

TRANSCRIPT

Webinar on EPA Urban Waters Small Grants Request for Proposals (RFP)

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Speakers

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Surabhi Shah

Welcome everyone and thank you so much for joining us for this informational session about the Urban Water Small Grant Request for Proposals or RFP. My name is Surabhi Shah and I am with EPA's Urban Waters Team and I will be moderating today's webinar. This is the first of two webinars that we have covering the same material. And just as we get started I want to make sure that everyone has had a chance if you would like to download the RFP, Request for Proposal. It's on our EPA website at EPA.gov/urbanwaters/funding.

Today's webinar is an opportunity for us to tell you a bit about the urban waters Request for Proposals and we are glad you're able to join us because this is our first competition sponsored by EPA's Urban Waters Program.

The program aims to protect and restore America's urban waterways. And through this program EPA is working to support communities like yours in efforts to access, improve, and benefit from your local urban waters and the surrounding land.

This program also recognizes that certain communities including minority, low income, and indigenous groups are also those that have been particularly burdened in the past and they are not communities that are currently able to reap the benefits of healthy and accessible urban water can bring. We hope this funding opportunity will be a way for EPA to provide support to communities who are working to protect and restore their local urban waterways.

In today's webinar, we plan to walk you through the main sections of the RFP, the objectives of the Urban Water Small Grants, the award amount, threshold eligibility, evaluation criteria, and so on.

We will pause after each section to answer questions you submit via the questions box in the control panel of your webinar screen. We encourage you to write in your questions as they occur to you throughout the webinar. Next slide.

There are several ways that you might want to or reasons you might want to submit a question. You might have a question regarding the content of the webinar, questions about the Request for Proposals. You also might have a question about a technical issue you are experiencing and trying to access the webinar. Either way, the way you can submit your questions is to type it into the questions box on your webinar screen and click send. Now if you don't see a questions box because you are not seeing the control panel simply click on the orange box -- the small orange box with the white arrow in it. When you click on that, it will expand, you will see the control panel, and you will be able to enter your questions in the questions box and then click send. We will do our best to respond to your issue by posting an answer in that questions box.

I want to make a note now about the types of questions we can answer. EPA is committed to fair and open competition and in keeping with EPA's competition policy there are certain types of questions we can answer and others that we cannot. We can answer questions about threshold eligibility criteria, administrative issues about submitting proposals, and requests for clarification about the announcement itself. We can't provide feedback on track proposals or provide advice on how to respond to ranking criteria. We will try and get all the questions we can today and if time runs out before we can answer all your questions we do commit to capturing your questions and then we will post answers on our website on the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page.

We will also record this webinar so you can access it in a few weeks after today's live presentation. The recorded webinar will be posted on the EPA Urban Waters website at EPA.gov/urbanwaters/funding. And that is a great page for you to bookmark. You will see additional information revised and posted there over the next weeks.

Our presenters today will be Caitlyn Whittle and Ji-Sun or Sun Yi. Caitlyn is an Environmental Scientist with the Office of Ecosystem Protection at EPA Region 1 in Boston and Sun is part of the EPA team – Urban Waters Team in the Office of Water at EPA headquarters in Washington DC. Also, joining us today are Bruce Binder who is EPA's Grant Competition Advocate and Jim Drummond from EPA's Office of General Counsel. We will start off with an overview of the Urban Water Small Grant presented by Caitlyn. Caitlyn?

Caitlyn Whittle

Thanks Surabhi. I'd like to start the overview today by going over some key dates that we should all remember. I'm on page one of the RFP and it looks like it should be up on your screen now. And so first the due date for all applications is January 23rd, 2012.

Hardcopy submittals need to be in by 4:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on January 23rd to your regional office. Grant.gov electronic proposals are due at 11:59 p.m. on January 23rd.

Questions about the RFP can be submitted until January 16th. Under the note to applicants, Sun is going to go over in more detail about contracts and sub-awards later on in this webinar, but please note that if you name subawardees, and subgrantees, and/or contractors in your proposal to assist you with the proposed project please carefully review the information in Section II. C which describes the provisions for contracts and subawards.

I would also like to note our walk-through of the RFP today is focused on highlighting the important sections but please do read the entire announcement carefully.

Moving on to page three under Section I. B of the RFP. As Surabhi mentioned, this funding opportunity as a way for us to support communities as they work to protect and restore their urban waterways. The goal of the urban water small grants is to fund research, studies, training and demonstration projects that will advance the restoration of urban water by improving water quality through activities that also support community revitalization and local priorities.

To achieve this goal, project proposal should address the following elements. They should one, lead to the environmental restoration of an urban water body. Under little i. we ask that proposals include information about water quality restoration and here a proposal should describe how the project will contribute to environmental restoration of an urban water body. The description should include the characteristics for the project area that identify it as urban and use supporting information such as total population relative to adjacent areas, population density, land use or density of created structure or other such information as backup. The proposal should also describe the urban water body which may include any kind of body of water or all of it or an important part of which flows through or is located in the urban project area. The proposal should also describe how the plan works, addresses important water quality threats or impairments. I would like to stop and make a quick note. We have gotten a lot of questions on how we are defining urban under this announcement and in fact we have chosen not to provide a clear cut definition of urban but instead we have made a part of the evaluation criteria that we used to review proposals so essentially we are asking applicants to make the case in describing that the proposed project area is urban and why they consider it so.

There seems to be some questions about whether urban is a threshold eligibility criterion or an evaluation criterion. And the answer is that it is part of the evaluation criterion. Maybe it is a terminology that is confusing but just to clarify eligibility criteria - which we will get into a little bit later on in more detail - are the minimum requirements that the proposal must meet in order to be evaluated during the ranking process. The evaluation

criteria also referred to in the RFP as selection criteria are the important elements that the proposal will be assessed by and each element has a certain number of points associated with it. We will go over the evaluation criteria in more detail a little bit later on, but I just wanted to take the time now to make that distinction since we have gotten so many questions about urban being an eligibility criterion which as I stated is not. It's under evaluation.

Okay, moving on. The next sub element of environmental restoration of an urban water body is under ii. and that is Relevance to Community Priorities. And proposals should describe how their proposed project makes water quality restoration of the urban water body relevant to community priorities which may include public health, social, and economic revitalization, and livability goals. Community priorities may be demonstrated through available community information for example, documented community interest, community plans, surveys, polls, studies, or other types of information. The description should include how the project uses community priorities as a way to engage local residents and sustain their engagement over the time horizon required for water quality improvement beyond EPA Urban Waters Small Grants Funding.

On page four, we have the next element iii. which is Success Potential and Feasibility. Proposals should describe how the proposed project uses a creative or effective approach to restore water quality within the urban area. The description should discuss the readiness of the project and in particular the project's success potential or feasibility.

Under number 2, Partnerships. Effective partnerships are very important in urban waters work. Proposals should identify appropriate and necessary partnerships to successfully conduct a project including how they plan to involve surrounding communities that have been adversely impacted by the water pollution issues affecting the urban water body and the design planning and performance of the project. When thinking about partnerships, consider organizations that have the skills, expertise and networks related to environmental justice, community revitalization, and other local priorities. Some examples of key partners may include local residents, industry businesses, academic institutions, nonprofit organizations, communities surrounding the urban water body, and other suitable partners that work on urban water issues. If a working partnership already exists or is under development, all parties involved should be identified and a clear description of the roles of each partner and the proposed projects tasks should be provided. However, if a working partnership does exist -- if it does exist please include partnership letters of commitment in the proposal package. Letters of commitment should describe the extent to which the partner will engage with the applicant to help effectively perform the project. On the other hand for those of you that do not yet have existing partnerships proposal should describe how you plan to engage partners and establish working partnerships to successfully complete the project. If you don't intend to work with partners then please include an explanation on how the work will be effectively

performed without partners. Please don't send letters of endorsement, recommendation, or support.

The last key element is, Benefits to Community. Proposals should also describe how the project will benefit the community that surround the urban water body. That have been impacted by the water pollution issues affecting the urban water body. These communities may be comprised of minority, low income, or indigenous population and the description should include what the community impacts are related to water pollution issues. They could be economic, health and environmental conditions, and the proposal should also include how this project will benefit those surrounding communities.

Moving on to page five. Are statutory funding authority for these cooperative agreements is Section 104 (b)(3) of the Clean Water Act. And the Clean Water Act restricts the use of these funds to support such activities such as those that are conducting or promoting the coordination and acceleration of research, investigation, experimentation, training, demonstration, surveys, and studies leading to the causes, effects which can include health and welfare effects, extend prevention, reduction and elimination of water pollution. Some examples of projects that are eligible for funding under this announcement are listed here in RFP and we can go through them. One example of an eligible project is a project that would foster the collaboration and/or coordination of a partnership among diverse stakeholders to develop a plan or study as it is related to water quality issues. It is important to note though that funds cannot be used to implement the plan. Another eligible project would be one that aims to develop educational programs to provide training and recognition to schools, businesses, and homeowners on how to implement practices that reduce the amount of water pollution and/or stormwater entering a water body. Another example is a project that would aim to map trails and other walkways along water bodies to identify gaps or areas where additional connectivity is needed. Or a project could establish a baseline monitoring program for routine water quality monitoring and support and/or establish monitoring to identify areas of concern and possible places where restoration efforts can be effectively targeted. Another example is a project that would provide education and training related to preparing community members for anticipated jobs in green infrastructure, water quality restoration, or other water quality improvement projects.

If what you propose is a demonstration project you will need to describe in the proposal how it meets the requirements of a demonstration project. And demonstration projects must involve new or experimental technology methods or approaches. The results of the project should be disseminated so that others can benefit from the knowledge gained in the demonstration project.

We do not typically consider projects that use routine, traditional or established practices as demonstration projects. Please note that implementation projects are not eligible under -- for funding under the Clean Water Act 104 (b)(3). Examples of some projects

that we would not be able to fund are: the construction of community access points such as overlooks, boat launches, and recreation areas. Implementation of stormwater infrastructure improvements, like the installation of low impact development and green infrastructure. We can't fund community cleanups. We also can't fund the construction of habitat for birds and other wildlife along the water body. And finally, we cannot fund the construction of connections between open space that provide corridors for birds or other wildlife. And the last example of a project we can't fund is on page six and that is the restoration of stream banks.

We have received a lot of questions asking whether or not a proposed project or activity is eligible for funding under this grant program. And there are two clarifications we would like to make on this.

First, please do not send us proposal summaries or draft proposals of a project idea you have in mind for the announcement. Be consistent with competition policy. We are limited to the questions that we can answer which Surabhi mentioned at the beginning of this webinar. And we cannot review drafts or proposals, or summaries, comments or advise applicants on what they plan to submit. We ask that you please make your questions as specific as possible. We will gladly answer any questions related to the threshold eligibility criteria, administrative issues related to the proposal submission and clarification request on information provided in the RFP. I should note that we have received a lot of questions and we are doing our best to answer them as quickly as possible. You may want to check our posted online frequently asked questions before submitting a new question because we have already posted many that we have received. You may find that your question has already been answered and it is already posted there.

Secondly, there seems to be some confusion regarding examples provided in the RFP on projects that are not eligible for funding. And the example listed describing possible environmental outcomes from proposed projects. On page seven to help clarify this issue we would like to point out that the definition of environmental outcomes is highlighted on page seven which you can see on your screen. Environmental outcomes are the results, effect, or consequences that will occur from carrying out an environmental program or activity that is related to an environmental or programmatic goal or objective and are used as a way to gauge the project performance and take the form of output measures and outcome measures. Outcomes may be environmental, behavioral, health related, or programmatic in nature. Outcomes must be quantitative and may not necessarily be achieved within a cooperative agreement funding period. Outcomes may be short-term such as changes in learning, knowledge, attitude and skills, intermediate such as changes in behavior, practice, or decisions, or long-term like changes in condition of the natural resource.

So basically, an environmental outcome is a result of a funded project that may occur during or after the project performance period and examples are provided on page seven and eight of the RFP are some environmental outcomes that may come about as a result of a funded project.

So let's jump back to page 6 for a moment. And talk about some evaluations. Proposals will be evaluated using the criteria outlined in Section 5 which we will get into in a little bit. Selections and awards will be made by EPA regional offices and only one proposal can be submitted per applicant. If an applicant submits more than one proposal, EPA will contact them before the review process and ask which one they would like to withdraw. Please note that for this RFP, EPA considers governmental units to be a single applicant per the definition of grantee in 40 Code of Regulations 31.3 and they may submit only one proposal to EPA. We will not accept proposals from more than one agency of the same governmental unit. However, applicants may list other eligible applicants as partners on proposals even if that partner also plans to submit a proposal to the EPA. Hardcopy proposals must be submitted to the appropriate regional office. The mailing address and regional contacts are listed in Section 4 which we will get to a little bit later on. For all submittals, hardcopies or electronic, the cover page of the proposal narrative must include the appropriate Regional Office for the proposal. If you are not sure which region to submit your proposal to please contact Sun by e-mail at urbanwaters@EPA.gov. Please do not send your questions to the regional contact listed in the RFP. We ask that you send all questions to that e-mail address as well urbanwaters@EPA.gov.

And just to clarify regarding the one proposal per applicant requirement, we have gotten a number of questions from universities asking if the university as a whole is considered a single applicant and the answer is yes. The school as a whole is a single applicant and we can only accept one proposal from the entire university. For those schools that have several different campuses throughout the state, the answer depends on if each separate campus is recognized as a separate legal entity. And if so, then each separate university campus would be considered an eligible applicant. Otherwise, only one proposal may be considered from the entire university system. Please note that principal investigators are not eligible applicants. Individuals are not eligible under this grant.

So now moving on to page eight. We have already discussed the Clean Water Act funding authority for this grant's competition. Please do also read through part D. of this section carefully. And with that we have reached the end of Section 1 and now Sun is going to go over the highlights of Section 2.

Ji-Sun (Sun) Yi

Thanks, Caitlyn. So I'm going to go over Section 2 of the RFP which provides information on award amounts for this announcement. The total estimated funding available for the awards under the competition is up to approximately \$3.8 million.

\$1.8 million of which is currently available for funding. Up to \$2 million is anticipated in fiscal year 2012. Please note that funding is contingent on agency funding levels, the quality proposals received, and other applicable considerations. As Caitlyn described earlier, the EPA Regional Offices will award these cooperative agreements resulting from this announcement and we anticipate about three to four cooperative agreements will be awarded by each Regional Office with the \$1.8 million that is currently available. Pending receipt of the fiscal year 2012 funds, each Regional Office may award up to approximately four additional cooperative agreements under this announcement. \$60,000 is the maximum amount you may request for federal funding. Proposals requesting more than 60,000 in federal funds will not be reviewed.

Going on to page nine. Although there are no minimums, applicants request at least 40,000 in federal funds. There is also a minimum nonfederal match of \$2,500 that is required which we will discuss in more detail later on. We anticipate the project period for these cooperative agreements will be about two years.

Going to page nine, part C. As Caitlyn noted earlier, if you plan to name subawardees or subgrantees and/or contractors in your proposal please pay careful attention to part C. of this section. The first question under this section is can funding be used for the applicants to make subawards, acquire contract services, or fund partnerships? In brief, the answer to this is yes, as long as the recipient complies with the competitive procurement provision which is outlined in further detail on the following page. Please note that EPA awards funds to one eligible applicant as the recipient even if other eligible applicants are named as partners or co-applicants or members of a coalition or consortium. The recipient is accountable to EPA for the proper expenditure of funds. Continuing to page 10.

Funding may be used to provide subgrants or subawards of financial assistance which includes using subawards or subgrants to fund partnerships provided the recipient complies with applicable requirements for subawards or subgrants including those contained in 40 Code of Federal Regulations Parts 30 or 31. Applicants must compete contracts for services and products including consulting contracts and conduct cost and price analysis to the extent required by the procurement provisions as outlined in parts 30 or 31. The regulations also contain limitations on consultant compensation. Applicants are not required to identify subawardees or subgrantees and/or contractors in their proposal. However, if they do, the fact that an applicant selected for award has named a specific subawardee or subgrantee, contractor or consultant in the proposal EPA selects for funding does not relieve the applicant of its obligation to comply with the subaward, subgrant and/or competitive procurement requirements. Please note that applicants may not award sole source contracts to consulting, engineering, or other firms assisting applicants with the proposal solely based on the firm's role in preparing the proposal.

Successful applicants cannot use subgrants or subawards to avoid requirements in EPA grant regulations for competitive procurement by using these instruments to acquire commercial services or products from for-profit organizations to carry out its assistance agreement. The nature of the transaction between the recipient and the subawardee or subgrantee must be consistent with the standards for distinguishing between vendor transactions and sub recipient assistance under the provisions listed here. EPA will not be a party to these transactions. Applicants acquiring commercial goods or services must comply with the competitive procurement standards in 40 CFR part 30 or 40 CFR part 31.36 and cannot use the subawards or subgrant as a funding mechanism.

The second question under part C. is how will an applicants proposed subawardee's or subgrantee's and contractors be considered during the evaluation process described in Section 5 of the announcement. Section 5 of the announcement describes the evaluation criteria and evaluation process that will be used by EPA to make selections under this announcement. During this evaluation except for those criteria that relate to the applicants own qualifications, past performance, and reporting history the review panel will consider as appropriate and relevant, the qualifications, expertise and experience of: i., an applicants named subawardees or subgrantees identified in the proposal if the applicant demonstrates in the proposal that if it receives an award that the subaward or subgrant will be properly awarded consistent with applicable regulations in 40 CFR parts 30 or 31. For example, applicants must not use of subawards or subgrants to obtain commercial services or products from for-profit firms or individual consultants.

ii. an applicants named contractor including consultants identified in the proposal if the applicant demonstrates in its proposal that the contractor was selected in compliance with the competitive procurement standards in 40 CFR part 30 or 40 CFR 31.36 as appropriate. For example, an applicant must demonstrate that it selected the contractor competitively or that a proper noncompetitive sole source award consistent with the regulation will be made to the contractor, that efforts were made to provide small and disadvantaged businesses with opportunities to compete and that some form of cost or price analysis was conducted. EPA may not accept sole-source justification for contracts for services of products that are otherwise readily available in the commercial marketplace. EPA will not consider the qualifications, experience, and expertise of named subawardees or subgrantees and/or named contractors during the proposal evaluation process unless the applicant complies with these requirements.

So now we will move onto the eligibility information in Section 3 which Caitlyn is going to cover.

Surabhi Shah

Caitlyn, before you get started, this is Surabhi. And we did get a couple of notes wanting you to speak up as they want to hear what you have to say so just wanted you please raise your volume. Thanks.

Caitlyn Whittle

All right, so we are on page 11 and Section 3. So we will go over some eligible entities that may apply for funding. States, local governments, territories, Indian Tribes, and possessions of the United States which include the District of Columbia, public and private universities and colleges, public or private nonprofit institutions, intertribal consortia, and interstate agencies. Individuals, for-profit commercial entities, and all federal agencies are not eligible to apply. Nonprofit organizations described in Section 501 (c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code that engage in lobbying activities as defined in Section 3 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 are also not eligible to apply.

As Sun mentioned earlier there is the minimum non-federal cost share/match of \$2,500 under this competition. So at the top of page 12 the match may be provided in cash or from in-kind contributions such as the use of volunteers and/or donated time, equipment, expertise etc. is subject to the regulations governing matching fund requirements described in 40 CFR 30.23 or 40 CFR 31.24 as applicable. In-kind contributions often include salaries or other verifiable cost and this value must be carefully documented. In the case of salaries, applicants may use either minimum wage or fair market value. Cost share/match must be used for eligible and allowable project costs. Cost share/matching funds are considered grant funds and are included in the total award amount and should be used for the reasonable and necessary expenses of carrying out the work plan. Please note other federal grants may not be used as cost share/match without specific statutory authorities. In order to be considered for funding, all applicants must describe in their proposal submission how they will contribute to the appropriate cost share and match requirement.

Also, please note that Indian Tribes may be exempt from this cost share/match requirement if fulfilling it would impose undue hardship. To be exempted from the requirement Tribal governments must submit a one-page written request via e-mail to Sun at urbanwaters@EPA.gov with a justification for the exemption within 30 calendar days from the date of issuance of this announcement which would be December 21st.

We will notify the potential applicant of our decision within 10 business days of receipt of the written request. If the cost share/match exemption is approved the proposal will be evaluated for threshold eligibility as having satisfied the \$2,500 cost share/match.

As mentioned earlier part C. of this section provides the nine threshold eligibility criteria or the minimum requirement that the proposal must meet in order to be considered for funding. Those proposals that do not meet these criteria are considered ineligible.

Let's go through the nine threshold criteria. Number 1, an applicant must meet the eligibility requirements in Section III A. of this announcement. Number 2, proposals must substantially comply with the proposal submission instructions and requirements set

forth in Section 4 of this announcement or else they will be rejected. Whereas page limit is expressed in Section IV.C.3. with respect to the proposal narrative, pages in excess of the page limitation will not be reviewed. Section IV.C.3. establishes a 10 page single spaced proposal narrative page limit that does include the cover page.

Proposals -- number 3, proposals must be in compliance with Clean Water Act 104(b)(3) and include projects that conduct or promote the coordination and acceleration of research, investigations, experiments, training, demonstrations, surveys, and studies relating to the causes, effects, extent, prevention, reduction and elimination of water pollution. Projects that are demonstrations must involve new or experimental technologies, methods, or approaches. A project that is accomplished to the performance of routine, traditional, or establish practices or a project that is simply intended to carry out a task rather than transfer information or advance a state of knowledge, however, worthwhile the project might be is not considered a demonstration project. For proposals that include demonstration projects, the applicant must describe how the project meets the above requirements. Implementation projects are not eligible for funding under this announcement.

Number 4 on page 13, proposals requesting federal funds in excess of \$60,000 will not be reviewed. Number five, applicants must demonstrate in their proposal how they will provide the minimum required nonfederal cost share/match of \$2,500 as we just talked about in Section 3.B. Proposals must be received by EPA or received through grants.gov as specified in Section 4 of this announcement on or before the proposal submission deadline published in Section 4. If submitting a hardcopy proposal, applicants are responsible for ensuring that their proposal reaches the designated person or office specified in Section 4 of the announcement by the submission deadline.

Number 7, if the applicant chooses to submit a hardcopy of the proposal it must be submitted by hand delivery, express delivery service, or courier service. Hardcopy proposals submitted by any type of regular US postal mail will not be considered. EPA will not accept faxed or e-mailed submissions.

Number 8, proposals received after the submission deadline will not be considered unless the applicant can clearly demonstrate that it was late due to EPA mishandling or because of technical issues attributed to grants.gov. For hardcopy submissions where Section 4 requires proposal received by a specific person or office by the deadline, received by an agency mailroom is not sufficient. Applicants should confirm receipt of their proposal with the appropriate regional EPA contact listed in Section 4.B.2 as soon as possible after the submission deadline. Failure to do so may result in your proposal not being reviewed.

Number 9, only one proposal per applicant can be submitted under this RFP. If an applicant submits more than one proposal, EPA will contact them before the review process begins to determine which one should be withdrawn.

That pretty much wraps up the eligibility section of the RFP so we will take a few minutes here to check to see if there any questions on the things we've gone over so far. Surabhi do you want to start us off?

Surabhi Shah

Sure. And a thank you to Sun and Caitlyn for their presentation so far. We want to pause now as Caitlyn mentioned for questions. And I want to thank everyone. You've been active on the question board. We have a lot of questions. We are going to try and take the questions we think will apply to the most people and ones that are really important clarifying questions. So I will start with a few and we will just have Sun and Caitlyn if you can take turns and pick the ones you want. The first question is what is the award date?

Ji-Sun (Sun) Yi

Sure, I can take that Surabhi. This is Sun. The award date we expect awards to be announced in the summer of 2012.

Surabhi Shah

Very good. So the next question we have here is do I need to submit an electronic and a hardcopy and I can see there is some confusion because we have to mention to you both mechanism but go ahead Caitlyn. Do we have to submit both?

Caitlyn Whittle

No, you do not have to submit both. One or the other is sufficient.

Surabhi Shah

Okay, now we have a meaty question here. You list all sorts of things that are not demonstration projects. Can you tell us what are some examples of projects that would count as demonstration projects? Do you want to take that one, Jim?

Jim Drummond

You are looking at me.

Surabhi Shah

Jim, do you want to take that one?

Jim Drummond

Yes. I think what we try to do; we've given you the agency's general definition of demonstration projects. Sometimes it's easier to say what is not a demonstration project than what is because demonstration projects are project that are new. An example would be I have some type of a new technology that has not been tested and applied before, it's not widely available in the commercial marketplace and you want to demonstrate how that technology can be useful. Another maybe and this is a

harder -- harder line to meet -- harder benchmark is some type of a new technique on community involvement or on community training and innovative training course. Those are a lot harder because we have been funding a lot over the years under Section 104 the Clean Water Act and to some extent we have seen pretty much all we think we will see in that area so it is really very technology oriented. It is also very oriented towards situations in which you have got something that is simply not otherwise available and it has got to be again, replicable. For example, we have a question about very fair -- good faith question about a demonstration project for the community to demonstrate to the local community restoration techniques. And we are glad you asked that question because we have to say no, that's not a demonstration project as we see it. It does not have broad applicability and restoration techniques are pretty well known. Now if it's a question had been another restoration technique on a newly patented technology that is not widely available, the answer would be different. But I think you need to think technology.

Surabhi Shah

And approaches -- innovative approaches. Not just the physical technologies. Is that right, Jim?

Jim Drummond

That's correct but different approaches are a little harder to demonstrate.

Surabhi Shah

Okay, so let's see. We had a couple of questions here. One is about restoration and I know that term is used in many different ways outside of the world of this grant so here is a question. You say lead to restoration in several parts of the RFP. Does the outcome have to be a fully restored water body in order for it to qualify?

Ji-Sun (Sun) Yi

Sure, I can take that, Surabhi. This is Sun. There is a couple I guess things that were mentioned in this question qualifying kind of connotes eligibility and the work that you are proposing to do that the urban water body and the project areas those are things that we are asking you to describe and will be evaluated on during the review process. In terms of having -- needing to a fully restore that -- Caitlyn, mentioned earlier the differences between what is considered an environmental outcome and -- but that definitely would be an example of a fully restored water body being an example of an environmental outcome but for the purposes of this announcement we were looking at to fund projects that would advance that work to advance the restoration of the water body so not necessarily it being -- it's a big goal to restore a water body completely. So for the purposes of this announcement, projects that will lead to or advance the work of restoration is really what we are asking applicants to think about.

Surabhi Shah

So we understand that this program isn't going to lead to necessarily something that completely restores an urban water body but all the things that we do under this program are moving us forward in that direction. Very good. Thank you. So another question here. Does the urban water body have to be listed as impaired under some designation by EPA or a state?

Caitlyn Whittle

This is Caitlyn. I can take that one. No, it does not have to be listed as impaired or threatened under any type of official listing. The applicant should just provide information to us that the water body is impaired or threatened in some way.

Surabhi Shah

So a description would be fine, a designation is not necessary?

Caitlyn Whittle

Correct.

Surabhi Shah

Okay, great thanks. Here's another question. This is somebody who has obviously got the RFP in front of them. They say -- you are saying that proposals can help community's access or improve their urban waters. Page five seems to limit projects to education. Can we do research and development on actual urban water bodies?

Ji-Sun (Sun) Yi

This is Sun. Research and development are -- would be eligible activities under our funding authority of the Clean Water Act 104 (b)(3) and that is an -- those are eligible activities. It is implementation of whatever plan that you may produce through that research and development, that would not be able -- we would not be able to fund that under our funding authority.

Surabhi Shah

Thanks, Sun. I will take a pause there and we will go back to presentations for a little while. I know it's a large RFP so we are hoping that by walking you through key sections that it's helpful to you to take some time -- focused time to have your questions answered during the Q&A breaks and to walk you through the RFP bit by bit, piece by piece. So we are going to go now into the next section. Who is next? Go ahead.

Okay, we have got a lot of questions about a variety of topics, definitions, competition policies, subawards. Since we have several breaks during the webinar, we are going to take them as we go. Okay. Who is next presenting?

Ji-Sun (Sun) Yi

I am Surabhi. So we are going to go through Section 4. I'm going to start us off in that section and then Caitlyn -- and then I'm going to hand things off to Caitlyn. And I would just like to remind folks that even though Caitlyn and I are skimming through this document with you for today's webinar please do take the time to carefully read through the entire announcement. Okay.

So page 14. Section IV.B. So in submitting your application, Caitlyn touched on this earlier with the question that came in during the past break. You can submit your application package one of two ways, electronically via www.grants.gov or you can send in a hard copy and CD by overnight delivery, hand delivery, or courier service to the EPA regional contact listed in the next few pages. If you choose to submit your proposal through grants.gov please follow the instructions provided on pages 14 through 17 of the RFP. Please also keep in mind that the electronic submission of your proposal must be made by an official representative of your organization who is registered with grants.gov and is authorized to sign applications for federal assistance. You can find additional information on how to get registered at www.grants.gov and you can click on their get registered link that shows up on the left side of the page.

Also, please note that the registration process for grants.gov may take a week or longer to complete. So please register as soon as possible if this is the method you plan to submit your application package. Your organization will need to designate an Authorized Organization Representative or AOR to complete the registration process.

Okay, so jumping to page 17. If you experience problems submitting the proposal through grants.gov please call the grants.gov help line at 1-800-518-4726 or you can send them an e-mail through the website that is listed there as well. You can also contact me at 202-566-0730 or send an e-mail to urbanwaters@EPA.gov if you experience any problems submitting your application package electronically.

If you do receive -- if you do not receive a confirmation of receipt from EPA it will come from EPA not from grants.gov within 30 days of the proposal deadline so that would be February 23rd please contact me.

For those who choose to send their proposals through a hardcopy submission, please send two hard copies of all required documents listed in Section IV.C. which Caitlyn is going to cover in a minute. And also, an electronic version on the CD and send by express delivery service, courier service, or hand delivered to the appropriate EPA regional contact mailing address listed on pages 18-20. Again, these regional contacts are listed for the sole purpose of where applicants should send their hard copies too. Please do not contact the regions with questions regarding this announcement.

Proposals must be submitted to the appropriate Regional Office that serves the project location. The states and territories that are served by each is provided along with the contact information in parentheses on pages 18-20. If the project location is served by two or more EPA regions, so for example, if your project is located in both Pennsylvania which is served by Region 3 but also located in New Jersey which is served by EPA Region 2 the applicant should submit the proposal to the appropriate EPA Regional Office based on where the majority of the work will take place. Again, only one proposal per applicant can be submitted. The cover page of the Proposal Narrative which Caitlyn will discuss in more detail in a few minutes must indicate which Regional Office you are submitting your proposal to.

Going on to page 18. If you are not sure which region you should submit your proposal to please contact me. And again, this page, page 18-20 includes the regional contact information. So next I was going to go over what your proposal package should include and how the proposal will be evaluated.

Caitlyn Whittle

Thank you, Sun. So we are going to go over at the application packet and that must include three documents. First, it should include a signed standard form 424 or application of federal assistance. Please note that the organizational Dun & Bradstreet D&B Data Universal Number System, DUNS, must be included on the SF424. Organizations may obtain a DUNS number at no cost by calling the toll-free DUNS number request line at 1-866-705-5711 or by visiting the website at www.DNB.com.

An application should also include a completed SF424A. which is a budget information for non-construction programs and it should also include the major pieces of the package which is the Proposal Narrative. As I mentioned before, the Proposal Narrative which includes the cover page is limited to no more than 10 single spaced, typed written 8.5 by 11-inch pages. Please number each page. We recommend that applicants use a standard 12 point type with 1 inch margins. Please note that additional pages beyond the 10 page single spaced limit will not be considered. Supporting material such as imitative resumes, letters of commitments, documentation of community priorities, grant forms etc. do not have to be within that page limit. In documentation pertaining to quality assurance and quality control is not part of the page limit.

So I'm going to go over some things that the Proposal Narrative should include. And first is the cover page. And on the cover page please put the name of the applicant, the Regional Office for the proposal, the urban project area and name of the urban water body, the project title and the project title should reflect the main project outcome and objective and should be 15 words or less. It should also show that key personnel and contact information. For example, an e-mail address or phone number for that person. You should have listed the total project cost and please specify the amount of federal funds requested, the non-federal cost match/match and the total project cost. And finally,

the abstract. And the abstract should begin with one or two sentences describing the main objective of the proposal. It should also include a listing of the main tasks to be accomplished and a description of the anticipated outputs and outcomes. The entire abstract should be 250 words or less.

The Proposal Narrative should also include a project description. And the project description should contain the technical approach. And the technical approach should include a description of how the project addresses the three elements that we discussed earlier in Section I.B. And those are water quality restoration, relevance to community priorities, and success potential feasibility. It should also include information on partnerships and benefits to community which we also discussed in Section I.B. The project description should include environmental results and measuring progress and that should talk about how the project links to EPA's strategic plan which is discussed in Section I.C. of the RFP. There are 3 parts of the environmental results and measuring progress that should be included. The first is the stated objective or link to EPA's strategic plan – how the project links to the strategic plan which is discussed in Section 1.C. of the RFP. There should also be information on the results of the activities which are the outputs and the anticipated environmental improvement which are the outcomes. And the project description should also contain a milestone schedule for each year of the total grant period. The project start date will follow the awarded acceptance by successful applicants. And we expect the awards to be made by summer 2012. There should be discussion of the transfer of results. How you would transfer the results of the project to others and a detailed budget narrative that includes the requested amount through the grant and demonstrates how the match requirements will be met to provide a total project cost. Please also include any travel for you or your staff to attend necessary meetings throughout the period. Please note that at least one representative from the recipient organization is expected to attend the Urban Water Small Grants National Training Workshop which Sun will discuss further later on. But these funds may be used to travel to this workshop and if that is the case, please include the cost estimate in the proposed budget.

You should also include information on your programmatic capability and specialized experience that has two parts. Organizational experience that describes your organizational experience related to the proposed project and your staff expertise and qualifications. Here you would list your key staff and a description of their expertise, qualifications, and knowledge. We also ask that you include information on your past performance which would include info on your federally and non-federally assistance agreements. And finally, on page 24, we talk about quality assurance and quality control. This is not included in the page limit but it applies if you plan to collect or use environmental data or information as part of your proposal.

Moving on to Section 25 -- I mean page 25, Section V.A. So Section 5 provides the selection criteria for how the proposals will be evaluated and how each criterion is

weighted based on the 100 point scale. We touched on all of these elements just now when we walked through section -- and also when we talk about Section I.B. but I would like to go over these with you and the scoring rationale for each criterion.

So criterion number one is the Technical Approach and there are 30 points associated with this criterion. There are three parts that applicants will be evaluated upon. And the first is water quality restoration. This is worth 15 points. Here proposals will be evaluated based upon how well they identify the project area as urban and how well the proposed project will contribute to future environmental restoration of the urban water body. Restoration efforts can include addressing important water quality threats or impairments.

The second part of technical approach is worth five points. And it relates to the relevance to community priorities. Here projects will be evaluated based on how well they make water quality restoration of the urban water body relevant to community priorities and strive to engage local residents in a sustainable way.

The third part is the success potential and project feasibility and it is worth 10 points. Here we look at how well the proposed project demonstrates a creative or effective approach to restoring water quality within the urban area and how well the project is prepared to begin its work.

The second criteria is on page 26 and that is Partnerships. We talked about this back in Section 1B Partnership criteria is worth eight points and applicants will be evaluated based on their ability to demonstrate appropriate and necessary partnerships to successfully conduct the project including whether they have provided a clear description of the role of specific partners in the projects components and tasks and how the partnerships will contribute to the success of the proposed projects and the extent to which communities around the urban water body including but not limited to minority, low income, or indigenous population communities are participating in the project.

The third criterion, Benefits to Community we talked about back in Section I.B. also and that is worth seven points. Here proposals will be evaluated based on the extent to which they demonstrate how they will benefit communities surrounding the urban water body. That has been impacted by water pollution issues affecting the urban water body. This includes communities comprised of minority low income or other indigenous populations as well as others that may be adversely impacted by the urban water body's pollution issues.

The fourth criterion that we will look at is the Milestone Schedule and Detailed Budget/Transfer of Results and this is worth 15 points. There are three parts here. The first part is worth five points and applications will be evaluated based on how clearly they have articulated milestone schedules for project tasks. Also, worth five points

applications will be evaluated based upon the reasonableness of the budget and estimated funding amounts for each project task. Applicants will be evaluated based on the adequacy of the information provided in that budget and whether the proposed project costs are reasonable and allowable and how well the applicant demonstrated cost effectiveness in the value of the project. Remember that total project cost needs to include both the federal and required cost share/match components. The third part of criterion number 4 is worth five points as well and here proposals will be evaluated based upon how well the applicant will transfer the results of the proposed project to state, tribal, and local government agencies, other community and watershed organizations and/or other interested stakeholders.

The fifth criterion that applications will be evaluated upon is on page 27. And that is worth 20 points and has two parts. The first part worth 10 points is the extent and quality to which the proposal demonstrates potential environmental results, anticipated outputs and outcomes, and how the outcomes are linked to EPA's strategic plans and refers back to Section 1 of the announcement.

The second half of Environmental Results also worth 10 points and here we will be looking at the extent and quality to which the proposal demonstrates a sound plan for tracking progress toward achieving the expected outputs and outcomes. Examples of outputs and outcomes we have discussed and they are provided in Section I.C. of the announcement.

The sixth criterion for this RFP is the Programmatic Capability and Specialized Experience. And under this criterion there are two subparts total worth 10 points. The first subpart is worth five points and that is the organizational experience related to the proposed project and their infrastructure as it relates to the ability to successfully implement the proposed project.

Also, worth five points we will be looking at staff experience and qualifications, staff knowledge and resources, or the ability to obtain them, and to successfully implement the proposed project.

The final evaluation criteria under this RFP is an evaluation of past performance and this is worth 10 points. It has three parts. The first part looks at past performance in successfully completing and managing federally or non-federally funded assistance agreements similar in the size and scope and relevance to the proposed project and has been performed within the last five years. This is worth four points.

History of meeting reporting requirements under federally and non-federally funded assistance agreements similar in the size, and scope and relevance to the proposed project in the last five years and submitting acceptable final technical reports under these agreements. This is worth three-points.

On page 28 is the third part of criterion number 7 and that is the extent and quality to which the applicant documented or reported their progress toward achieving the expected results, outputs, and outcomes under federally and non-federally funded assistance agreements performed in the last five years. And such progress is not being made whether the applicant adequately documented why not and this is worth three points.

Not highlighted here in the RFP on your screed, but I wanted to just mention quickly the notes under criterion number 7 that if an applicant has not previously received federal funding that they need to state so in their application and would be given a neutral score under criterion number 7. If the applicant does not mention that nor speaks to this criterion they would receive a score of zero.

So that wraps up the selection criteria for the RFP and I think we are ready for another round of questions. Surabhi, do you have any ready?

Surabhi Shah

I do. Before we go to questions I just want to note again, thank you to everyone that has been writing in these great questions. They are really, really excellent questions. Again, just a reminder that we will try to get to as many as we can and we were trying to pick the ones that we think applied to the most people and that will be the most helpful to you but after this webinar we are committed to answering them on our Frequently Asked Questions page. So if you wrote in and you did not get an answer today be sure to check there.

Before we get started on a few more Q's and A's with Sun and Caitlyn. Jim Drummond for our Office of General Council noticed sort of a stream of questions about a couple of different topics specially related to subawards and he offered to provide some clarification on that. Jim.

Jim Drummond

I noticed a number of questions regarding subawards and partnering etc. And let me -- I want to talk to very candidly about this subject about subawards. First -- first of all if you are thinking about subawarding to a consultant, forget it. Let me be clear. I will say it again, if you are thinking about a non-competitive subaward to a consultant forget it. We consider consultants to be commercial -- provide commercial services and those contracts must be competed that includes contracts to individual consultants so I want to be very clear about that because some of the questions that were coming in I was getting the idea that people having to find subawards and this, and that, and the other so I thought I would be very clear on that point.

Second of all, in EPA we put in our RFP about not accepting sole-source justifications for commercially available services. We mean that. We mean that. We have a rich commercial marketplace. Someone -- the fact that someone that you think is the best to do the job does not justify the sole source procurement. We also I think have made it very clear on this point as well. If someone helps you to prepare the RFP and you have a deal with them in exchange for helping you with the RFP, very talented consultants, very talented people doing this and the deal is they get to do the work on the sole-source basis, forget that one too. Okay. So I wanted to be very clear on that. So got a lot of these questions and so there will be no doubt about what our answer is.

Surabhi Shah

And Jim, while we are with you we wanted to ask you a few other questions that have come up since your description a few minutes ago about demonstration. So we have got a question here saying do all of the projects we submit have to meet the demonstration definition?

Jim Drummond

No, no. The only projects are those seeking -- that should be considering themselves demonstrations are if you are probably doing actual restoration on the ground type work. Training projects don't need to meet the definition of demonstration. A study of an area does not need to meet the definition of demonstration. Any type of research does not need to meet the definition of demonstration. We put that in there because some folks want to, for good reasons, restore a stream bed. And if Congress had given us the authority under Clean Water 104 to fund you to restore the stream bed, we would do that. But we do not have that statutory authority under this statutory authority available for this program. Some of our states have authorities under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act and give subgrants under that all the time. Let me again before I get away from the topic of subgranting, a question came up of can a local government "partner" with a nonprofit organization without competition. By the term partner I am -- I think you mean the word subaward. A subaward or subgrant is a better way to think about it. Subawards can be confusing. The answer to that question is yes, a nonprofit organization may be the recipient of a subaward provided that the nonprofit organization is carrying out its own mission perhaps in community involvement or perhaps being part of a study of its own community and there is no need to compete the transaction. Those are not subject to competition. On the other hand keep, in mind about subawards. They are strictly cost based transactions. There is no "profit" for the nonprofit organization. They simply getting reimbursed for their cost and use the local government who are accountable to us for proper subgrant administration. Local governments generally know how to administer subgrants in a variety of programs. They know the cost principles apply and the sub recipient if something goes wrong and they spend the money inappropriately we go after the local government. And they know that.

Surabhi Shah

Okay. Well, there is two clusters of questions, Jim, for you and one is around the subaward piece so let's just go with specific examples. One is -- an organization says that they have a nonprofit that they always partner with and that nonprofit has an educator that they always use to deliver educational programs. So what they're wondering is first of all can they pay the salary for that person at the nonprofits because that's a cost they will incur -- the nonprofit partner will incur. That's one question. And the second is do they have to compete and find sort of a competitive response to find out who will deliver that or can they go ahead with the nonprofit partner they've always worked with? And that's the question.

Jim Drummond

Okay. Let me redefine your question a little bit to answer it. First of all, yes, if it is a proper subgrant -- if the mission of that nonprofit organization is to provide educational services to the community which the community will serve. Yes the recipient -- prime recipient can give a sub grant or sub award -- I think that I used the word subgrant because I am old fashioned. A subgrant to that nonprofit organization. Now the trickier question though is not clear from the question we got is the nonprofit always uses a particular educator. If the particular educator is on their staff as an employee, yes that is fine and the salary is an eligible cost. If on the other hand the nonprofit hires the educator as a consultant that nonprofit must complete that contract because that consultant or educator simply is a contractor to the nonprofit organization and again, local governments know the nonprofit organizations under the subgrant must also follow the grant regulations in acquiring services. And I don't know -- my parents were schoolteachers, but I suspect you could complete a contract for educational services quite easily.

Surabhi Shah

Great, thank you. There's another one sort of in your portfolio here before we go to Sun and Caitlyn. Can funds be used to hire an AmeriCorps volunteer?

Jim Drummond

Probably. My understanding is an AmeriCorps -- the AmeriCorps can accept private funds. EPA's position is for whether it's AmeriCorps I believe the US Geological Service also has statutory authority to accept private funds. You can go to AmeriCorps or any other federal organization with statutory orders to accept private funds and you do not need to compete that transaction. Congress has authorized those organizations to accept private funds and that's good enough for us.

Surabhi Shah

Okay. What we are going to do as I keep mentioning we have that Frequently Asked Questions page we will go ahead and research that when a little bit better and make

sure we have an even more thorough answer for you on the AmeriCorps volunteer but you have some initial direction from Jim Drummond now. Jim, I actually did want to ask you a few other questions that came up. I just want to make sure we are confirming because we had that question about demonstration, we have several people that are still thinking maybe that is what's required so here's what I am going to do. I'm going to check with you and name something and you can tell me broadly speaking can we fund that under this grant. Planning?

Jim Drummond

Yes.

Surabhi Shah
Training?

Jim Drummond

Yes.

Surabhi Shah

Research and development?

Jim Drummond

Yes.

Surabhi Shah

Education and Outreach?

Jim Drummond

Yes.

Surabhi Shah

Surveys or Studies?

Jim Drummond

Yes, although surveys can present an issue in terms of the Paperwork Reduction Act if it's a cooperative agreement but yes, statutorily we can fund that.

Surabhi Shah

So I just want to make sure that folks on the webinar are hearing there is a broad array of things you can fund under this grant and I know we have talked about the fact that you can also find demonstrations that makes it a little higher bar there and that you cannot fund what we call implementation. Now several folks have asked for a definition, Jim, of what do we mean by implementation? Can you just touch on that?

Jim Drummond

Yes, implementation is more or less routine work against stream restoration, community cleanups, simply on the ground carrying out a program to -- it's an environmental protection program. It's a good thing. Unfortunately our statutory authority and Clean Water 104 does not include implementation. The agency does fund implementation projects in our grants to the states under other sections of the Clean Water Act but implementation is not an available activity. Over the years we have funded, throughout the agency's history, a number of demonstration projects and that's why projects like streambed restoration unless it's some new whizbang technology that really has not been tested before is not going to qualify for a demonstration project.

Surabhi Shah

Okay, we had another question about that and somebody talked a lot about the fact that their organization really believes that river cleanup and stream cleanups are a powerful way to do education and outreach. What they wondered is maybe you can't fund just an individual one off cleanup but is it possible under this grant to fund something that is broader, that is an education outreach strategy that includes cleanup?

Jim Drummond

Yes, but let me caveat that answer very carefully. The cleanup has to be secondary to an overall education program. For example, if you had a situation where you have a couple of hours of instructing the community on various contaminants or ways to prevent various contaminants, household hazards from entering into the waters and then at the end of that you have you know, go out and clean up the area. That is okay, but we are not going to fund the -- we are not going to pay the members of the community to do the cleanup. I think this program you have made that decision about the participants support costs correct, Surabhi? That we decided those are not allowable costs. We obviously will not pay wages to the community members for doing the cleanup. But as far as -- as long as it is tied to an educational program and most of the program is educational rather than the actual cleanup you could do that. And we are talking about one or two cleanups, we are not talking a kind of an ongoing matter.

Surabhi Shah

Okay, and one more in that stream and then it looks like Bruce Binder has a comment to add. Caitlyn and Sun don't forget we are coming back to you so don't lose track, we are with you too. So one question here was about the fact that we understand -- I understand it says in the question that we cannot fund restoration -- streambank restoration or green infrastructure implementation. However, what if those activities are part of a larger job training program? Would it be possible to fund say the participant's side bends out of that even though the demonstration work they do is secondary?

Jim Drummond

It would be the same situation. You have to couple that with classroom training, skills training, and then with some on-the-job training for the training recipients. Now again, I go back to Surabhi to make program calls whether you will pay training stipends or not.

Surabhi Shah

We can check on that just to make sure. I would hate to make an off the cuff remark now but I will just double-check that. Okay.

Jim Drummond

When you decide that and put it in the FAQs because that's really a policy choice for your program tonight. It's a legal matter, they are allowable with prior agency approval and we have to decide whether we are going to approve that because stipends do eat up a training budget pretty significantly but --

Surabhi Shah

And I would say just more broadly that folks should look at the evaluation criteria and take a look at the broader goals of the program and make sure that we are meeting them but I appreciate the fact that people are asking these nuisance questions. You are helping us get more specific in our FAQ. Now we don't want to run out of time. We do have some more material to cover, but Bruce Binder you had something you wanted to cover.

Bruce Binder

This is Bruce Binder, Director of Grant Competition at EPA. There was a couple of questions -- several questions touching on the same thing I wanted to touch on briefly. One of them is asking can the experience of listed partners in administering federal grants be considered part of the past performance criteria. No. The past performance criteria is the applicants past performance not any of this proposed partners, contractors or subawardees. So pay very careful attention to that because if you list other people besides yourself you will not get any points. The other question that came up deals with something, Jim Drummond was mentioning about subawards and subcontractors and the question was, can we list now a proposal that we intend to use a contractor to help us but not list the specific contractor? Yes, but we won't be evaluating that -- we won't have anyone to evaluate the specific experience if you just say you propose to use a contractor but don't identify them. So just realize you can do that. The clauses that we talked about earlier about naming your contractor and us considering them in the evaluation relates to if you are going to specifically name somebody who is going to help you and they are a contractor you have to show how you competed that contract or how it's a valid noncompetitive award but if you are just not identifying anybody specifically than that cause really does not technically apply because there's nobody for us to consider during the evaluation.

Jim Drummond

Let me follow-up on what Bruce said. And that is folks it is not hard to compete your contracts for your consultants. I see so many questions out there. The one about -- I just saw we are a freelance organization made up of individuals, are the individuals -- would those be sub awardees? If you are paying them, no. They are not. If they are not your employee and the individuals are working to perform for you they are individual consultants. You have to compete that. And if the individuals are members of your organization, there's a conflict of interest and so you could not hire them anyway. So you want to compete your contracts. With e-mails nowadays and websites and the availability of the small business administration for small and disadvantaged businesses it is not hard for you in preparation of your proposal to run a quick competition, select someone competitively, fairly, evaluate their proposed cost and price analysis compared to other and then you can name them in your proposal. We are fine with that. What we are -- it has happened so many times and I have been dealing with audits where this has happened and costs have been disallowed. Folks think that naming somebody in the proposal or they have worked with someone four years or this guy, we know they are the best is going to satisfy the competitive procurement requirements and it just does not work.

Bruce Binder

And Jim, just one other thing to add quickly on that, if you already competed the contract that qualifies also.

Surabhi Shah

Okay. Well I am very grateful for those comments from Bruce Binder and Jim Drummond. I appreciate the clarification. And we have got two more questions here before we go back to the context of our presentation today. Sun, we have a question for you. Do I need an indirect cost rate to apply for an urban water small grant? Go ahead and if Jim has something to add we will have that too. Go ahead.

Ji-Sun (Sun) Yi

In short, no. As an eligibility issue you do not need to have an indirect cost rate to apply for the grant. But applicants should determine if indirect cost should be included in their proposed budget and if that is the case that should be included in the Standard Form 424 A. that Caitlyn mentioned earlier. You also don't need to have negotiated indirect cost rate confirmed prior to applying for this grant and we would like to point out that additional information for this for indirect costs can be found in Section IV.B. of the RFP. There is also a -- this is also an FAQ up on our website so there is a good answer -- a pretty lengthy answer for this provided on our website as well.

Surabhi Shah

Great.

Jim Drummond

Let me just say that let me see IV.B. and see what we said but you can't charge -- you can't charge indirect cost threats unless you have established indirect rate and you can't charge on an interim basis if you submitted one. And there are ways if you don't have an indirect rate you could save a lot of work where you can direct charges on a prorated basis for your indirect cost and that is an acceptable means of doing that but indirect costs is a very complicated area.

Surabhi Shah

We look at some of those questions I think in writing to make sure folks have a really comprehensive and detailed answer that really fits their situation so yeah, that makes sense. Caitlyn, we have a question for you here. We talked a lot about partnerships. Do people have to have a partner, a nonprofit partner or government partner, or any specific type of partner in order to be eligible for this grant?

Caitlyn Whittle

No, Surabhi. An applicant does not have to have a specific partner to be eligible for the grant. But if an applicant chooses not to have any partners at all an explanation should be provided on how they will perform their project without partners. I mentioned that partnerships will be evaluated under criterion number 2 and I would recommend that applicants read section I.B. We talk about partnerships and also the criterion listed in section 5 to get at kind of what we are thinking about it in terms of partners and just another reminder that if you do not intend to have any partners let us know and let us know how you are going to do the project without them.

Surabhi Shah

Very good. One more for Sun. Is there a limit to how large the project area can be? Can it be statewide?

Ji-Sun (Sun) Yi

No, there is no limit to how large the project area can be. Again, this is something that you will be evaluated on in your project description as Caitlyn talked about earlier when she went over Section I.B. and evaluation criteria in Section 5. I do encourage you to take a look at Section 1 to look at the goals and objectives of the Urban Waters Small Grants.

Surabhi Shah

Great. Yeah, I think that's a good idea. Sometimes the evaluation criteria can help you because something may not be an eligibility matter and sometimes you are asking your question am I eligible, yes? So it might be an eligibility issue so here we are saying clearly it is not but looking at the evaluation criteria would also be really helpful to you to see if you meet the goals of the program.

And one more for you Caitlyn. Is the max for one year or both years?

Caitlyn Whittle

It's a total request match -- a total request maximum so it is for two years.

Surabhi Shah

Very good. Okay, folks again, I know that we have gotten to a lot of your questions but not all of them and I wanted to see if we could just get started now with Sun covering the next section of the RFP. Are you at page 28? Is that right, Sun?

Ji-Sun (Sun) Yi

Yep. Page 28.

Surabhi Shah

Okay, very good.

Ji-Sun (Sun) Yi

Okay. Great thanks, Surabhi. So continuing on with Section 5 Part B. we have mentioned a couple of times already that each Regional Office will be making the selection and awards for these grants and I'm going to go over a little bit the section provides a general overview of how that process is going to work so each Regional Office will review proposal submissions for proposed projects located in an associated geographic region. A proposal where the project location is served by two or more Regional Offices will be reviewed by the office to which the proposal was submitted to as we talked about earlier.

All proposals will be first screened by the EPA regional staff against the threshold criteria and those that do not pass the threshold review will not be evaluated further or considered for funding.

All eligible proposals will then be evaluated by a regional review panel which will be composed of EPA staff and they might also include representatives from other federal agencies that are part of the urban water federal partnership. Evaluations will be based on the 100 point scale as Caitlyn went through earlier. Proposals will be ranked based on the reviewers scores and the scores and rankings will be provided to the EPA regional selection official for final funding decisions. In making the final decision the regional selection official may also consider geographic diversity, project diversity, and funding availability.

Moving onto page 29 Section 6. Once all the proposals are evaluated, all applicants will be notified about their status. Final applications will be requested from those whose proposal has been successfully evaluated and preliminarily recommended for award. Those entities will be provided with instructions and a due date for submittal of the final application package.

And this question has come up a couple of times but just to reiterate questions on timeline and the schedule for awards so we anticipate that the awards will be made in summer of 2012 and we hope that the applicants -- all applicants will be notified about their application status by spring of 2012.

Going onto pages 31. Going onto page 31 -- let's go to part K. under this section under Section 6 which talks about the national training workshop that Caitlyn mentioned earlier. Recipients of the Urban Water Small Grants will be required to attend an EPA sponsored Urban Water Small Grants National Training Workshop. We anticipate the workshop will take place over period of two days during the first year of the cooperative agreement. We ask that at least one representative from the recipient organization should attend. The purpose of the training will provide the recipient with strategic planning and cooperative agreement management as well as provide opportunities for the grantees to network with other urban waters community representatives. The workshop location has not yet been determined but as Caitlyn mentioned earlier, the recipient will be allowed to use cooperative agreement funds to pay for one person's travel and lodging to the training workshop and if that is the case then the cost should be included in the proposed budget.

And moving on to Section 7 I would like to remind everyone of my contact information for questions that may come up after today's webinar. My number is listed there and again we ask that you please e-mail all questions to urbanwaters@EPA.gov. We have received a lot of questions since the RFP has been announced and so we are doing our best to respond to those questions as promptly as possible and you may also find as we mentioned earlier the FAQ page up on our website to be helpful. Your question may have already been answered on that page so please take a look at it and that is updated regularly. And our next information session will be on Thursday January 5th at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time and as Surabhi mentioned at the beginning of the webinar today's webinar is being recorded and will be posted on our website in the next week or so and the January webinar will also be recorded and posted and made available on our website. So I think we have covered all of the sections we wanted to highlight today of the RFP and I think we are due for another round of questions so Surabhi if you --

Surabhi Shah

Great. I am so pleased because we have covered all of the material and we still have about 20-30 minutes left for Q&A and we have been getting little notes from some of you saying that the Q&A has been very helpful. So glad to hear it. First question is for Caitlyn. Caitlyn, folks are asking do you have any geographic priority under this program?

Caitlyn Whittle

No , there are not specific geographic -- there are no geographic priorities identified for this grant program. Applicants can find goals and priorities for the program outlined in Section 1 and Section V.A. of the RFP.

Surabhi Shah

Great. And the other question here that we see, Sun how soon can projects begin and how long is the project period?

Ji-Sun (Sun) Yi

Great, so as we mentioned earlier we hope to make the awards by summer of 2012 and projects can begin after the award notices are made so -- and I think Caitlyn mentioned earlier that the cooperative -- the project performance period for these cooperative agreements are two years so in terms of planning purposes if someone is wondering about the timeline for their project I would say in general summer of 2012-summer of 2014.

Surabhi Shah

Great. Very helpful. Next question. Can municipalities use these funds to contract with consultants? We certainly talked a lot about that. Sun, do you want to just sum it up real brief? We've heard a lot about it already.

Ji-Sun (Sun) Yi

Sure. Municipalities may contract with consultants to perform activities that are eligible under our funding authority 104 (b)(3). Again, Jim spoke about this a lot earlier to keep in mind that they can do that as long as they comply with the permitted procurement provisions that we went over in section 2 Part C..

Jim Drummond

I would like to follow up that being my favorite subject. There are a couple of questions that came up Bruce eluded to this. Can we use a contractor that we hired competitively for another project? The answer is it depends. If the scope of work for your current contract covers the type of work for the urban waters grant the answer is yes. You have awarded the contract competitively. It is fact specific based on the scope of work. If you have for example, many municipalities have very broad competitively awarded consulting contracts with engineers and other environmental professionals with options periods or competitive task orders or whatever that is fine those are competitively awarded contracts. Someone misunderstood me and said well how can we -- we can't hire consultants at all. No, that's not what I said. I said you have to hire your consultants competitively.

Surabhi Shah

Good clarification. Caitlyn, another question here. This might apply to a number of potential applicants so I'd like to be sure we cover this. Can my organization apply for this grant to a fiscal sponsor if we don't have 501(c)(3) but we do urban waters work?

Jim Drummond

We posted that answer.

Surabhi Shah

Caitlyn, do you want to just go over that? I know that some folks may not have read it on the FAQ. Caitlyn, are you muted? Okay. Do you want to take that?

Ji-Sun (Sun) Yi

Sure, I can take that one. So --

Surabhi Shah

This is about whether someone can apply through a fiscal sponsor? Go for it Jim.

Surabhi Shah

We are all deciding who should answer. Jim Drummond, go ahead.

Jim Drummond

First of all, EPA does not recognize the concept of fiscal sponsors. If -- by what your fiscal sponsor is an eligible nonprofit that applies on behalf of an ineligible organization as their quote "fiscal sponsor" there is nothing in the grant regulations that even mentions the term fiscal sponsor. I know where the term originated and which agency it originated in but EPA does not accept the term fiscal sponsor. But the other part of the question we put in our FAQ is you don't have to have 501(c)(3) status to be eligible for this program. If you are recognized as a nonprofit organization in your state, your incorporated as a nonprofit organization you are eligible. 501(c)(3) status relates to taxes and tax exempt status. The IRS will tell you we don't give people the imprimatur of nonprofit status, that's a matter of state law. What the 501 (c)(3) status establishes it's one way of demonstrating you are a nonprofit but if you are not a 501(c)(3) and you are incorporated under state law as a nonprofit organization you are just as eligible as someone who has a 501(c)(3) status.

Surabhi Shah

Great, I hope that is clarifying. We have a question here about monitoring projects. Do monitoring projects have to use new technologies, do they have to be innovative?

Ji-Sun (Sun) Yi

I can answer that. This is Sun. No, for monitoring projects they don't have to have used new technology or be innovative. Those are more I guess related to if you are proposing to do a demonstration project.

Surabhi Shah

So again, it's a reminder to folks that if you are doing a study -- a monitoring study, if you are doing a training, outreach, education. All of those are possibilities and the demonstration is an or, that's another category. So please don't think that you're demonstration threshold has to apply to all those other kinds of eligible projects. It's a broad, broad range of projects.

We have a question here about convening. So the question is, Caitlyn, if you want to take this one. Can we fund a series of summits or a series of meetings convening to discuss a topic like green infrastructure or science, anything like that? Is convening an okay thing to fund under these grants?

Caitlyn Whittle

Yes, I believe convening is an eligible activity under Clean Water Act 104 (b)(3).

Surabhi Shah

Great. Here is an interesting one. We talked a little bit in the RFP about the kind of documentation that people might want to provide to show that the work that they are proposing fits with community priorities. So here is the question. Caitlyn, if you could get this one. Does documentation from comprehensive plans that have been developed by community stakeholders fit the requirement to demonstrate community interests?

Caitlyn Whittle

I'm sorry, Surabhi, can you repeat the beginning of the question?

Surabhi Shah

Sure. Does documentation from comprehensive plans that a community might have put together with diverse stakeholders, would that fit the requirement to demonstrate community interest in this project?

Caitlyn Whittle

I think that's an example of something that would demonstrate community interest in a project, sure.

Ji-Sun (Sun) Yi

Just to clarify on the earlier question on convening just to add a note too that there needs to be some kind of outcome from that like a report or some type of documentation that is the outcome of that convening.

Surabhi Shah

Sun, if it is a training, if it is an outreach event those would work as a convening of that?

Jim Drummond

The training -- if you are convening people to train them you have to establish an agenda that is fine but if you are convening people to talk and to talk about green infrastructure and how green infrastructure could be implemented in your community that is the study and then you need to at the end of the project have product, a study saying we -- the community got together, looked at these alternatives, here's what being considered, here's the advantage of one, here's the advantage of the other, here's our next steps. All of that is fine but convening is a part of the process for either training or a study. Convening and just talking that would not be eligible. Convening just to talk.

Surabhi Shah

Fair enough. I think that is fair to say. We are looking for an outcome.

Jim Drummond

We are looking for an outcome.

Surabhi Shah

So plan meetings that -- if you are convening folks for planning, for a study, for a training, or to do outreach and communication, all of those things need to show that indeed you are actually doing those things that you have an outcome that shows that the planning process, it's a plan. It shows that it's a study. It's a study at the end. So just making sure that you are sort of holding true to what that intention is of your convening. Maybe one way to put it is that convening is a way of doing something, it's a means to an end and just make sure that your end is something eligible. Again, outreach, education, training, plan -- planning process or a study. All of those can be reasons that you might be convening.

Let's see we have a few more interesting questions here. In fact, lots. Let's see. I have one here that says the project will contribute to environmental restoration of an urban water body however, I hear that implementation of streambank restoration is not eligible. Can you say a little bit more about where we can find funds to do implementation work? I can just -- go ahead Jim.

Jim Drummond

Go to your state and ask for -- find out what their approach is to their Clean Water 319 Grant. The EPA funds capitalization grants for municipalities. We fund capitalization grants to states for safe drinking water and clean water of revolving funds. Those states may have programs. Those are the primary areas. Of course, you know you're just the regular state budget depending on your fiscal condition and the condition of your state.

Just what we are trying to emphasize here is that on the authority we have for our program, implementation is not an eligible cost.

Surabhi Shah

Great, I do want to mention something about when people ask where do I get funding for implementation I would like to remind folks that often times when we see an organization that we are funding under an EPA grant we follow those grantees sometimes and continue to interact with them and what we have noticed is sometimes folks are able to get a grant from EPA for say something like planning and then the work that they did positions them really well for funding from other sources, federal, state, local or nonprofit, foundation funding, so just remember that sometimes this can be sort of a process for a continuum over time so you are able to fund one thing through one grant and then that leverages and you're able to get additional credibility and standing to be competitive for other grants.

A question here about education. This is a good question. Sun, if a project already has a well-developed educational program can delivery of the training be funded under this grant?

Ji-Sun (Sun) Yi

Yes. I believe that it can be funded. That is an eligible activity under the Clean Water Act 104 (b)(3).

Surabhi Shah

Great. Caitlyn we have a question, here is a project that is less than two years long eligible?

Caitlyn Whittle

Yes. I don't see why it wouldn't be. Do you guys have any other thoughts over there in headquarters?

Surabhi Shah

No. I think that's right if people can achieve the results on a really great project the competes well under this grant and they can achieve them in sooner than two years that would be great.

Bruce Binder

Surabhi there was another question in connection with that saying basically is a two-year grant more competitive than a one year. I don't think the length of time is going to determine what's more competitive. It's the nature and the quality of the proposal so it's not like you'll be disadvantaged or advantaged if you do one over the other.

Surabhi Shah

That's right. So there isn't sort of for instance, we are not giving extra points for somebody that gets it done and dashes to the finish line in six months or a year. We are looking just to give you a sense of the kinds of projects we can anticipate funding can be completed in that two-year mark. All right, we have a question here. Sun can this grants cover travel expenses incurred in the course of a project?

Ji-Sun (Sun) Yi

Yes. Funding can be used to cover travel expenses that I think that's in -- we talk about that in Section 4, in what should be included in the proposal narrative. But yes that is an eligible expense under the funding announcement.

Surabhi Shah

Okay. Maybe Caitlyn you want to take this one. We had a few questions saying since we don't know the location of the national workshop, how would you advise us to reflect that in our budget?

Caitlyn Whittle

I guess my best suggestion would be to make your best estimate for -- actually I am not sure. Sun, you looked into this a bit more. Can you speak on it?

Ji-Sun (Sun) Yi

Sure Caitlyn. Yeah I think -- I mean I would agree with where Caitlyn was going that you provide the best guess in terms of budgeting for the expenses to attend the workshop. Perhaps maybe a way I don't know if others here have another idea but perhaps picking a location that is the furthest away for you to kind of have at least a maximum amount allotted in your proposed budget for attending the workshop.

Jim Drummond

This is Jim. I would add that if you need to move money across account lines because of cost of attending the workshop were more than expected that's okay. Just do your best estimate.

Surabhi Shah

Great, thanks. Interesting question here for partnerships involving higher education institutions and the local government both partnering together who should take the lead?

Jim Drummond

I don't think we can answer that question because that's really a tactical decision for you make. Both a local government could make a noncompetitive sub grant to universities. Universities do this all the time in their research consortiums. But you are asking us to give you advice on your proposal in terms of what is the most effective competition technique and you have to decide that yourself.

Surabhi Shah

And Jim it's fine to say that either of those two categories of organizations are considered eligible entities.

Jim Drummond

Right. They need to make the call which they think who will make their proposal most attractive.

Surabhi Shah

Very good. And we did hear from Bruce when he talked about past performance that that is talking about the applicant. So that's something to consider that is the applicant. If you're wondering who should be the applicant that's just one example of why you want to read to the RFP and the criteria section as well. Here is a question, can we use funds to purchase materials for a demonstration site?

Ji-Sun (Sun) Yi

This is Sun . Yes. That is an eligible expense to use funds for -- for under this announcement.

Surabhi Shah

Okay, very good. A question here, Caitlyn, here is a fun question. Do you have a definition of urban for this Request for Proposal?

Caitlyn Whittle

No, we do not have a definition of urban for this RFP. It is an evaluation criterion. It is discussed in Section 1B and in Section 5 A and we are leaving it up to applicants to kind of explain to us why they think they are urban using supporting materials and I would recommend that any potential applicant out there review Section 1B and review Section 5 to kind of get a sense of what we are looking for as far as urban in concerned. But no, it is not -- there is no specific requirement and it is not a threshold criterion.

Surabhi Shah

And again just a reminder to folks you heard Sun and Caitlyn talk about the difference between thresholds and evaluation. And again threshold gets you in the door. Are you eligible? And evaluation is what it sounds like, we are evaluating you on that once you get in the door. So just remember what we are saying is urban is not a threshold criteria. It does not make you eligible or ineligible. It is something that is noted in the evaluation criteria.

Sun, we have somebody who has a really complicated question and I think the answer will be really simple. It's a question about match and they are talking about having to

refer to 40 CFR something in order to figure what their match is, but I think you guys made it really easy on match, didn't you?

Ji-Sun (Sun) Yi

The minimum match requirement is \$2,500 and that can be in cash or in-kind contributions.

Jim Drummond

But you would need to go to 40 CFR if your local government, the applicable provision in 40 CFR on cost share I don't have. I could look up one real quickly for nonprofits. For the in-kind services that has to be eligible and allowable costs and one thing that happens often is for nonprofits, for example, they might include some indirect cost rates as part of the match and that is not an eligible cost for indirect for in-kind assistance or for in-kind contributions. It is only direct charges. And if I could elaborate a little bit on example many organizations want to use the volunteers for in-kind services and that is fine. Let me give you an example. You have an attorney as your volunteer. That attorney is going to review your contracts which you have competitively awarded and look at the terms of the contracts. She can include her full normal billable hour rate for that review. A different case that attorney will go out and will help you perform a particular project where she will stuff envelopes for you at a community outreach. If people still stuff envelopes, but she would be charging minimum wage for that or the appropriate wage for someone stuffing envelopes. It is not the professional qualifications of the individual, it is the work they are actually doing and you must make an estimate of the market rate for what that service is.

Surabhi Shah

Great. That's a great clarification. I think the questioner is actually asking also how can they access that citation, that reference and Sun do you know if we have that somewhere in an FAQ or is it something we want to add. You can send that to us.

Jim Drummond

That is 40 CFR. It's -- I don't have the exact citation for A, for the governmentals but if you give me a second I can look it up for the nonprofits and you can Google this.

Surabhi Shah

How about this, we will go on to a few questions and we will come back to Jim for those references. Okay. Caitlyn, do you want to take this one maybe? Will the total available grant dollars in funding be divided or distributed equally amongst all 10 EPA Regional Offices?

Caitlyn Whittle

The answer to that is yes, the total available resources right now which is \$1.8 million will be distributed equally in 10 portions to the 10 EPA regions so each region has about

\$180,000 to spend on these grants and would likely fund somewhere between three and four projects within the range of \$40-\$60,000 each.

Surabhi Shah

Okay, great. Thank you.

Jim Drummond

I have that answer. It's on page 12 of the RFP. The citations to the regulations.

Surabhi Shah

This is for folks trying to create their match and get the in-kind enumerations.

Jim Drummond

If you want to read them off to me I can. For nonprofits it's 40 CFR 30.23. That is our regulation. There's a governmentwide one, but this is the same. And for governmental 40 CFR 31. 24. 30.23 and 31.24. Page 12 of the RFP.

Surabhi Shah

Page12. Okay. If a partner is a nonprofit do their services need to be competed? Okay.

Jim Drummond

It depends. It depends on what the nonprofit is doing. I can give you an example of a situation where a nonprofit as a "partner" where you would have to compete the services that they are providing if for example, the nonprofit organization were providing accounting services to you. As if they were a fiscal agent perhaps, but that is a contract. That is a commercially available service. Accounting services, there are lots of people to do that. If on the other hand the nonprofit organization is carrying out part of the program in the community. For example, doing community outreach, if you're funding that nonprofit to do community outreach or even if you are funding that Nonprofit to do a study assuming the study is based on the nonprofit's mission that would be okay. But commercial services like accounting or if the nonprofit is simply reviewing documents for you or managing a contractor, those are commercial services.

Surabhi Shah

We have one more question here and it's sort of a theme that we have heard in a few questions so far and then we will close out the webinar for today. We have a lot of questions about what counts as a water; stormwater, retention basin, groundwater, a collection of waterways? Does it have to be just one urban water body or can it be a whole watershed? Is groundwater, okay, are wells okay? What if it's an intermittent waterway that is not constantly flowing all year round. Caitlyn, do you want to take that one?

Caitlyn Whittle

Sure Surabhi. We did not make any restrictions or exclusions under this RFP so any type of urban water body is eligible for a project under the RFP. And really an applicant should just look at the priorities and goals of the program under Sections 1 and Section 5 to see if their project and their water body would fit with what the RFP shows we are sort of looking for and what we will be evaluating against. Do you guys want to add or Jim do you have anything to add to that?

Jim Drummond

I'm sorry. I was at the question board. It still growing.

Surabhi Shah

We still have lots of questions coming in and Jim got excited about some of those. I think that is right Caitlyn. Caitlyn, do you want to just sort of recap what you asked. We were talking Jim about the question being what is water? What are we considering a waterway for example, the stormwater, groundwater, collection of waterways, watershed, intermittent waterways and Caitlyn you responded did you want to recap that for Jim?

Caitlyn Whittle

Sure. Just that we did not exclude any type of water body under this RFP so folks can go ahead and submit an application for an urban water and as long as, you know, they have reviewed Section 1 and Section 5 that talk about the goals and priorities of the RFP they will be scored accordingly.

Surabhi Shah

So really to focus on the evaluation criteria to answer this question. It is not a threshold matter, it's not about getting in the door, it's about evaluation, making sure it's aligned with the goals of the program.

Jim Drummond

On page three is our discussion of waters and examples. If there is a question on water there's another OGC Attorney. We have handled that question a lot.

Surabhi Shah

I think that warrants something on the Frequently Asked Question page for folks that answer those questions and if you have specific questions aren't on page three we will go and document that in the FAQ. So that's just one more reason why you want to go back to that Frequently Asked Questions page regularly if you are developing your proposal. We encourage you to visit that. You will also find a recording of today's webinar posted on the website in just a week or so. If you don't find your question of course in the FAQ document -- if you don't find the question -- the answer to your question in the FAQ document then definitely send it and as we've been saying all along to urbanwaters@EPA.gov.

Our next webinar will be held after the holidays January 5th, 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time -- same time we had today. And that webinar will cover the same material and again, we will have Q&A sessions as we did today. So the difference will be what we covered in the Q&A and the material we are covering is essentially the same. Before I close, I would like to thank Caitlyn Whittle and Sun Yi for their presentations and I would like to thank, Bruce Binder and Jim Drummond for helping us field the questions that we received today. Most of all, thanks to all of you. You are doing extraordinary work every day in your communities to protect the nation's waterways. You are taking initiative to find innovative ways to partner with people to really be effective on the ground and EPA wants to support those efforts you are making.

We hope you found the session informative and we hope that what you learned here today will help you as you consider your proposal for the Urban Waters Small Grant. We are looking forward to a really robust and diverse set of proposals and look forward to seeing yours. Thanks, everyone. Have a good afternoon.