

EPA Region 8 DWIG TSA Ranking Criteria

Ranking Criteria	Description of Ranking Criteria	Point Value
Improvements in Public Health		
Critical or acute	Projects that propose to eliminate a problem that poses an acute hazard to the consumer. The applicant must provide written documentation to confirm these problems, supported by analytical results or engineering reports.	40
Chronic	Projects that propose to eliminate a problem that poses a chronic, non-acute hazard to the consumer.	30
Periodic	Projects that propose to eliminate a problem that poses a periodic, non-acute hazard to the consumer.	20
Potential	Projects that propose to eliminate a problem that poses a potential hazard to consumers.	15
Sanitary Survey	Projects that propose to address recommendations of an EPA Sanitary Survey	20
Preventative	Projects that propose preventative maintenance improvements.	10
<i>Note: Only one of the first four factors may be selected, in addition to the last two, allowing up to 70 total points for Improvements in Public Health</i>		
Address a lack of safe water supply		
Safe water supply	Projects that are identified in the IHS Sanitation Deficiency System as Deficiency Levels IV and V where Level IV and V, for the purposes of this project selection process, describe an Indian tribe or community with a sanitation system which lacks a safe water supply system.	29
Improvements in Public Safety		
Ongoing or chronic	Projects that propose to eliminate a problem that poses an ongoing public safety hazard. The applicant must provide written documentation to confirm these problems.	25
Periodic or potential	Projects that propose to eliminate a public safety hazard which has occurred periodically or if there is potential for the problem to re-occur.	20
Preventative Maintenance	Projects that propose preventative maintenance improvements related to a potential public safety hazard	15
Security	Projects that propose security or emergency response plans or measures.	15
Worker safety	Projects that propose to eliminate a worker safety hazard.	5
<i>Note: Only one of the first three factors may be selected, in addition to the last two, allowing up to 45 total points for Improvements to Public Safety.</i>		
Improvements in Ability to Comply		
Violation posing acute hazard	Projects that propose to eliminate a violation posing an acute health or safety hazard. Failure to monitor does not qualify.	20
Violation posing non-acute hazard	Projects that propose to eliminate a violation posing a non-acute health or safety hazard. Failure to monitor does not qualify.	15
Regulation with EPA specified deadline	Projects that propose to improve compliance with a deadline specified in regulation.	10
Regulation with no EPA specified deadline	Projects that propose to improve compliance with regulation without deadlines.	5
<i>Note: Any or all of the factors may be selected, allowing up to 50 total points for Improvements in Ability to Comply.</i>		
Improvements in Environment		
Water quality improvements related to pollution	Projects that propose to correct an existing surface or ground water environmental pollution problem.	5
Other water quality improvements	Projects that propose to improve an existing environmental condition not related to pollution.	4
Water quantity improvements	Projects that propose to address surface or ground water quantity or water rights issues.	3
Aesthetic or quality of life improvements	Projects that propose to improve the quality of life for consumers through environmental improvements.	2

No negative environmental or social impact	Projects in which there is no demonstratable negative environmental or social impact.	1
<i>Note: Only one of the first two factors may be selected, in addition to any or all of the last three factors, allowing up to 11 total points for Improvements in Environment.</i>		
Improvements in Adequacy and Efficiency		
Conservation	Projects that propose to provide water conservation measures.	15
Consolidation	Projects that propose to improve existing facility operation or maintenance through water system consolidation.	5
Reliability	Projects that propose to improve the reliability of the existing system.	5
Operating cost reduction	Projects that propose to reduce the cost of operation through means other than consolidation or conservation.	5
Aesthetic quality or availability of water	Projects that propose to improve the aesthetic quality of the water or increase available water, through means other than consolidation or conservation.	5
<i>Note: Any or all of the factors may be selected, allowing up to 35 total points for Improvements in Adequacy and Efficiency.</i>		
Capacity		
Adequate and appropriate staff (Technical Capacity¹)	Facilities use adequate staff and a recognized certifying authority (operators must be certified at the appropriate certification level). A list of staff and copies of certificates are required.	10
Operations plan (Technical Capacity¹)	Facilities which use an operations plan which describes in detail the day-to-day operations of the facility. A copy of the operations plan is required.	5
Organizational structure (Managerial Capacity²)	Facilities which demonstrate a clear division and/or delegation of responsibility within the organization. An illustration or explanation of the organizational structure is required.	10
Business plan (Managerial Capacity²)	Facilities which use a business plan. A copy of the business plan is required.	5
Budget and Financial Planning Tool (Financial Capacity³)	Facilities which use a budget and financial planning tool for future operations. Copies of the recent budget and planning tool are required.	10
Revenue System (Financial Capacity³)	Facilities which effectively use a revenue system, which equitably distributes the expenses among users and uses those revenues for budgeted expenses. A copy of the user charge ordinance or similar description is required.	5
<i>Note: All of the technical, managerial, and financial capacity factors will be evaluated for each proposal, allowing up to 45 total points for Capacity. Any proposal, which fails to demonstrate the technical, managerial, or financial capacity to operate and maintain the facility, must plan to acquire the technical, managerial, or financial capacity as a result of the proposed project. A detailed description of the plan must be developed before an award of funds. Assistance from EPA Region 8 is available for this process. Please see additional notes on capacity below.</i>		
Past Performance		
Past Performance	Projects that demonstrate the grantee fulfilled the necessary requirements on previous grants. This includes tasks such as submittal of quarterly reports, payments, closeout report, project schedule; and completion of the project on time; and results of audit reports.	15
<i>Note: Up to 15 total points may be awarded for Past Performance</i>		
Maximum Number of Points		300

Notes:

¹ Technical Capacity - Points will be awarded to projects for which the owner has demonstrated the technical capacity to operate and maintain the facility to provide service to customers, which meets the requirements of the regulations. The technical capacity points will be based on information provided by the applicant who substantiates proper operation of the facilities.

² Managerial Capacity - Points will be awarded to projects for which the owner has demonstrated the managerial capacity to operate and maintain the facility to provide service to customers, which meets the requirements of the regulations. The managerial capacity points will be based on information provided by the applicant who substantiates ownership accountability, adequate staff, organizational structure, and effective linkages.

³ Financial Capacity - Points will be awarded to projects for which the owner has demonstrated the financial capacity to operate and maintain the facility to provide service to customers. The project must meet the requirements of the regulations. The financial capacity points will be based on information provided by the applicant, which substantiates fiscal controls, revenue sufficiency and ability to access funds.