



The State of New Hampshire
Department of Environmental Services

Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

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January 30, 2024

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Department of Environmental Services to award a grant to the University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH (VC# 315187 B083), in the amount not to exceed \$150,000 for water system improvements, effective upon Governor & Council approval through June 30, 2025. 100% Federal Funds.

Funding is available in the following account:

03-44-44-440010-2476-072-500573
Dept Environmental Services, ARPA Program, Grants Federal
Activity Code #: 00FRF602WB4401P

FY 2024
\$150,000

EXPLANATION

NHDES is requesting approval to enter into a grant agreement for American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) funds for the University of New Hampshire (UNH). UNH will use the water system improvement funds to improve the operation of the UNH Water Plant recharge system at the Spruce Hole aquifer. The project will improve reliability and resiliency of the water system. The attached Cooperative Project Agreement provides the scope and budget for the completion of project tasks.

ARPA is a \$1.9 trillion economic stimulus bill passed by the 117th United States Congress and signed into law by President Biden on March 11, 2021, to speed up the United States' recovery from the economic health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the resultant recession. The Act defines eligible uses of the state and local funding, including responding to public health emergencies, responding to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 emergency, providing revenue relief to states and making investments in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure. This is an allowable use of ARP FRF funds under Section 602 (c)(1)(D) to make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

In accordance with the final rule from the US Treasury Department for water and wastewater infrastructure investments, project eligibility is aligned with the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF). This project is an eligible DWSRF infrastructure project.

If federal funds become no longer available, general funds will not be requested to support this program. These agreements have been approved by the Attorney General's Office as to form, substance, and execution.

We respectfully request your approval of this item.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert R. Scott", written over a horizontal line.

Robert R. Scott
Commissioner

COOPERATIVE PROJECT AGREEMENT

between the

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, **Department of Environmental Services**
and the

University of New Hampshire of the UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

- A. This Cooperative Project Agreement (hereinafter "Project Agreement") is entered into by the State of New Hampshire, **Department of Environmental Services**, (hereinafter "State"), and the University System of New Hampshire, acting through **University of New Hampshire**, (hereinafter "Campus"), for the purpose of undertaking a project of mutual interest. This Cooperative Project shall be carried out under the terms and conditions of the Master Agreement for Cooperative Projects between the State of New Hampshire and the University System of New Hampshire dated November 13, 2002, except as may be modified herein.
- B. This Project Agreement and all obligations of the parties hereunder shall become effective on the date the Governor and Executive Council of the State of New Hampshire approve this Project Agreement ("Effective date") and shall end on **6/30/25**. If the provision of services by Campus precedes the Effective date, all services performed by Campus shall be performed at the sole risk of Campus and in the event that this Project Agreement does not become effective, State shall be under no obligation to pay Campus for costs incurred or services performed; however, if this Project Agreement becomes effective, all costs incurred prior to the Effective date that would otherwise be allowable shall be paid under the terms of this Project Agreement.
- C. The work to be performed under the terms of this Project Agreement is described in the proposal identified below and attached to this document as Exhibit A, the content of which is incorporated herein as a part of this Project Agreement.

Project Title: **UNH/Durham Water System Spruce Hole Improvements Project**

- D. The Following Individuals are designated as Project Administrators. These Project Administrators shall be responsible for the business aspects of this Project Agreement and all invoices, payments, project amendments and related correspondence shall be directed to the individuals so designated.

State Project Administrator

Name: Kim Kelliher
Address: NHDES
29 Hazen Drive
PO Box 95
Concord, NH 03301
Phone: 603-271-4170

Campus Project Administrator

Name: Dianne Hall
Address: University of New Hampshire
Sponsored Programs Administration
51 College Rd, Rm 116
Durham, NH 03824
Phone: 603-862-1942

- E. The Following Individuals are designated as Project Directors. These Project Directors shall be responsible for the technical leadership and conduct of the project. All progress reports, completion reports and related correspondence shall be directed to the individuals so designated.

State Project Director

Name: Jennifer Mates
Address: NHDES
29 Hazen Drive
PO Box 95
Concord, NH 03301
Phone: 603-559-0028

Campus Project Director

Name: Adam Kohler
Address: Executive Director of Energy and
Utilities
6 Leavitt Lane
Durham, NH 03824
Phone: 603-862-1276

Campus Authorized Official KJ

Date 1/25/24

F. Total State funds in the amount of **\$150,000** have been allotted and are available for payment of allowable costs incurred under this Project Agreement. State will not reimburse Campus for costs exceeding the amount specified in this paragraph.

Check if applicable

Campus will cost-share **0** % of total costs during the term of this Project Agreement.

Federal funds paid to Campus under this Project Agreement are from Grant/Contract/Cooperative Agreement No. **SLFRP0145** from **the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, with the source of funds being the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF)** under CFDA#**21.027**. Federal regulations required to be passed through to Campus as part of this Project Agreement, and in accordance with the Master Agreement for Cooperative Projects between the State of New Hampshire and the University System of New Hampshire dated November 13, 2002, are attached to this document as Exhibit B, the content of which is incorporated herein as a part of this Project Agreement.

G. Check if applicable

Article(s) _____ of the Master Agreement for Cooperative Projects between the State of New Hampshire and the University System of New Hampshire dated November 13, 2002 is/are hereby amended to read:

H. State has chosen **not to take** possession of equipment purchased under this Project Agreement.
 State has chosen **to take** possession of equipment purchased under this Project Agreement and will issue instructions for the disposition of such equipment within 90 days of the Project Agreement's end-date. Any expenses incurred by Campus in carrying out State's requested disposition will be fully reimbursed by State.

This Project Agreement and the Master Agreement constitute the entire agreement between State and Campus regarding this Cooperative Project, and supersede and replace any previously existing arrangements, oral or written; all changes herein must be made by written amendment and executed for the parties by their authorized officials.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the University System of New Hampshire, acting through the **University of New Hampshire** and the State of New Hampshire, **Department of Environmental Services** have executed this Project Agreement.

By An Authorized Official of:

University of New Hampshire

Name: Karen M. Jensen

Title: Director, Pre-Award

Compliance

Signature and Date:

Karen Jensen Digitally signed by Karen Jensen
Date: 2024.01.25 13:28:53 -05'00'

By An Authorized Official of: the New
Hampshire Office of the Attorney General

Name: *Joshua Harrison*

Title: *Assistant Attorney General*

Signature and Date:

[Signature] 2/8/2024

By An Authorized Official of:

Department of Environmental Services

Name: Robert R. Scott

Title: Commissioner

Signature and Date:

[Signature] 2/2/24

By An Authorized Official of: the New
Hampshire Governor & Executive Council

Name:

Title:

Signature and Date:

Campus Authorized Official KJ

Date 1/25/24

EXHIBIT A

- A. Project Title:** UNH/Durham Water System Spruce Hole Improvements Project
- B. Project Period:** Date of Governor and Executive Council approval to June 30, 2025
- C. Objectives:** The objective of this project is to undertake several measures and improvements to improve the reliability and resilience of the University of New Hampshire/Town of Durham Water System.
- D. Scope of Work:** The proposed project will improve the operation of the UNH Water Plant recharge system at the Spruce Hole aquifer. The scope of work includes the following tasks:
1. Install SCADA system controlled modulating valves and flow meters on Spruce Hole's upper recharge basin, lower recharge basin, and production well manifold.
 2. Install SCADA system controlled modulating control head on the existing PRV on the water plant's intake manifold and the Lamprey River PRV.
 3. Install water level sensors at the Oyster River Impound.
 4. Install SCADA system controlled modulating valve on the 4" drain line which services the Lamprey/Spruce cross country raw water line.
 5. Conduct an engineering study to evaluate and improve the Spruce Hole upper and lower recharge basins to accept higher flow recharge rates.
- E. Deliverables Schedule:** B. Project Period and D. Scope of Work provide detail on project deliverables and timeline for completion.
- F. Budget and Invoicing Instructions:** Using standard Campus invoices Campus shall submit a request for payment and documentation of the completion of project tasks. Invoices will be based on actual project expenses incurred during the invoicing period, and shall show cumulative expenses by major cost categories. State shall issue payment to Campus within 30 days of receipt. The billing must be received by the State no more than 45 days after the completion date. The total reimbursement shall not exceed the grant award of \$150,000.

Budget Items	State Funding
1. Salaries & Wages	\$2,817
2. Fringe Benefits	\$935
3. Travel	\$0
4. Supplies and Services	\$105,737
5. Equipment	\$0
6. Facilities and Admin Costs	\$40,511
Total	\$150,000

EXHIBIT B

This Project Agreement is funded under a Grant/Contract/Cooperative Agreement to State from the Federal sponsor specified in Project Agreement article F. All applicable requirements, regulations, provisions, terms and conditions of this Federal Grant/Contract/Cooperative Agreement are hereby adopted in full force and effect to the relationship between State and Campus, except that wherever such requirements, regulations, provisions and terms and conditions differ for INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, the appropriate requirements should be substituted (e.g., OMB Circulars A-21 and A-110, rather than OMB Circulars A-87 and A-102). References to Contractor or Recipient in the Federal language will be taken to mean Campus; references to the Government or Federal Awarding Agency will be taken to mean Government/Federal Awarding Agency or State or both, as appropriate.

Special Federal provisions are listed here: None or

I. NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS

This Agreement is funded under a grant to the State of New Hampshire (State) and subsequently through the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) and New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) as approved by the Governor and Executive Council from the federal government through the Department of Treasury (Treasury) through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA), with the source of funds being the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) identified under the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number #21.027. The Federal Award Identification Number (FAIN) for this award is SLFRP0145. This grant award is a subaward of SLFRF funds and any and all compliance requirements, as updated by Treasury, for use of SLFRF funds are applicable to the Subrecipient, without further notice. Treasury requirements are published and updated at <https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/coronavirus/assistance-for-state-local-and-tribal-governments/state-and-local-fiscal-recovery-funds>.

FEDERAL FUNDING ACCOUNTABILITY and TRANSPARENCY ACT (FFATA). The Subrecipient shall comply with the terms of the FFATA by providing NHDES with their Unique Entity Identifier (Unique Entity ID), and all applicable Executive Compensation Data information as required under the FFATA. A Unique Entity ID may be obtained by visiting <https://www.sam.gov>.

SAM REGISTRATION: The Subrecipient must have an active registration with the System for Award Management (SAM) (<https://www.sam.gov>).

GENERALLY ACCEPTED ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES: The Subrecipient, if a governmental entity, shall maintain project accounts in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), including standards relating to the reporting of infrastructure assets as issued by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). The full text of Governmental Accounting Reporting Standards is available through the GASB website at: <http://www.gasb.org>

RECORDKEEPING REQUIREMENTS: The Subrecipient must maintain records and financial documents for five years after all funds have been expended or returned to the State and/or Treasury. Treasury may request transfer of records of long-term value at the end of such period. Wherever practicable, such records should be collected, transmitted, and stored in open and machine-readable formats.

Subrecipient must agree to provide or make available such records to the State and Treasury upon request, and to the Government Accountability Office ("GAO"), Treasury's Office of Inspector

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General (“OIG”), and their authorized representative in order to conduct audits or other investigations.

SINGLE AUDIT REQUIREMENTS: Recipients and subrecipients that expend more than \$750,000 in Federal awards during their fiscal year will be subject to an audit under the Single Audit Act and its implementing regulation at 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart F regarding audit requirements. Recipients and subrecipients may also refer to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Compliance Supplements for audits of federal funds and related guidance and the Federal Audit Clearinghouse to see examples and single audit submissions.

CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLIANCE: The sub-grantee, contractor, subcontractor, successor, transferee, and assignee shall comply, and shall include in every contract or agreement funded with these funds this same requirement to comply, with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits recipients of federal financial assistance from excluding from a program or activity, denying benefits of, or otherwise discriminating against a person on the basis of race, color, or national origin (42 U.S.C. § 2000d et seq.), as implemented by the Department of the Treasury’s Title VI regulations, 31 CFR Part 22, which are herein incorporated by reference and made a part of this contract (or agreement). Title VI also includes protection to persons with “Limited English Proficiency” in any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d et seq., as implemented by the Department of the Treasury’s Title VI regulations, 31 CFR Part 22, and herein incorporated by reference and made a part of this contract or agreement.

In order to carry out its enforcement responsibilities under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, NHDES may collect and review information from subrecipients to ascertain their compliance with the applicable requirements before and after providing financial assistance. Treasury’s implementing regulations, 31 CFR part 22, and the Department of Justice (DOJ) regulations, Coordination of Non-discrimination in Federally Assisted Programs, 28 CFR part 42, provide for the collection of data and information from recipients and subrecipients (see 28 CFR 42.406).

PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE: All funds are subject to statutory requirements that they must be used for costs incurred by the recipient during the period that begins on March 3, 2021, and ends on December 31, 2024, and that award funds for the financial obligations incurred by December 31, 2024 must be expended by December 31, 2026.

PROCUREMENT, SUSPENSION AND DEBARMENT: Recipients are responsible for ensuring that any procurement using SLFRF funds, or payments under procurement contracts using such funds are consistent with the procurement standards set forth in the Uniform Guidance at 2 CFR 200.317 through 2 CFR 200.327, as applicable. The Uniform Guidance establishes in 2 CFR 200.319 that all procurement transactions for property or services must be conducted in a manner providing full and open competition, consistent with standards outlined in 2 CFR 200.320, which allows for non-competitive procurements only in circumstances where at least one of the conditions below is true: the item is below the micro-purchase threshold; the item is only available from a single source; the public exigency or emergency will not permit a delay from publicizing a competitive solicitation; or after solicitation of a number of sources, competition is determined inadequate. Subrecipients must have and use documented procurement procedures that are consistent with the standards outlined in 2 CFR 200.317 through 2 CFR 200.320.

Subrecipient shall fully comply with Subpart C of 2 C.F.R. Part 180 entitled, “Responsibilities of Participants Regarding Transactions Doing Business With Other Persons,” as implemented and supplemented by 2 C.F.R. Part 1532. subrecipient is responsible for ensuring that any lower tier covered transaction, as described in Subpart B of 2 C.F.R. Part 180, entitled “Covered Transactions,” and 2 C.F.R. § 1532.220, includes a term or condition requiring compliance with 2 C.F.R. Part 180, Subpart C. subrecipient is responsible for further requiring the inclusion of a similar term and condition in any subsequent lower tier covered transactions. subrecipient

acknowledges that failing to disclose the information required under 2 C.F.R. § 180.335 to NHDES may result in the delay or negation of this assistance agreement, or pursuance of administrative remedies, including suspension and debarment. Subrecipients may access the System for Award Management (SAM) exclusion list at <https://sam.gov/SAM/> to determine whether an entity or individual is presently excluded or disqualified.

By entering into this agreement, the subrecipient certifies that the subrecipient is not debarred or suspended. Furthermore, the subrecipient certifies that no part of this contract will be subcontracted to a debarred or suspended person or firm.

DOMESTIC PREFERENCES FOR PROCUREMENTS (2 C.F.R. § 200.322) As appropriate and to the extent consistent with law, to the greatest extent practicable, there is a preference for the purchase, acquisition, or use of goods, products, or materials produced in the United States (including but not limited to iron, aluminum, steel, cement, and other manufactured products). The requirements of this section must be included in all subawards including all contracts and purchase orders for work or products under this award.

For purposes of this section:

(1) “Produced in the United States” means, for iron and steel products, that all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States.

(2) “Manufactured products” means items and construction materials composed in whole or in part of non-ferrous metals such as aluminum; plastics and polymer-based products such as polyvinyl chloride pipe; aggregates such as concrete; glass, including optical fiber; and lumber.

PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SERVICES OR EQUIPMENT:

As required by 2 CFR 200.216, subrecipients, are prohibited from obligating or expending loan or grant funds to procure or obtain; extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain; or enter into a contract (or extend or renew a contract) to procure or obtain equipment, services, or systems that use covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system. As described in Public Law 115-232, section 889, covered telecommunications equipment is telecommunications equipment produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities). Recipients; Subrecipients, and borrowers also may not use federal funds to purchase:

a. For the purpose of public safety, security of government facilities, physical security surveillance of critical infrastructure, and other national security purposes, video surveillance and telecommunications equipment produced by Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities).

b. Telecommunications or video surveillance services provided by such entities or using such equipment.

c. Telecommunications or video surveillance equipment or services produced or provided by an entity that the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of the National Intelligence or the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, reasonably believes to be an entity owned or controlled by, or otherwise connected to, the government of a covered foreign country.

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Consistent with 2 CFR 200.471, costs incurred for telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment such as phones, internet, video surveillance, and cloud servers are allowable except for the following circumstances:

a. Obligating or expending funds for covered telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment or services as described in 2 CFR 200.216 to:

- (1) Procure or obtain, extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain;
- (2) Enter into a contract (or extend or renew a contract) to procure; or
- (3) Obtain the equipment, services, or systems. Certain prohibited equipment, systems, or services, including equipment, systems, or services produced or provided by entities identified in section 889, are recorded in the System for Award Management exclusion list which can be found at <https://www.sam.gov/SAM/pages/public/index.jsf>

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: For all projects listed under the Water and Sewer Expenditure Categories (see Table below), detailed project-level information is required.

5: Infrastructure

- 5.1 Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Treatment
- 5.2 Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Collection and Conveyance
- 5.3 Clean Water: Decentralized Wastewater
- 5.4 Clean Water: Combined Sewer Overflows
- 5.5 Clean Water: Other Sewer Infrastructure
- 5.6 Clean Water: Stormwater
- 5.7 Clean Water: Energy Conservation
- 5.8 Clean Water: Water Conservation
- 5.9 Clean Water: Nonpoint Source
- 5.10 Drinking water: Treatment
- 5.11 Drinking water: Transmission & Distribution
- 5.12 Drinking water: Transmission & Distribution: Lead Remediation
- 5.13 Drinking water: Source
- 5.14 Drinking water: Storage
- 5.15 Drinking water: Other water infrastructure

Definitions for water and sewer Expenditure Categories can be found in the EPA's handbooks. For "clean water" expenditure category definitions, please see: <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/cwdefinitions.pdf>. For "drinking water" expenditure category definitions, please see: <https://www.epa.gov/dwsrf/drinking-water-state-revolving-fund-national-information-management-system-reports>.

All Clean Water and Drinking Water infrastructure projects:

- Projected/actual construction start date (month/year)
- Projected/actual initiation of operations date (month/year)
- Location (for broadband, geospatial location data)

For water and sewer projects:

- National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Number (if applicable; for projects aligned with the Clean Water State Revolving Fund)
- Public Water System (PWS) ID number (if applicable; for projects aligned with the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund)

II. FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO ARPA INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS OVER \$10M

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For projects over \$10 million (based on expected total cost) a recipient shall provide a certification that, for the relevant project, all laborers and mechanics employed by contractors and subcontractors in the performance of such project are paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing, as determined by the U.S. Secretary of Labor in accordance with subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code (commonly known as the "Davis-Bacon Act"), for the corresponding classes of laborers and mechanics employed on projects of a character similar to the contract work in the civil subdivision of the State (or the District of Columbia) in which the work is to be performed. All contracts and subcontracts for the construction of treatment works shall insert in full in any contract the standard Davis-Bacon contract clause as specified by 29 CFR §5.5(a).

III. OTHER SPECIAL PROVISIONS

A. In addition to the above special provisions, the following provisions as required by federal regulations apply to this Agreement:

- 1. Financial management.** The Contractor shall comply with 2 CFR part 200 Subpart D and the specific standards regarding financial reporting, accounting records, internal control, budget control, allowable cost, source documentation, and cash management outlined therein.
- 2. Allowable costs.** All costs charged to this Agreement shall be eligible, necessary, and reasonable for performing the tasks outlined in the approved project scope of services. The costs, including match, shall be incurred during the period of performance of the project, and shall be allowable, meaning that the costs must conform to specific federal requirements detailed in 2 CFR part 200 Subpart E.
- 3. Property Management.** The Contractor shall comply with the property management and procedures detailed in 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart D.
- 4. Restrictions on Lobbying.** The Contractor shall comply with the terms of 15 CFR part 28 and 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart E which prohibit the use of federal Contract funds to influence (or attempt to influence) a federal employee, and requires the submission of Standard Form LLL ("Disclosure of Lobbying Activities") if nonfederal funds have been used to influence (or attempt to influence) a federal employee.
- 5. Drug-Free Workplace.** The Contractor shall comply with the terms of 2 CFR part 1329 which require that as a condition of the Agreement, certification that they maintain a drug-free workplace. By signing and submitting the Agreement, the Contractor certifies that he or she will not engage in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance in conducting any activity associated with the Agreement.
- 6. Protection for Whistleblowers.** The Contractor shall comply with the terms of 41 U.S.C. §471 regarding Whistleblower protections. As described in 41 USC §471 "an employee of a contractor, subcontractor, grantee, or subgrantee or personal services contractor may not be discharged, demoted, or otherwise discriminated against as a reprisal for disclosing to a person or body described in paragraph (2) information that the employee reasonably believes is evidence of gross mismanagement of a Federal contract or grant, a gross waste of Federal funds, an abuse of authority relating to a Federal contract or grant, a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety, or a violation of law, rule, or regulation related to a Federal contract (including the competition for or negotiation of a contract) or grant."