
State Water Resources Control Board

Groundwater Quality Funding Program Pre-Application Instructions for FFAST (Ver. 7/31/2015)

Recent legislative changes created two groundwater quality funding (GWQF) programs to be implemented by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board). These are:

- [Proposition 1 Groundwater Sustainability Program](#) (Assembly Bill 1471, Chapter 10)
- [Site Cleanup Subaccount Program](#) (Senate Bill 445, Hill, 2014).

For more information on these programs, go to:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/gw_funding/

The State Water Board will accept applications for projects to be funded by either GWQF program. The GWQF Pre-Application is the first step in the process to apply for projects requesting funds from Proposition 1 Groundwater Sustainability or the Site Cleanup Subaccount. The requested information is needed in order to review proposed projects based on the current requirements in law. No additional criteria to Proposition 1 and SB 445 have been adopted to date.

The State Water Board will determine which program, if any, is the most appropriate for each project; therefore, applicants do not need to designate a program preference. Providing the information requested in the GWQF Pre-Application allows staff to assess potential eligibility of projects and identify the appropriate fund source. The GWQF Pre-Application includes dropdown menus, checkboxes, and textboxes to enter information.

The GWQF Pre-Application must be submitted electronically using the Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool (FAAST). For access to FFAST go to:

<https://faast.waterboards.ca.gov/>.

All completed GWQF Pre-Applications will be reviewed. Applicants whose Pre-Application is successful will be invited to submit a Final Application, either for Proposition 1 Groundwater Sustainability or Site Cleanup Subaccount, or may be advised to apply for another potential source of funds. FFAST will automatically pre-load information from the GWQF Pre-Application into the Final Application; therefore, applicants will only need to enter information not provided in the GWQF Pre-Application. Final Applications are not yet available.

Instructions

Responses to Questions 1.5, 5.2, 6.2, and 7.1 may be available on these following online searchable regulatory databases. Both databases can be searched by address for contaminant sites. The databases have mutual links:

GeoTracker (<http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/>) includes sites regulated by the State and Regional Water Quality Control Boards and the Certified Local Oversight Program agencies. If the proposed Project includes sites regulated by these agencies, the Conceptual Site Model (CSM) Report for the site may provide the information requested in the GWQF Pre-Application.

EnviroStor (<http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/>) includes sites regulated by the Department of Toxic Substances Control. If the proposed Project includes sites regulated by DTSC, EnviroStor may provide the information requested in the GWQF Pre-Application.

The Pre-Application is timed so please save information continuously. Navigate through the tabs to enter information for: General Information, Project Budget, Funding, Project Management, Legislative Information, Contacts, Cooperating Entities, **Questionnaire**, and Attachments. These tabs are general project information that must be navigated through. The **Questionnaire** tab is where applicants will find the **Groundwater Quality Funding Programs** specific pre-application questions. For questions within the Questionnaire tab that may ask, require, or option attachments, they can be uploaded in the subsequent Attachments tab.

PROJECT LOCATION

- A Project is a physical area to be addressed by the funding proposal.

Question 1.0 Is the PROJECT addressing:

- 1. A single site where a contaminant(s) is present.**
- 2. Multiple sites where a contaminant(s) is present.**
- 3. A regional groundwater quality issue. Describe area and attach a site map.**
- 4. Other. Describe area:**

- Select a Value from the drop down.
- If “Other” is selected describe PROJECT location in the text box.
- Attach a Map if Values 3 or 4 are selected.

Question 1.2 If the PROJECT addresses a site regulated by a state or local agency, list relevant regulatory case number(s), if any.

- **Global ID from GeoTracker**
- **EnviroStor ID from EnviroStor**

- Enter relevant regulatory case number(s) **if any** in the text box.

Question 1.3 Enter the street address of the PROJECT.

- Enter the street address(es) of the PROJECT in the text box.
- Multiple addresses may be added.

Question 1.4 Enter the city(ies) of the PROJECT.

- Enter the city(ies) of the PROJECT in the text box.
- Multiple cities may be added.

Question 1.5 Enter the zip code(s) of the PROJECT.

- Enter the zip code (s) of the PROJECT in the text box.
- Multiple zip codes may be added.

Question 1.6 Please answer the following questions regarding the community that benefits from the PROJECT, if known:

- Select “Unknown” if information is not known.
- Enter the value in the numeric text box ranging from 0-20000 without commas.

Question 1.7 What is the current land use where the PROJECT will be located?

- Commercial.
- Residential.
- Mixed Commercial/Residential.
- Agriculture.
- Other.

- Select a Value from the drop down.
- If “Other” is selected describe current land use in the text box.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Question 1.8 Does the applicant require Technical Assistance for the following?

Check all that apply.

- 1. Application Process**
- 2. Project Management**
- 3. Responsible Party identification**
 - Legal help, coordination with Regional Boards, Department of Toxic Substance Control, Environmental Protection Agency.
- 4. Training on FAAST application funding process**
- 5. Public outreach marketing**
 - Coordination with local district offices regarding localized issues and specifics.
- 6. Engineering Analysis**
 - Environmental documents, site characterization, remedial investigation, technology evaluation, feasibility study, pilot test, remedial implementation, value engineering.
- 7. Planning and Implementation**
- 8. Legal Assistance**
 - Entity formation, property access.
- 9. Assistance on Governance**
- 10. Assistance on financial management and capacity development**
- 11. Other, please specify**

➤ Enter "Other" information in the text box.

APPLICANT IDENTIFICATION

Question 2.1 Who is the APPLICANT?

- 1. Individual**
- 2. Represent a Community**
- 3. Tribal Community**
- 4. Regional Board**
- 5. Regulatory Agency**
- 6. Non-Profit Organization**
 - A Non-Profit Organization is a corporation or an association that conducts business for the benefit of the general public without shareholders and without a profit motive.
- 7. Public Agency**
 - A Public Agency is a special district, joint powers authority, city, county, or other political subdivision of the state.
- 8. Public Utility**
 - A Public Utility is an organization which provides services to the general public, although it may be privately owned.
- 9. Water Purveyor**
 - A Water Purveyor is a public utility, mutual water company, water district, or municipality that delivers drinking water to customers.
- 10. Developer**
- 11. Other Business**
- 12. Other, please specify:**

- Select the type of Applicant from the list, more than one box may be checked.
- Enter "Other" information in the text box.

WATER SYSTEM INFORMATION

Question 2.2 If APPLICANT represents a water system, identify the type of water system:

1. Public Water System:

- A Public Water System is a system for the provision of water for human consumption through pipes or other constructed conveyances that has 15 or more service connections or regularly serves at least 25 individuals daily at least 60 days out of the year.

2. Community water system:

- A Community Water System is a public water system that serves at least 15 service connections used by yearlong residents or regularly serves at least 25 yearlong residents of the area served by the system.

3. Non-community water system:

- A Non-community Water System is a public water system that is not a community water system.

4. Non-transient non-community water system:

- A Non-transient Non-community Water System is a public water system that is not a community water system and that regularly serves at least 25 of the same people over six months per year.

5. Transient non-community water system:

- A Transient non-community water system means a non-community water system that does not regularly serve at least 25 of the same persons over six months per year.

6. State Small Water Systems:

- A State Small Water System is a system for the provision of piped water to the public for human consumption that serves at least five, but not more than 14, service connections and does not regularly serve drinking water to more than an average of 25 individuals daily for more than 60 days out of the year.

7. Other Small Water Systems:

- Other small water systems have 2 to 4 service connections.

8. Not Applicable.

9. Other, please specify:

- Select a Value from the drop down.
- Enter "Other" information in the text box.

Question 2.3 If APPLICANT represents a water system, identify the type of APPLICANT:

1. Public agency:

- This is a special district, joint powers authority, city, county, or other political subdivision of the state.

2. Mutual Water Company:

- This is defined by Corporation Code §14300.

3. Private, Not-for-Profit:

- This is a company that does not issue shares for public subscription and is chartered for other than profit-making activities

4. Investor-Owned Water Utility:

- This is an investor-owned private business that provides water as a utility.

5. Not Applicable.

6. Other, Please Specify:

- Describe "Other" in the text box.

Question 2.4 Total Population that existing water system is serving?

- Check Value "Unknown" or "Not Applicable"
- Enter the numeric value between 0 and 10000000 without the use of commas.

Question 2.5 Total number of connections that existing water system is serving?

- Check Value "Unknown" or "Not Applicable"
- Enter the numeric value between 0 and 50000 without the use of commas.

OPTIONS FOR FUNDING PROJECT - OTHER THAN SITE CLEANUP SUBACCOUNT OR PROPOSITION 1 GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY

Question 3.1 Identify other FUNDING sources available or pursued by the APPLICANT? Please specify information requested for the selected option(s).

- 1. GWQF Applicant**
 - Enter the Entity applying for groundwater quality funding in text box.
 - 2. Public Funding**
 - Enter Funding Name, and Funding Agency description in text box.
 - 3. Insurance**
 - 4. Lawsuit/Settlement**
 - 5. Private Funding**
 - Please Specify.
 - 6. Other**
 - Please Specify.
 - 7. Unknown to applicant**
- Check the Value for the funding source(s) available or pursued.
 - More than one box may be checked.

Question 3.2 Are other FUNDING sources being pursued or received for work performed on this PROJECT?

- **Applicant**
 - Enter the Entity applying for groundwater quality funding in text box.
 - **Public Funding**
 - Enter Funding Name, and Funding Agency description in text box.
 - **Insurance**
 - **Lawsuit/Settlement**
 - **Private Funding**
 - Please specify.
 - **Responsible Party**
 - **Other**
 - Please specify.
 - **None**
- Check the Value for other funding source(s) being pursued or received.
 - More than on box may be checked.

APPLICANT ACCESS TO PROJECT LOCATION

Question 4.1 Is the APPLICANT the owner of the PROJECT location?

- Select one value, "Yes" or "No".

Question 4.2 Does the APPLICANT have access to the PROJECT location?

- Select one value, "Yes", "No", or "Unknown".

IDENTIFICATION OF RESPONSIBLE PARTY

- A responsible party typically is identified by a regulatory agency and the agency informs the responsible party that it is required to conduct cleanup activities at a site. A responsible party may be any owner of property where a release or discharge has occurred or a person who owned or controlled the source of the contamination.

Question 5.1 Has the RESPONSIBLE PARTY been located?

- Check one value, "Yes", "No", "Ongoing research to identify", or "Unknown".

Question 5.2 If you answered “Yes” in 5.1, identify the RESPONSIBLE PARTY(IES):

- Enter contact information of the Responsible Party(ies) in the text box.
- Select, “Not Applicable” if you did not answer “Yes” in 5.1.

Question 5.3 If you answered “No” to 5.1, what efforts have been made to locate the RESPONSIBLE PARTY(IES)?

- Describe efforts in the text box.
- Select, “Not Applicable” if you answered “No” in 5.1.

Question 5.4 Have efforts been made to obtain information to identify whether the RESPONSIBLE PARTY(IES) have the financial resources to pay for some or the entire PROJECT?

- Select one value and describe briefly, “Yes”, or “No”.

CURRENT REGULATORY DIRECTIVE

- A regulatory directive is a cleanup and abatement order or letter directing work from a Regional Water Board, Department of Toxic Substances Control, or local environmental health agency.

Question 6.1 Identify the lead regulatory agency on the project.

- Regional Board
- DTSC: Department of Toxic Substance Control
- EPA: Environmental Protection Agency
- Local Agency
- Other
- Check one of Value.
- If “Other”, identify lead regulatory agency in the text box.

Question 6.2 Is there a current regulatory or forthcoming directive associated with the PROJECT? (For example, Cleanup and Abatement Order, Water Code 13267 Directive, Record of Decision, etc.).

- Select one Value.
- If “Yes”, describe the directive. If “No”, explain why not.

DEGREE TO WHICH HUMAN HEALTH, SAFETY, AND THE ENVIRONMENT ARE THREATENED BY CONTAMINATION.

Question 7.1 Check all contaminants of concern to be addressed by the PROJECT that have concentrations greater than or equal to the Maximum Concentration Limit (MCL) for the last five years for drinking water supply.

- List of man-made contaminants most frequently detected in drinking water supply wells
- **MAN-MADE CONTAMINANTS**
 1. Nitrate [MCL: 45 µg/L as NO₃]
 2. Perchlorate [MCL: 6 µg/L]
 3. Tetrachloroethylene (PCE) [MCL: 5 µg/L]
 4. Trichloroethylene (TCE) [MCL: 5 µg/L]
 5. 1, 2-dibromo-3-chloropropane (DBCP) [MCL: 0.2 µg/L]
 6. Carbon tetrachloride [MCL: 0.5 µg/L]
 7. 1, 1-Dichloroethylene (1, 1-DCE) [MCL: 6 µg/L]
 8. 1, 2-Dichloroethane (1, 2-DCA) [MCL: 0.5 µg/L]
 9. Cis-1, 2-dichloroethylene [MCL: 6 µg/L]
 10. Benzene [MCL: 1 µg/L]
 11. Methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE) [MCL: 13 µg/L]
 12. Hexavalent chromium [MCL: 10 µg/L]
 13. Contaminants of concern without MCL

14. Other (Please specify)

15. Unknown

- More than one Value may be checked.
- Check the Value(s) for the proposed PROJECT.
- Use the text box to identify "Other" contaminants.

- **List of naturally-occurring contaminants most frequently detected in drinking water supply wells.**

- **NATURALLY-OCCURRING CONTAMINANTS**

1. **Arsenic [MCL: 10 µg/L]**
2. **Radionuclides [MCL: 15 µg/L]**
3. **Uranium [MCL: 20 µg/L]**
4. **Selenium [MCL: 50 µg/L]**
5. **Total Chromium [MCL: 50 µg/L]**
6. **Hexavalent chromium [MCL: 10 µg/L]**
7. **Contaminants of concern without MCL**
8. **Other (Please specify)**
9. **Unknown**

- More than one Value may be checked.
- Check the Value(s) for the proposed PROJECT.
- Use the text box to identify "Other" contaminants, or contaminants of concern without an MCL.

Question 7.2 What is the highest concentration of the primary contaminant of greatest concern within the last five years in groundwater to be addressed by the Project?

- Select, "Unknown" if the highest concentration of the primary contaminant of greatest concern within the last five years in groundwater is unknown.
- Enter the **primary contaminant** identified if there is more than one contaminant relevant to the proposed project. Indicate if the primary contaminant is unknown.
- Select "Unknown" if the Primary Contaminant is unknown.
- Enter the **concentration** of the primary contaminant.
- **Estimated Sample Collection Date(s):** Use the text box to indicate **when** the sample(s) of highest concentration were collected. Include the contaminant with the date specified.

Question 7.3 Has a drinking water supply well been affected?

- Select one value, "Yes", "No", or "Unknown".

Question 7.4 If "No" to 7.3, What is the distance to the nearest domestic drinking water well from the leading edge of the plume, as defined by the contaminant MCL?

- Enter the distance to the nearest drinking well in the text box.
- Select "Not Applicable" if you selected "Yes" in 7.3.

Question 7.5 If "No" to 7.3, What is the distance to the nearest public supply well from the leading edge of the plume, as defined by the contaminant MCL?

- Enter the distance to the nearest public supply well in the text box.
- Select "Not Applicable" if you selected "Yes" to 7.3.

Question 7.6 What is the shallowest depth to groundwater in the last five years?

- Enter the value in feet in the numeric text box.
- Enter numbers from 0-1000, do not use commas.

Question 7.7 What is the length of the groundwater area impacted by the primary contaminant of concern (i.e., concentration is greater than or equal to the MCL)?

- Represents the length of area that has contaminants of concern in groundwater, which is equal to or greater than the MCL.
 - <250 feet
 - <1000 feet
 - >1000 feet
 - Unknown
- Check one Value.

Question 7.8 What is the depth to the top of the contaminated groundwater (i.e., concentration is greater than or equal to the MCL)?

- <50 feet
 - <100 feet
 - >100 feet
 - Unknown
- Check one Value.

Question 7.9 What is the depth to the base of the contaminated groundwater (i.e., concentration is greater than the MCL)?

- <50 feet
 - <100 feet
 - >100 feet
 - Unknown
- Check one Value.

Question 7.10 Is there concern for the contaminants in the soil?

- Check one Value, "Yes", "No", or "Unknown".

EFFORTS TO DATE TO ADDRESS GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION

Question 8.1 Has the source of the release to the environment of the contaminant(s) of greatest concern been stopped?

- Select one value, "Yes", "No", or "Unknown".

Question 8.2 Describe any efforts to date to investigate the soil and groundwater contamination to be addressed.

- Use the text box to describe **investigation** efforts.

Question 8.3 Describe any efforts to date to remediate the soil and groundwater contamination to be addressed. Include which phase of work was completed last on the site.

- Use the text box to describe **remediation** efforts.

Question 8.4 Describe any efforts to date to provide clean drinking water for consumption.

For example, deliver alternative potable water supply to community, wellhead treatment for immediate potable use, etc.

- Use the text box to describe any **efforts**.

Question 8.5 Describe the results of all efforts to address the source of contamination performed to date.

- Use the text box to describe the **results** of all efforts.

PROJECT PROPOSAL

Question 9.1 Indicate the type of PROJECT proposed from the list below:

- **Soil characterization feasibility study**
 - **Pilot Study**
 - **Soil Remediation**
 - **Groundwater Remediation**
 - **Wellhead Treatment**
 - **Provide Clean Drinking Water**
 - **Source Removal**
 - **Other (Please specify)**
 - **Unknown**
- Check the type of project proposed.
- More than one box may be checked.
- Use the text box to identify the project type if “Other” is checked.

Question 9.2 Describe the PROJECT details, including the proposed work phases and scale of PROJECT (e.g., number of soil borings, number and type of wells installed, monitoring or treated, amount of soil to be excavated, volume of contaminated water to be treated, or treatment and remediation method proposed). Please also describe, if the PROJECT will remove source contamination and reduce threat to human health.

- Enter details to the questions proposed or if action is unknown in the text box.

Question 9.3 Indicate if the PROJECT is a permanent or an interim solution.

- **Permanent:** Permanent solution requires no additional action to resolve groundwater contamination once the Project is complete.
 - **Interim:** Interim solution requires additional action to mitigate groundwater contamination once the Project is complete.
- Select one value, “Yes”, “No”, “Unknown”.

Question 9.4 What is the estimate duration of the Project? (In # of months)

- Enter numeric values only from 0-240.
- Do not use commas.

POTENTIAL PROJECT BENEFITS

Question 10.1 Describe other things that you would like the State Water Board to consider with regard to the PROJECT. (Check all that apply. Please specify information requested for the selected option(s).)

Such as:

1. How many people will no longer be impacted due to the groundwater quality problem as a result of successfully implementing the PROJECT?
 2. How much will the area of contaminated groundwater (defined by the MCL) be reduced?
 3. How much community interest is there in the groundwater quality problem and the proposed Project?
 4. How much interest and potential is there for redevelopment?
 5. How much opportunity is there for leveraging other funding?
 6. Other.
- Check as many values that apply.
- Use the text box to elaborate any values checked.

Question 10.2 Please describe other PROJECT benefits. (Check all that apply. Please specify information requested for the selected option(s).)

Such as:

- 1. Is the threat posed by groundwater impacts affecting communities overall drinking water supplies?**
- 2. Is there potential for groundwater contamination to spread or impair drinking water supply and water storage nearby?**
- 3. Will the project enhance local water supply reliability?**
- 4. Will the project maximize opportunities to recharge vulnerable, high use groundwater supplies?**
- 5. Will this project benefit a disadvantaged community?**
- 6. Are there any innovative technologies proposed for this project?**
- 7. Other.**

- Check all values that apply.
- Use the text box to elaborate any values checked.