

E Mail from Michael Shetler
Received by the Department of Environmental Health
on January 28, 2009
(E mail verbiage copied into this document format)

Currently Prop 84 and Prop 1E funding has been suspended. Please refer to the two letters that were received from the Department of Water Resources (DWR) dealing with General Obligation Bonds. This moratorium will be in place until such time that a state budget is approved and the State Department of Finance allows distribution of funds.

This does not preclude the committee from making a proposal for a project to the One Water One Watershed (OWOW) Integrated Regional Watershed Management Planning (IRWMP) effort spearheaded by the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) on behalf of the stakeholders in the Santa Ana River Watershed. The IRWMP process requires a water quality component. The current IRWMP is rich in water supply projects but lacks water quality related projects. They may be very happy to see a grant proposal from the Cherry Valley Committee, and it could be a win/win opportunity for the overall IRWMP and the Cherry Valley/Beaumont communities.

Additionally, the public hearing for AB 885 is scheduled for Feb 9th in Sacramento. During the Riverside AB 885 Workshop the question was posed by State Water Board members as to funding alternatives to pay for new and replacement septic systems. If language was modified in AB 811 to allow for a septic system low interest loans that could be attached to property taxes over a 5 to 20 year period, this could spread out the cost for those who need to install or replace septic systems, especially for those individuals who are on a fixed or retirement income. It would also carry over with the sale of the property to the next property owner as an assessment on the tax bill until the system is paid for. This would require legislative action but is worth a try. Comments in support of this concept should be sent to the State Water Resources Control Board at AB885@waterboards.ca.gov before February 9, 2009.

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DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

1416 NINTH STREET, P.O. BOX 942836
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(916) 653-5791



January 21, 2009

For grant recipients not on the exemption list:

In a January 14, 2009 email message, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) provided you with general information regarding the status of bond-funded activities in California. The purpose of this letter is to update the status of your funding agreement with DWR. DWR's request for your agency's/company's project to be exempted from the requirements of Budget Letter 08-33 was denied by the Department of Finance and the Pooled Money Investment Board. Therefore, DWR is notifying you that we will not, until further notice, provide bond funding to support our funding agreement. Please suspend all work dependent on DWR bond funding of this project unless you can continue using alternative funding sources.

Additionally, the State Controller's Office has halted payment on bond-funded work. At this time we are unable to indicate when disbursements will resume. We understand these events are difficult for all parties involved and your agency/company may not be able to continue work using alternative funding sources. DWR regrets this situation and will provide you with additional information as it becomes available.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lester A. Snow".

Lester A. Snow
Director

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January 21, 2009

For contractors not on the exemption list – no alternative funding source:

In a January 14, 2009 email message, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) provided you with general information regarding the status of bond-funded contracts. The purpose of this letter is to update the status of your contract with DWR.

DWR's request for your agency's/company's project to be exempted from the requirements of Budget Letter 08-33 was denied by the Department of Finance and the Pooled Money Investment Board. Therefore, DWR is directing you to immediately suspend all work on your bond-funded agreement with DWR. You will not be compensated for any additional work unless DWR provides you with a notice to resume work.

Additionally, the State Controller's Office has halted payment on bond-funded work, so payment for work you may have performed is not being paid at this time. Unfortunately we are unable to indicate when or if disbursements will resume. We understand that this event is difficult for all parties involved. DWR regrets this situation and will continue to provide you additional information as it becomes available.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lester A. Snow".

Lester A. Snow
Director