



The State of New Hampshire
Department of Environmental Services

Robert R. Scott, Commissioner



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May 25, 2022

The Honorable Karen Umberger, Chairman
 Fiscal Committee of the General Court
 State House
 Concord, NH 03301

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
 and the Honorable Council
 State House
 Concord, NH 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI, authorize the Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to accept and expend \$500,000 in Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust funds for the purpose of providing emergency financial assistance to low-income New Hampshire homeowners served by residential wells that are experiencing irreversible water supply quantity or quality problems effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2023. 100% Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund.

Funding is to be appropriated as follows:

Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust
 03-44-44-444010-74280000
 FY 2022

Class	Budget Category	Current Budget	Requested Action	Revised Budget
Income				
009-401831	DWG Trust Funds	(\$95,538,851)	(\$500,000)	(\$96,038,851)
Expenditures				
018-500106	Overtime	\$10,000	-0-	\$10,000
020-500200	Current Expenses	\$13,346	-0-	\$13,346
022-500255	Rents/Leases Other than State	\$500	-0-	\$500
024-500225	Maint Other than Bldg/Grd	\$100	-0-	\$100
027-582703	Transfers to OIT	\$58,339	-0-	\$58,339
028-582814	Transfers to General Services	\$23,368	-0-	\$23,368
030-500321	Equipment	\$4,536	-0-	\$4,536

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Class	Budget Category	Current Budget	Requested	Revised Budget
039-500188	Telecommunications	\$4,500	-0-	\$4,500
040-500800	Indirect Costs	\$62,343	-0-	\$62,343
042-500620	Additional Fringe Benefits	\$32,488	-0-	\$32,488
049-584920	Transfers to Other Agencies	\$86,006	-0-	\$86,006
050-500109	Personnel Services Temp	\$267,591	-0-	\$267,591
059-500117	Personnel Services Temp Full Time	\$361,695	-0-	\$361,695
060-500601	Benefits	\$373,479	-0-	\$373,479
066-500544	Employee Training	\$4,400	-0-	\$4,400
070-500705	Instate Travel	\$1,500	-0-	\$1,500
073-500580	Grants - Non federal	\$42,406,766	-0-	\$42,406,766
080-500710	Out-of-State Travel	\$2,250	-0-	\$2,250
101-500729	Medical Payments to Provider	\$500	-0-	\$500
102-500731	Contracts for Program Services	\$2,749,159	-0-	\$2,749,159
300-500830	Reimbursements	\$1,330,452	\$500,000	\$1,830,452
301-504059	Loans	\$47,745,534	-0-	\$47,745,534
	Total	\$95,538,851	\$500,000	\$96,038,851

EXPLANATION

On February 14, 2022, the Drinking Water and Groundwater Advisory Commission awarded \$500,000 to NHDES for the Water Assistance for Natural Disaster Impacts to Low-Income Residential Well Owners program (referred to as WAND). The program is intended to provide financial assistance in the form of reimbursements for qualifying low-income New Hampshire homeowners served by private residential wells that are experiencing irreversible water supply quantity or water quality problems due to extreme weather events or natural hazards such as flooding. The WAND program is intended to provide short-term relief and financial assistance to repair or replace the compromised water supply.

The determination of a qualifying event or hazard and the applicable affected areas are at the discretion of the NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES). Offering financial assistance selected on the basis of household income will support citizens of the State affected the most by a natural disaster. Although the total program demand is uncertain at this time, it is anticipated that this program is available to rapidly respond to a qualifying event or hazard as they may occur.

By appropriating these funds to class 300, Reimbursements, it will allow the providers of the services, in this case the many licensed well installers and contractors that will be providing water

supply well related solutions to eligible homeowners, to apply for direct reimbursement, thereby relieving the eligible homeowners of the burden of first making payment.

DES is requesting to budget these additional funds as shown below:

Class 300 To reimburse costs incurred by eligible homeowners whose wells have experienced irreversible water supply quantity or water quality problems for remedies to include, but not limited to, a temporary auxiliary storage tank and bulk water, increasing supply capacity, increasing storage capacity, lowering an existing well pump, deepening an existing well, installing a replacement well, and water quality sampling and treatment of the deepened/replacement well.

We respectfully request your approval.


Robert R. Scott, Commissioner