



The State of New Hampshire  
**Department of Environmental Services**

**Robert R. Scott, Commissioner**



58

February 29, 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 (NHDES) to award a grant to the Winnepesaukee River Basin Program (WRBP) Franklin, NH (VC# 201164-B001) in the amount not to exceed \$50,000 for wastewater utility cybersecurity improvements, effective upon Governor & Council approval through April 1, 2025. 100% Federal Funds.

Funding is available in the following account:

03-44-44-440010-2476-085-588544

Dept. Environmental Services, ARPA DES Loans, Interagency XFR Out of Fed FNA

Activity Code #: 00FRF602WB4401D

FY 2024

\$50,000

**EXPLANATION**

The Cybersecurity Implementation Grant Program is a new program utilizing \$2,000,000 in funds from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) to support cybersecurity improvements to New Hampshire drinking water and wastewater systems. Specifically, grant money is available to develop and implement programs to proactively mitigate the risk of cybersecurity attacks on drinking water and/or wastewater systems. The grant is open to community public water systems serving a minimum of 500 people and municipal wastewater systems. Up to \$50,000 of grant funding is available per drinking water or wastewater system with a maximum of \$100,000 for both. Grant funding is available on a first come, first served basis.

The Winnepesaukee River Basin Program (WRBP) will use the ARPA Cybersecurity grant funding to implement the cybersecurity improvements identified in the Winnepesaukee River Basin Program's January 26, 2022 cybersecurity assessment titled "Cybersecurity Action Plan." This includes installation/upgrades of hardware and/or software, and/or configuration changes.

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 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

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States' recovery from the economic and 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 CWSRF and DWSRF infrastructure project.

In the event federal funds become no longer available, general funds will not be requested to support this program. This agreement has been approved by the Attorney General's Office as to form, substance, and execution.

We respectfully request your approval of this item.

  
Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

State of New Hampshire

Interagency Memorandum of Understanding

(For use between an executive branch agency and another agency or branch of government of the State of New Hampshire)

Whereas, the NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) ["AGENCY 1"] is a duly constituted agency or branch of government of the State of New Hampshire;

Whereas, the Winnepesaukee River Basin Program (WRBP) ["AGENCY 2"] is a duly constituted agency or branch of government of the State of New Hampshire;

Whereas, pursuant to ARPA FRF Section 602(c)(1)(D) [insert, for example, RSA or Chapter Law number] AGENCY 1

is responsible for:

Providing revenue relief to state and making investments in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure.

Whereas, AGENCY 1 desires to:

Assist drinking water and wastewater systems with funding to support cybersecurity improvements.

Whereas, AGENCY 2 desires to:

Improve cybersecurity at the WRBP wastewater facility.

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties enter into this Memorandum of Understanding to their mutual benefit, the benefit of the State and in furtherance of constitutional or statutory authority and objectives.

1. The NHDES [AGENCY 1] agrees to [check all that apply]:

- A. Pay AGENCY 2 the amount of \$ 50,000 for the services described in the attached MOU Exhibit A-C, which is hereby incorporated by reference.

Execute the following if Box 1., A is checked: Payment shall be provided from [IDENTIFY FUND]:

03-44-44-440010-2476-085

- B. Perform the services described in the attached \_\_\_\_\_, which is hereby incorporated by reference.

2. The WRBP \_\_\_\_\_ [AGENCY 2] agrees to

[check all that apply]:

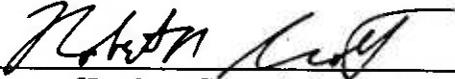
- A. Pay AGENCY 1 the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for the services described in the attached MOU Exhibit A, which is hereby incorporated by reference.

*Execute the following if Box 2. A is checked:* Payment shall be provided from [IDENTIFY FUND]:

- B. Perform the services described in the attached MOU Exhibit B, which is hereby incorporated by reference.

3. The method of payment and payment amount for the above-referenced services, if any is required, is described in the attached MOU Exhibit C, such exhibit being hereby incorporated by reference.
4. All obligations hereunder are contingent upon the availability and continued appropriation of funds. The agencies shall not be required to transfer funds from any other account in the event that funds are reduced or unavailable.
5. The Memorandum of Understanding is effective until April 1, 2025 [DATE].
6. This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended by an instrument in writing signed by both parties. Either party may terminate this agreement by providing written notice to the other party at least 30 [NUMBER] days prior to termination.
7. The Parties agree that the obligations, agreements and promises made under this Memorandum of Understanding are not intended to be legally binding on the Parties and are not legally enforceable.
8. Disputes arising under this Memorandum of Understanding which cannot be resolved between the agencies shall be referred to the New Hampshire Department of Justice for review and resolution.
9. This Agreement shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New Hampshire.

10. The parties hereto do not intend to benefit any third parties and this Memorandum of Understanding shall not be construed to confer any such benefit.
11. In the event any of the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding are held to be contrary to any state or federal law, the remaining provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding will remain in full force and effect.
12. This Memorandum of Understanding, which may be executed in a number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, constitutes the entire Memorandum of Understanding and understandings between the parties, and supersedes all prior Memoranda of Understanding and understandings relating hereto.
13. Nothing herein shall be construed as a waiver of sovereign immunity; such immunity being hereby specifically preserved.
14. **FOR AGENCY 1** [*Name of Agency*]: NH Department of Environmental Services

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
[Agency Head or Commissioner signature]                      Date 2/29/24

Robert R. Scott  
\_\_\_\_\_  
[Agency Head or Commissioner name in print]

15. **FOR AGENCY 2** [*Name of Agency*]: Winnepesaukee River Basin Program

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
[Agency Head or Commissioner signature]                      Date 2/14/24

Raymond Gordon  
\_\_\_\_\_  
[Agency Head or Commissioner name in print]

**PLEASE NOTE**

1. **MOU Exhibit A** (*MOU Terms*) and, if applicable, **MOU Exhibit B** (*Payment Terms*) must be attached to this form.
2. This form is intended only for use with Interagency Memoranda of Understanding ("MOUs"). Please refer to the MOU 1 checklist and instructions when executing this document. For Interagency MOUs, Department of Justice review and execution is only required if the MOU involves an expenditure of funds in an amount which is equal to or greater than the approval threshold established by the Governor and Executive Council

*in Chapter MOP 161 of the Department of Administrative Services Manual of Procedures.*

3. *If more than two agencies or branches are involved in the agreement, please include all information listed above for each agency or branch, identifying them as, for example, "Agency 3," "Agency 4," and so forth.*
4. *No changes may be made to the preprinted terms of this form without the approval of the Department of Justice.*
5. **The Department of Justice and Governor and Council approvals appearing below are only required if this MOU is submitted to the Governor and Council for approval.**

Approved by the New Hampshire Department of Justice for form, substance, and execution:

By:  On: 3/11/2024  
[Name of Assistant Attorney General] Date

Approved by the Governor and Executive Council

By: \_\_\_\_\_ On: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**EXHIBIT A**  
**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS**  
**FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS**

**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 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.

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**

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."*

**EXHIBIT B**  
**SCOPE OF SERVICES**

The Winnepesaukee River Basin Program will use the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Cybersecurity grant funding to implement the following cybersecurity improvements identified in the January 26, 2022, cybersecurity assessment titled "Cybersecurity Action Plan." Potential cybersecurity vulnerabilities were found in the assessment that should be corrected to mitigate the impacts of a cyberattack. The cybersecurity improvements will take place at the Winnepesaukee River Basin Program wastewater systems.

<b>Task Description</b>	<b>Grant Amount</b>
Installation/upgrade of hardware, software and/or configuration changes	\$50,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>

**EXHIBIT C**  
**METHOD OF PAYMENT**

The NHDES shall pay to the Grantee the total reimbursable program costs up to the Grant Limitation of \$50,000 in accordance with the following requirements:

Reimbursement requests for program costs shall be made no more than once per calendar month by the Grantee using the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Reimbursement form as supplied by NHDES, which shall be completed and signed by the Grantee. The reimbursement form shall be accompanied by proper supporting documentation based upon direct costs. The Grantee will maintain adequate documentation to substantiate all Program related costs. If invoice is less than initial estimate only the amount on the invoice will be paid. All work shall be performed to the satisfaction of NHDES before payment is made.

Changes to the Scope of Services require NHDES approval in advance. All work must be completed prior to the completion date (section 1.7) in this Grant Agreement to be eligible for reimbursement.