

## **APPENDIX 4**

### **REQUEST FOR REDUCTION OF FUNDING MATCH FOR DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES**

#### **(APPLICABLE TO FULL PROPOSALS)**

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#### **I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this document is to provide a method for requesting a waiver or reduction of the funding match for the Nonpoint Source Grants Program. The State Water Board will review the information submitted by the applicant and decide, based on the information provided, whether to grant, amend, or deny, the request for the waiver or reduction. Applicants must demonstrate that the reduced funding match will be provided and submit a signed certificate of understanding (Exhibit D-1).

At a minimum, the following information must be included in the application:

- ❖ Provide a map with sufficient geographic detail to define the boundaries of the disadvantaged community.
- ❖ Describe the methodology used in determining the total population of the project area and the total population of the disadvantaged community(ies) in the project area. The applicant must include what census geographies (i.e., census designated place, census tract, census block) were used, and how they were applied. Also, the applicant must explain how the disadvantaged communities were identified.
- ❖ Provide annual median household income data for disadvantaged communities in the project area.
- ❖ Provide information on amount and type of direct benefit(s) the project(s) provides to the disadvantaged community(ies).
- ❖ Include descriptions or information on the disadvantaged community's(ies)' involvement, such as past, current, and future efforts to include disadvantaged community representatives in the planning and/or implementation process.
- ❖ Letters of support from representatives of disadvantaged communities indicating their support for the project or portion of the proposal designed to provide direct benefits to the disadvantaged communities and acknowledging their inclusion in the planning and/or implementation process.

The following data requirements must be met:

- ❖ Median household income and population data sets must be from the 2000 Census or more recent; and
- ❖ Median household income data used in analysis must be from the same time period and geography as the population data.

#### **II. ALLOWANCES**

- ❖ Applicants may estimate total and disadvantaged community population numbers by whatever means that are accessible to them as long as the above requirements are met.
- ❖ In determining MHI and population for a disadvantaged community(ies) and the project area, applicants may use a single type of census geography or combinations of 2000 Census geographies that best represent the project area. However, the census geography used

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must be consistent for both MHI and population for a particular community. Official census geographies, such as census tract, place, and block group, are acceptable. The intent of including this flexibility is to allow applicants a choice so that population and income data in the project area can be accurately represented.

### III. DEFINITIONS

Block Group – means a census geography used by the United States Census Bureau (Census Bureau) that is a subdivision of a census tract. A block group is the smallest geographic unit for which the Census Bureau tabulates sample data. A block group consists of all the blocks within a census tract with the same beginning (block) number.

Census Designated Place – means a census geography used by the Census Bureau that is a statistical entity, defined for each decennial census according to Census Bureau guidelines, comprising a densely settled concentration of population that is not within an incorporated place, but is locally identified by a name. Census designated places are delineated cooperatively by State and local officials and the Census Bureau, following Census Bureau guidelines.

Census Tract – means a census geography used by the Census Bureau that is a small, relatively permanent statistical subdivision of a county delineated by a local committee of census data users for the purpose of presenting data. Census tract boundaries normally follow visible features, but may follow governmental unit boundaries and other non-visible features in some instances; they always nest within counties. Census tracts are designed to be relatively homogeneous units with respect to population characteristics, economic status, and living conditions at the time of establishment. Census tracts average about 4,000 inhabitants.

Community – for the purposes of this grant program, a community is a population of persons residing in the same locality under the same local governance.

Disadvantaged Community – a community with an annual median household income that is less than 80% of the statewide median household income (California Water Code section 79505.5 (a)). For example, using Census 2000 data, 80% of the statewide annual median household income is \$37,994.

Place – a census geography used by the Census Bureau that is a concentration of population either legally bounded as an incorporated place, or identified as a Census Designated Place.

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**EXHIBIT D-1:  
CERTIFICATION OF UNDERSTANDING**

**The undersigned certifies that:**

The application submitted by <Insert Name of Applicant> for <Insert Proposal Title> for a <Insert Funding Source> grant contains a request for reduction of funding match based on disadvantaged communities.

**The above named applicant understands:**

- The reduction of the funding match presented in the application is a request that will not be automatically granted.
- The State Water Resources Control Board will review the disadvantaged community information submitted in the application prior to making a decision to accept, modify, or deny such a reduction.
- Should the proposal be chosen for funding, but the requested reduction in funding match be rejected or modified, the grantee is responsible for costs exceeding the grant funding amount to complete the project.
- The granting agency will rescind the grant award if the grantee cannot cover increased costs due to rejection or modification of the request for a reduction of the funding match or adequately restructure the grant proposal so that it can meet the intent of the original proposal.

Authorized Signator's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_