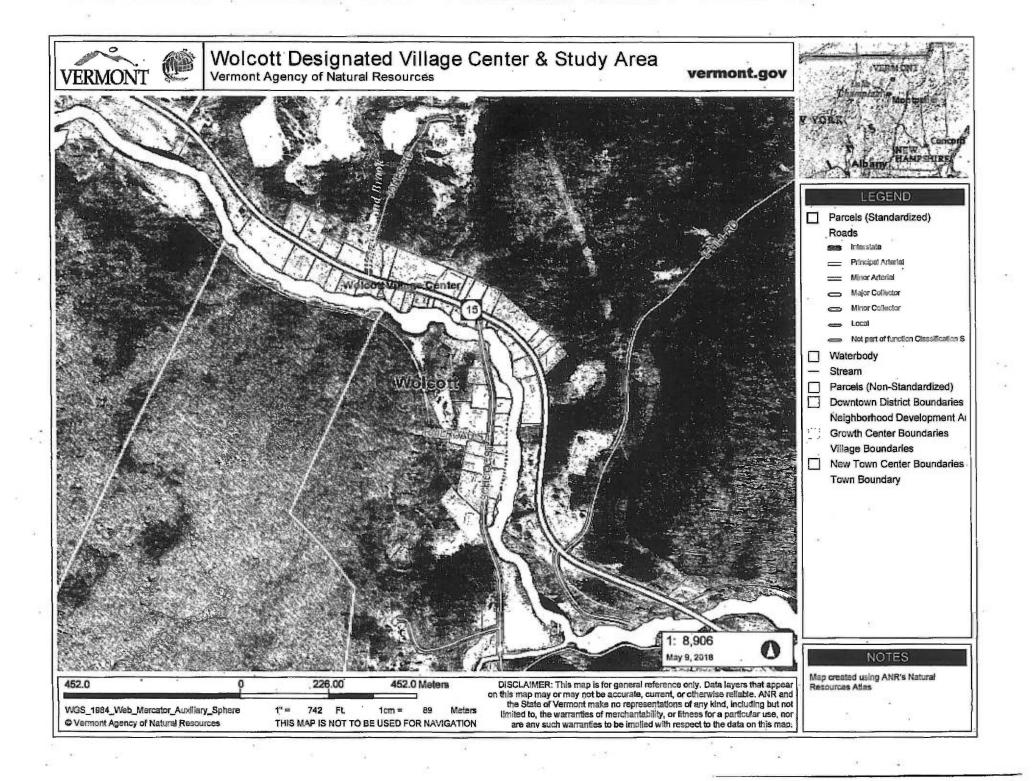
Given the locations of the villages relative to NBRC requirements, the village of Wolcott requires 50% match and the two villages in the Town of Burke each require 20% match. In this case our target minimum match is 30% which our proposed match exceeds.

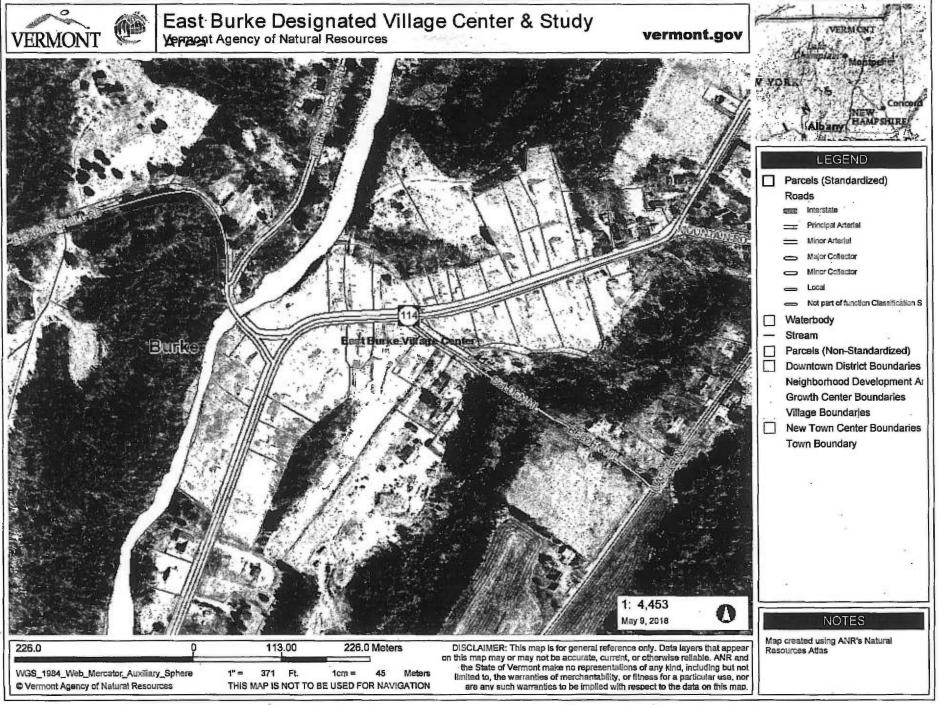
The Department of Environmental Conservation has developed a budget worksheet for grants that auto calculates certain elements based on percent full time equivalent (FTE), like fringe, office supplies, IT needs, Fleet use, and more.

Staff involved in the project are familiar with the overall costs of these types of studies and the billing rates of area consultants. The purpose of the preliminary engineering reports developed as a result of this project is to develop dependable infrastructure costs so that communities can move forward with future grant applications with greater reliability of the costs involved.

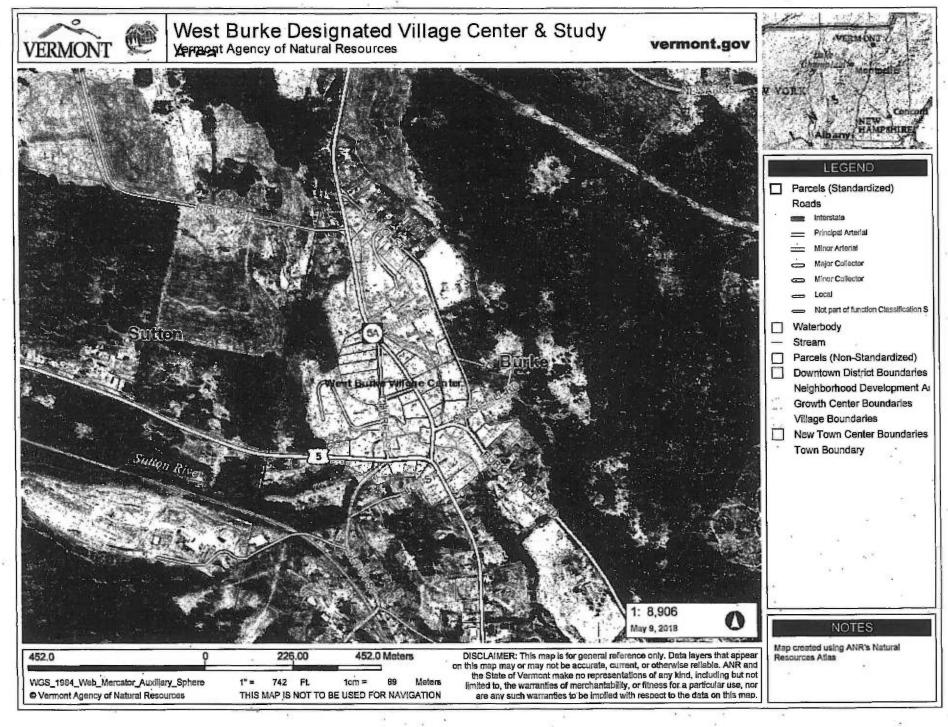
Wastewater Solutions for Villages: Location Narrative

The project focuses of the wastewater needs of three Vermont Villages: Wolcott, East Burke, and West Burke, as shown on the maps. These three Villages have Village Center Designations and the needs assessment will focus on these areas. The wastewater solutions for the villages may extend outside of the Designated Village Center limits by even up to several miles, depending on the availability of good soils and their proximity to the villages. As part of the project, the communities will decide which ultimate site to explore. (NEPA Environmental Review in accordance with the existing Vermont Clean Water State Revolving Fund, State Environmental Review Procedure will be done on selected sites prior to any earthwork.) The project budget provides for one site to be explored in depth per village.





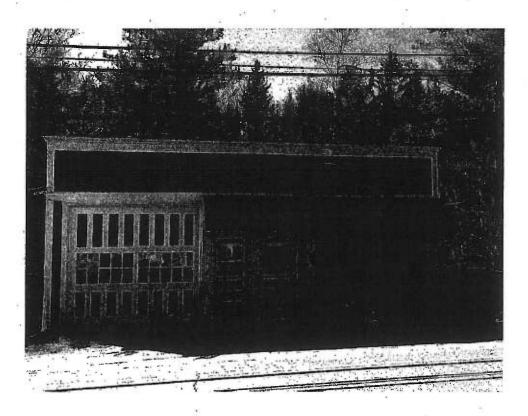
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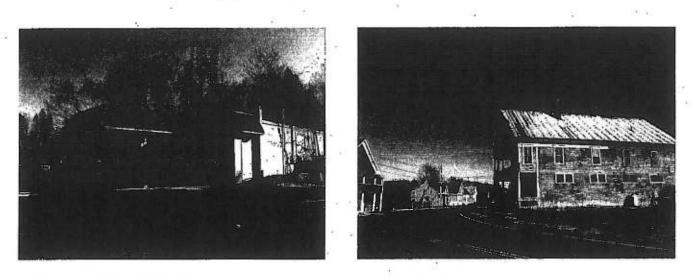


East Burke Village



Examples of vacant or underutilized properties in East Burke village. Many of the homes in East Burke Village have been converted to businesses over the last 10 years. Residents site housing as a need since the Ski Mountain has many seasonal employees that need affordable housing. (See <u>Community Visit Report</u>: https://www.vtrural.org/sites/ default/files/TheBurkeCVReportwCover.pdf) Lot sizes are small and there are many drilled wells in the Village both of which limit the options for individual landowners to address their own wastewater needs.





West Burke Village

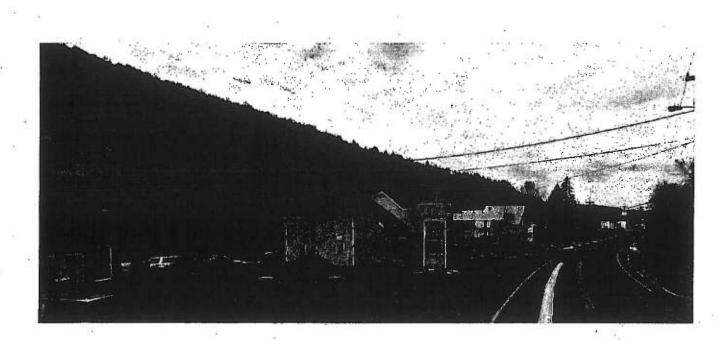
Residents expressed concern about all of the vacant/underutilized properties in West Burke and want to see these important assets used for business, community services and for housing. (See <u>Community Visit Report</u>.) Typically the vacant buildings are on very small lots with limited potential for on-site wastewater disposal which limits redevelopment options. Village wastewater solutions could help make renovation and reuse of these properties possible.





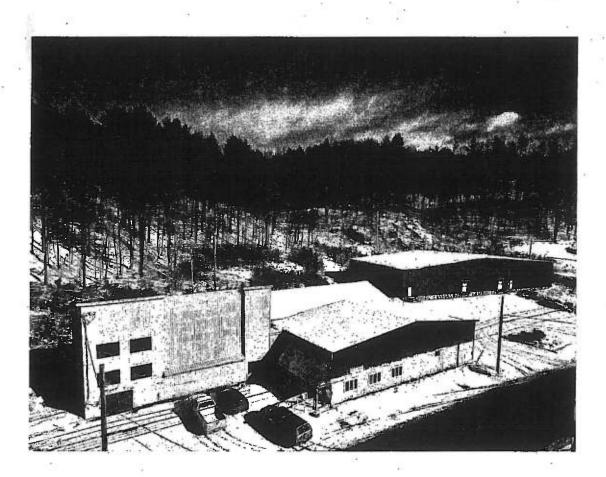






Wolcott Village

The village lost a major business when Buck's Furniture closed. The Buck's buildings occupied a substantial portion of the business district in Wolcott Village. The new owners, Manufacturing Solutions, Inc (MSI) removed a number of buildings and refurbished those that were in good condition. While tenant occupancy in the buildings remains low, the community is eager to see more active use of this important economic resource.



ADDENDUM II-NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

42 U.S.C. Sec 1500.1(e) States that all Federal agencies shall to the fullest extent possible shall use the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process to identify and assess the reasonable alternatives to proposed actions that will avoid or minimize adverse effects of these actions upon the quality of the human environment. Applicants must attached one of the following documents to their application.

NEPA EXEMPT Addendum II (a)

or

NEPA CATEGORICAL EXLUCSION Addendum (b)

NEPA EXEMPT Addendum II (a)

The following activities are EXEMPT from 24 CFR 58.34, the legislation governing NEPA review. Check any and all that are applicable to your project.

X Environmental and other studies, resource Identification and development of plans and strategies;

Information and financial services;

Administrative and management activities;

Public services that will not have a physical impact or result in any physical changes, including but not limited to services concerned with employment, crime prevention, child care, health, drug abuse, education, counseling, energy conservation and welfare or recreational needs;

Inspections and testing of properties for hazards or defects;

□ Purchase of insurance;

Purchase of tools;

Engineering or design costs;

Technical assistance and training;

Assistance for temporary or permanent improvements that do not alter environmental conditions and are limited to protection, repair, or restoration activities necessary only to control or arrest the effects from disasters or imminent threats to public safety including those resulting from physical deterioration;

Does your project consists solely of the elements checked above? Yes D No 🛚

If you check no, you will be required to fill out the Categorical Exclusion worksheet instead of this EXEMPT worksheet.

I do certify that the above information is true to the best of my knowledge as of the date of application.

Name Emily Boedecker

Title Commissioner

Organization Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

Applicant Signature

Date 5/10/2018

NEPA CATEX Addendum II (b) (three pages)

Interim Determination of Categorical Exclusion for Northern Border Regional Commission

Project Names(s): Village Wastewater Solutions

Other potential Federal funding for this project (NBRC will coordinate with other federal organizations whenever necessary to assure compliance with NEPA regulations:

| Check off any and all that apply | The project falls into the category below. |
|--|---|
| | Acquisition, repair, improvement, reconstruction, or rehabilitation of public facilities and improvements (other than buildings) when the facilities and improvements are already in place and will be retained in the same use without change in size or capacity for more than 20 percent. Examples: Replacement of water or sewer lines Reconstruction of curbs and sidewalks Repaving of streets |
| 10 10 | 2. Special projects directed toward the removal of material and architectural barriers that restrict the mobility of and accessibility to the elderly and handicapped persons. |
| | Rehabilitation of buildings and improvements under the following conditions: In the case of a building for residential use (with one to four units), the density is not increased beyond four units and the land use is not changed. In the case of multifamily residential buildings: |
| 3. | 4. Studies and Research i. Engineering studies and investigations that do not permanently change the environment. ii. Research and analysis. iii. Administrative related activities. |
| | Acquisition (including leasing) or disposition of an existing structure or acquisition (including leasing) of vacant land provided that the structure or land acquired or disposed of will be retained for the same use; |

The entirety of the project is made up of one or more of the above categories: Y

or N_X

The determination of the category listed above is supported by the following information (explain how you determined that the project satisfied the condition of the category you checked above and document as appropriate)

Compliance Checklist for the "Other Requirements" in 24 CFR 58.6 ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS 1. Description of project:

Development of wastewater solutions for three villages, from need assessment through the final preliminary engineering report, including site testing as necessary on undetermined sites.

2. Project Resources

| a. Wetlands | Yes | N₀ | Yes No | Yes No |
|---|-------|------|------------|--------|
| b. Floodplains with existing structure(8) | Yes | No | Yes No | Yes No |
| c. Floodplains without existing structure(s) | Yes | No 🗖 | Yes 🗖 No 🗖 | Yes No |
| d. Wilderness (designated or proposed under the Wilderness Act) | Yes | No | Yes 🗖 No 🗖 | Yes No |
| e. Wild or Scenic River (proposed or designated under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act) | Yes 🗖 | No | Yes No | Yes No |
| f. Historical, Archeological Sites (listed on the National Register of Historic Places or which may be eligible for listing) | Yes | No | Yes No | Yes No |
| g Critical Habitat or Endangered/Threatened Species (listed or proposed) | Yes | No | Yes No | Yes No |
| h. Coastal Barrier included in Coastal Barrier Resources System | Yes | No | Yes No | Yes No |
| i: Natural Landmark (listed on National Registry of Natural Landmarks) | Yes | No | Yes 🗖 No 🗖 | Yes No |
| j. Important Farmlands | Yes | No | Yes No | Yes No |

| a series and series and series of the series | with the state of the first | | | |
|--|--|--------|--------|--------|
| k. Prime Forest Lands | | Yes No | Yes No | Yes No |
| l. Prime Rangeland | | Yes No | Yes No | Yes No |
| m. Approved Coastal Zone Management Area | a . | Yes No | Yes No | Yes No |
| n. Sole Source Aquifer Recharge Area (designated by Environmental Protection Ager | асу) | Yes No | Yes No | Yes No |
| o. State Water Quality Standard | | | | Yes No |
| | A LEADER AND A LEADER | | | |

FINDING

This proposal meets, Section 1940.317. As indicated in item 2 above, the proposal does not affect any important land uses or environmental resources that would subject it to disqualification as a categorical exclusion. Additionally, the proposal is neither a phase nor segment of a project which when viewed in its entirety would not meet the requirements of a categorical exclusion per Section 1940.317 (d).

| Name | | | | |
|----------------------|---|---|------|----|
| Title | | _ | | 92 |
| Organization | | | | |
| | • | | | |
| Applicant Signature_ | | | Date | |

* In terms of its size and components, the criteria for a categorical exclusion as defined in Sections 1940.310.

FINDING

The proposed project does not fall within the EXEMPT (Addendum II. a) or Categorical Exclusion as outlined above. Further environmental review may be required if funded through NBRC. The applicant acknowledges that additional information will be required in order to meet NEPA requirements and has the capacity to follow through with additional environmental review.

| Namo | Emily | Boed | ecker |
|------|-------|------|-------|

Title Commissioner

Organization Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

5/10/2018 Applicant Signature Date

ASSURANCES - NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing Instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden; to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0040), Washington, DC 20503.

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

NOTE: Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the awarding agency. Further, certain Federal awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

- Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project cost) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of the project described in this application.
- 2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
- Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
- Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
- Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
- Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to:

 (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin;
 (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C.§§1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex;
 (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation

Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U. S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee-3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and, (i) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.

- 7. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
- Will comply, as applicable, with provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.

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- Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333), regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.
- 10. Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
- 11. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).
- Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.

- Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).
- Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.
- 15. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. §§2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.
- Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
- 17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit. Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
- Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.
- 19. Will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients or a sub-recipient from (1) Engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect (2) Procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect or (3) Using forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.

| SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL | TITLE |
|--|----------------|
| CICI | Commissioner |
| Emily Bar | |
| APPLICANT ORGANIZATION | DATE SUBMITTED |
| Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation | 05/11/2018 |

Standard Form 424B (Rev. 7-97) Back

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters Primary Covered Transactions

This certification is required by the regulations implementing Executive Order 12549 and 1268, 2 CFR part 180.

(BEFORE COMPLETING CERTIFICATION, READ INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE)

- (1) The prospective primary participant certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief that it and its Board;
 - (a) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for disbarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal department or agency;
 - (b) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
 - (c) Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State, or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (1)(b) of this certification; and
 - (d) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application had one or more public transactions (Federal, State, or local) terminated for cause or default.
- (2) Where the prospective primary participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective primary participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

Organization Name

05/11/2018 Date

By Emily Boedecker, Commissioner

Name and Title of Authorized Representative

Signature of Authorized Representative

NBRC Form 1001

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CERTIFICATION

2

1. By signing and submitting this proposal, the prospective primary participant is providing the certification set out below.

2: The inability of a person to provide the certification required below will not necessarily result in denial of participation in this covered transaction. The prospective participant shall submit an explanation of why it cannot provide the certification set out below. The certification or explanation will be considered in connection with the department or agency's determination whether to enter into this transaction. However, failure of the prospective primary participant to furnish a certification or an explanation shall disgualify such person from participation in this transaction.

3. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when the department or agency determined to enter into this transaction. If is is later determined that the prospective primary participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency may terminate this transaction for cause or default.

4. The prospective primary participant shall provide immediate written notice to the department or agency to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective primary participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

5. The terms "covered transaction," "debarred," "suspended," "ineligible," "lower tier covered transaction," "participant," "person," "primary covered transaction," "principal," "proposal," and "voluntarily excluded," as used in this clause, have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of the rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the department or agency to which this proposal is submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations (13 CFR Part 145).

6. The prospective primary participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency entering into this transaction.

7. The prospective primary participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include the clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transactions," provided by the department or agency entering into this covered transaction, without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.

8. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that it is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the ineligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, check the Nonprocurement List.

9. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

10. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 6 of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency may terminate this transaction for cause or default.

| | r public burden disclo | nt to 31 U.S.C. 1352 sure.) | Approved by OMI 0348-0046 |
|--|--|---|--|
| b. grant c. cooperative agreement c. r d. loan e. loan guarantee f. loan insurance | deral Action: bid/offer/application nitial award bost-award | For Materia year | illing al change I Change Only: quarter ast report |
| 4. Name and Address of Reporting Entity: Prime Subawardee Tier <u>X</u> , <i>if known</i> : | 5. If Reporting I and Address | | Subawardee, Enter Name |
| | | * | |
| 6. Federal Department/Agency: Northern Border Regional Commission 8. Federal Action Number, if known : N/A | Northern Borde | ram Name/Descript r Regional Developme ; if applicable: 90.60 nt, if known : | ent |
| 10. a. Name and Address of Lobbying Registrant (<i>if individual, last name, first name, MI</i>): N/A | b. Individuals P different from | | (including address if |
| 11, Information, requested through this form is authorized by title 31 U.S.C. section 1352. This disclosure of lobbying activities is a material representation of further which reliance was placed by the lier above when this transaction was major entered into. This disclosure is required pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1352. This formation will be available for public inspection. Any person who fails to file the required disclosure shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less them \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure. | de Print Name: En | ner, VT Department of | f Environmental Conservation Date: 05/11/2018 |
| | 10 E | | Authorized for Local Reproduction |

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION OF SF-LLL, DISCLOSURE OF LOBBYING ACTIVITIES

This disclosure form shall be completed by the reporting entity, whether subawardee or prime Federal recipient, at the initiation or receipt of a covered Federal action, or a material change to a previous filing, pursuant to title 31 U.S.C. section 1352. The filing of a form is required for each payment or agreement to make payment to any lobbying entity for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with a covered Federal action. Complete all items that apply for both the initial filing and material change report. Refer to the implementing guidance published by the Office of Management and Budget for additional information.

- 1. Identify the type of covered Federal action for which lobbying activity is and/or has been secured to influence the outcome of a covered Federal action.
- 2. Identify the status of the covered Federal action.
- Identify the appropriate classification of this report. If this is a followup report caused by a material change to the information previously reported, enter the year and quarter in which the change occurred. Enter the date of the last previously submitted report by this reporting entity for this covered Federalaction.
- 4. Enter the full name, address, city, State and zip code of the reporting entity. Include Congressional District, if known. Check the appropriate classification of the reporting entity that designates if it is, or expects to be, a prime or subaward recipient. Identify the tier of the subawardee, e.g., the first subawardee of the prime is the 1st tier. Subawards include but are not limited to subcontracts, subgrants and contract awards under grants.
- 5. If the organization filing the report in item 4 checks "Subawardee," then enter the full name, address, city, State and zip code of the prime Federal recipient. Include Congressional District, if known.
- 6. Enter the name of the Federal agency making the award or loan commitment. Include at least one organizationallevel below agency name, if known. For example, Department of Transportation, United States Coast Guard.
- 7. Enter the Federal program name or description for the covered Federal action (item 1). If known, enter the full Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number for grants, cooperative agreements, loans, and loan commitments.
- 8. Enter the most appropriate Federal identifying number available for the Federal action identified in item 1 (e.g., Request for Proposal (RFP) number; Invitation for Bid (IFB) number; grant announcement number; the contract, grant, or loan award number; the application/proposal control number assigned by the Federal agency). Include prefixes, e.g., "RFP-DE-90-001."
- 9. For a covered Federal action where there has been an award or loan commitment by the Federal agency, enter the Federal amount of the award/loan commitment for the prime entity identified in item 4 or 5.
- 10. (a) Enter the full name, address, city. State and zip code of the lobbying registrant under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 engaged by the reporting entity identified in Item 4 to influence the covered Federal action.
 - (b) Enter the full names of the individual(s) performing services, and include full address if different from 10 (a). Enter Last Name, First Name, and Middle Initial (MI).
- 11. The certifying official shall sign and date the form, print his/her name, title, and telephone number.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act, as amended, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB Control Number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is OMB No. 0348-0046. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0046), Washington, DC 20503. r.

AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

State of Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation 1 National Life Drive – Main 2 Montpelier, VT 05620 (802)828-1556

May 10, 2018

Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) Katie Corrigan, Vermont Grant Manager Agency of Commerce and Community Development Davis Building 6th Floor 1 National Life Drive Montpelier, VT 05620-0501

RE: Match for NBRC Grant Application on Community Wastewater Solutions for Three Villages.

Dear Ms. Corrigan:

The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has reserved state funding to be used as match for this application. Please contact me if you have any questions or need further information.

Sincerely,

Emily Boedecker, Commissioner

Cc: Neil Kamman, Senior Policy Analyst



May 9, 2018

Neil Kamman Senior Policy Advisor Department of Environmental Conservation Main Building - 2nd Floor One National Life Drive Montpelier, VT 05620-3520

RE: Letter of support and in-kind contribution for the Vermont DEC Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) grant application on wastewater solutions for villages

Dear Mr. Kamman,

We represent One Burke, a citizen led organization working to bring improvements to the town of Burke, including the two villages of East and West Burke. Our primary focus is to ensure the availability of wastewater treatment options for the village of West Burke to ignite reuse of the vacant buildings and to enable expansion of existing businesses in East Burke.

We are very excited about the opportunity that your grant application offers for Burke and we are fully in support of your proposal to include East and West Burke as pilot projects. The Burke Selectboard also agreed to include Burke your grant application during their meeting on May 7, 2018.

We recognize that the budget for the grant application includes an in-kind contribution of our time in in meetings, selecting a consultant, local outreach and conducting a survey of local landowners. Over the course of three years, we expect to spend and document approximately 425 hours per year as volunteers, recognizing that our work will be critical to the success of the project and will help lead to cost-effective wastewater solutions for our villages.

We urge you to fund this project and look forward to working with DEC and it partners to address the wastewater treatment needs of our two villages.

Sincerely,

chair, One Bure XXXXX

On behalf of One Burke Des Hert

TOWN OF WOLCOTT PO BOX 100 WOLCOTT, VT 05680 888-2746 Wolcott@pshift.com

May 9, 2018

Neil Kamman Senior Policy Advisor Department of Environmental Conservation Main Building - 2nd Floor One National Life Drive Montpelier, VT 05620-3520

RE: Letter of support and in-kind contribution for the Vermont DEC Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) grant application on wastewater solutions for villages

Dear Mr. Kamman,

On April 18, 2018 the Wolcott Selectboard voted to join a pilot project for the NBRC grant application that your department is submitting to work towards wastewater solutions in villages. As you know, Wolcott was proceeding with its own NBRC application to investigate wastewater solutions but decided to participate in the DEC project for the added coordination and support that a state-run project could offer.

We are very excited about the opportunity that this project offers for Wolcott. We also recognize that the budget for the grant application includes an in-kind contribution of community volunteer time and expect to be actively involved, spending time in meetings, selecting a consultant, local outreach and conducting a survey of local landowners. Over the course of three years, we anticipate documenting approximately 300 volunteer hours per year, recognizing that our work will be critical to the success of the project and will help lead to cost-effective wastewater solutions for our villages.

We hope you are successful in obtaining NBRC funding for this project and look forward to working with DEC and it partners to address the wastewater needs of our village.

Sincerely,

MITIA finda Martin

Wolcon Town Clerk