

A public meeting

will be held on the

following date:

January 25, 2005

Beginning at

1:00 p.m.

Department of Ecology Headquarters Building

300 Desmond Drive SE

(Auditorium - OA34/36)

Lacey, WA

Driving Directions to the

Ecology Headquarters

From I-5 North or South.

Take Martin Way Exit #109

From I-5 North, Turn Left

From I-5 South, Turn Right

Turn Right onto Desmond

If you need special accommodations or require

this information in an alternate

format, please contact

us at 360-407-6502. Those with speech or hearing

impairments may call 711 or 800-833-6388 for TTY.

onto Martin Way E.

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Drive S.E.

Building:

Meeting Notice

Informational Meeting on the Fiscal Year 2006 Draft Priority and Applicant List for Water Quality Improvement and Protection Projects

from Ecology's Water Quality Program

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) invites you to attend a public information meeting to discuss the Fiscal Year 2006 Draft Priority Applicant List. The document provides a ranked ordered list of project proposals received during the state fiscal year 2006 (FY06) water quality funding cycle application period, which closed on November 1, 2004. Project proposals were evaluated and scored by Ecology staff, with input from other state agencies, to determine the highest priority water quality projects for the state of Washington and to determine funding distribution from the Centennial Clean Water Fund, the federal Clean Water Act Section 319 Nonpoint Source Fund, and the Washington State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund.

Through these three funding programs, Ecology offers grants and loans to local governments, Indian tribes, and some not-for-profit organizations to help address our state's most critical water quality problems. This financial and technical assistance is essential to helping improve and protect the state's water quality for public health, drinking water, aquatic habitat, recreation, and other important uses.

For the FY06 funding cycle, Ecology identified 66 activity and facility projects proposed for funding for a total of \$91.7 million based on Governor Locke's 2005-07 Biennial Capital Budget and the 2005 Congressional budget. Proposed for grant and/or loan funding are 21 wastewater infrastructure projects and 45 nonpoint pollution activity projects. Projects include the upgrading of aging wastewater treatment infrastructure; planning, design and construction of new wastewater treatment infrastructure; stormwater control and treatment; nonpoint pollution abatement and stream restoration activities; and water quality education and outreach.

Based on these current budget figures, funding levels for FY06 will be approximately \$21.5 million from the Centennial Clean Water Fund, \$1.95 million from the Clean Water Act Section 319 Nonpoint Source Fund, and \$68.2 million from the Washington State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund. Actual funding levels that will determine how many projects are offered funding for the FY06 cycle depend on legislative appropriation for the 2005-07 biennial budget that will occur in the spring of 2005. Once Ecology receives the legislative appropriation figures, the FY06 Draft Offer and Applicant List will be developed and distributed, and public comment will be requested.

If you have questions about the draft priority list, funding programs, or the public meeting, please contact Jeff Nejedly at (360) 407-6566.

To review the Draft Priority Applicant List or for more information about the water quality financial assistance programs, visit Ecology's web page at: <u>http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/funding/2006</u>.

January 2005

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