

June 2004

Drinking Water Emergency Loan Fund

Introduction and Purpose

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's (Ohio EPA) Drinking Water Emergency Loan Fund (DWELF) was created as part of the Drinking Water Protection Fund (Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 6109.30) as passed by the Ohio Legislature. It is administered by Ohio EPA's Division of Drinking and Ground Waters (DDAGW). The purpose of the DWELF is to make emergency loans to public water system owners and operators for remediation of a "threat of contamination." This is defined as anything that prevents a public water system from supplying adequate quantities of safe, potable water to existing users.

Any Ohio water system with a valid License to Operate (LTO) and documentation of a threat of contamination is eligible to apply.

How much money is available?

The DWELF can finance up to \$200,000 each state fiscal year (July 1 through June 30). A maximum of \$25,000 may be loaned out to the owner or operator of any single public water system. Loans must be repaid within 12 months. The system owner is required to submit a schedule to indicate how loan payments will be made during the

one-year. For repayment purposes, Ohio EPA may complete a financial background check on any water system owner requesting a loan.

How are loans prioritized?

Loans are processed on a "first come, first served" basis. However, because funds are limited, priority consideration is given to public water systems that meet the following criteria:

- Hold a valid License to Operate (LTO)
- Able to document a "threat of contamination"
- No other source of potable drinking water available
- Unable to secure other sources of funding

How do I apply?

Three documents must be completed to apply for an emergency loan. They are:

- Application;
- Attachment A- Repayment Schedule; and
- W-9.

Copies of an Emergency Loan Application, Attachment A Repayment Schedule and W-9 may be obtained by calling (614) 644-2752, or on our web site at: <http://www.epa.state.oh.us/ddagw/dwelf.htm>.

Once the forms are completed and the application is notarized, the documents with original signature should be submitted by mail or in person to:

Ohio EPA,
Division of Drinking and Ground Waters
Attention: Emergency Loan Coordinator
Lazarus Government Center
PO Box 1049
122 S. Front St.
Columbus, OH, 43216-1049

