



The State of New Hampshire
Department of Environmental Services

Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

53 - 8/19/26



August 4, 2026

The Honorable Ken Weyler, Chairman
Fiscal Committee of the General Court
State House
Concord, NH

Her Excellency, Governor Kelly A. Ayotte
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI, authorize the Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to accept and expend additional federal funds in the amount of \$260,385 from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) to fund the remediation of Mohawk Tannery hazardous waste site in the City of Nashua, effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor & Council approval through December 31, 2026. Funding is 100% Federal Funds. This is an allowable use of ARP FRF funds under Section 602 (c)(1)(C) for the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue.

NHDES is requesting funding to be budgeted as follows:

ARPA DES MOHAWK PROJECT ¹

03-44-44-440010-2819

Fiscal Year 2027

Class	Budget Category	Current Budget	Requested Action	Revised Budget
Income				
000-400338-16	Federal Funds	\$121,856	\$260,385	\$382,241
Expenditures				
18-500106	Overtime	\$5,000	0	\$5,000
42-500620	Additional Fringe Benefits	\$1,963	0	\$1,963
50-500109	Temporary Personnel	\$18,409	0	\$18,409
60-500601	Benefits	\$9,360	0	\$9,360
72-500574	Grants – Federal	\$87,125	\$260,385	\$347,510
	Total	\$121,856	\$260,385	\$382,241

¹ All direct program costs will be accounted for using activity 00FRF602GS4403A, activity 00FRF602GS4403Z for administrative and indirect costs. Accounting classifications may be subject to technical changes at the discretion of the Department of Administrative Services' Division of Accounting Services.

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Page 2 of 2

EXPLANATION

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 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 emergency, 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.

The former Mohawk Tannery, also known as Granite State Leathers, produced tanned hides for leather between 1924 and 1984. The tannery produced sludge and acidic residual waste and disposed of waste in a series of pits and drainage basins in and around the tannery buildings. The sludge and the soils in these areas are contaminated with heavy metals, semi-volatile organic compounds, dioxins and asbestos. The Site was proposed to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) National Priorities List in 2000 but was never listed. EPA has reached an agreement with a private developer, Blaylock Holdings, LLC., to purchase, remediate and redevelop the Site. The remediation design will address identified contaminants of concern in soils, sludges and contaminated waste in order to reduce the threat posed to human health and the environment

In March 2024, the Fiscal Committee approved FIS 24-90, which provided \$3.5 million in ARPA funding for this project. Construction at the site started in December 2025 and includes excavation and consolidation of contaminated soil, tannery waste, and asbestos containing material (ACM), disposal of waste material in newly constructed containment cells, and general site restoration. During initial tree clearing and site preparation, additional separate areas of ACM were identified, beyond the previously documented ACM area limits. Additionally, unanticipated buried asbestos-containing pipes were encountered in subsurface utilities, requiring abatement prior to removal. The two unanticipated asbestos-related task additions have required revisions to various Remedial Action Plan documents and increased project costs. These additional funds will be used for these unforeseen expenses.

These additional requested funds are from repurposed ARPA funds, previously allocated to other projects.

NHDES is requesting to budget these funds as shown below:

Class 072 To cover grants to entities for infrastructure projects.

In the event that Federal Funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support this program.

We respectfully request your approval of this item.



Robert R. Scott, Commissioner