

## Green Infrastructure Funds Available in NY State

### FACT SHEET #4: *What is New York's Green Innovation Grant Program?*

The federal economic recovery plan, “American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009” (ARRA), requires that 20% of State Revolving Fund (SRF) monies be used for green infrastructure projects. The New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) is implementing specific SRF initiatives to distribute ARRA funding for green infrastructure projects. This Fact Sheet summarizes one opportunity, New York's Green Innovation Grant Program (GIGP). For details on the GIGP program, application procedures, criteria selection, and other program requirements, see EFC's website on or after April 1, 2009, at <http://www.nysefc.org/GreenGrants>

#### ***How Much Funding is Available and When are GIGP Applications Due?***

EFC anticipates that funding available through the GIGP will include at least \$35 million from the Clean Water SRF and \$3 million from the Drinking Water SRF for eligible green innovation projects. GIGP applications are due May 29, 2009.

#### ***What Type of Green Infrastructure Projects Qualify for GIGP Funds?***

The GIGP program is designed to meet ARRA's and EFC's goals of preserving and creating jobs, promoting economic recovery and investing in environmental protection that will provide economic benefits to the State of New York. Green innovation includes capital projects, technologies, and activities that meet the objectives of environmentally and economically sustainable facilities by exceeding traditional infrastructure goals associated with basic regulatory requirements for water quality protection.

For the purpose of the GIGP, green infrastructure includes: **(1) Water Efficiency, Reuse or Conservation** projects that deliver equal or better services

with less water; **(2) Energy Efficiency** projects that reduce energy consumption or produce clean energy; **(3) Green Wet Weather Infrastructure** projects that maintain, restore, or mimic natural systems to infiltrate, evapotranspire, or recycle stormwater; and **(4) Environmental Innovation** projects that manage water resources to prevent or remove pollution in an economically sustainable way.

GIGP projects can be stand-alone projects. Applicants may be required to identify separate project components for funding consideration. Funding is not available for land acquisition, golf courses or swimming pools. To learn more, see other Fact Sheets in this series, at <http://hudsonwatershed.org/>

#### ***Who is Eligible to Apply for GIGP Funds?***

Eligible applicants must own, lease or have a conservation easement or other valid legal interest on the land where the GIGP project is proposed. Applicants do not have to be on the existing 2009 Intended Use Plan (IUP) to apply for GIGP funding; however, a GIGP applicant must meet the minimum federal and state qualifications to participate in the CWSRF and DWSRF programs. Projects selected for GIGP funding will be listed in the 2009 IUP as “Category G” projects, at a later date.

Eligible applicants may include any county, city, town, village, district corporation, county or town improvement district, Indian reservation wholly within New York State, any public benefit



corporation or public authority established pursuant to the Laws of New York State or any agency of New York which is empowered to construct and operate an eligible GIGP project, or any two or more of the foregoing which are acting jointly in connection with a GIGP project. Eligible applicants also include any partnership, association, school district, not-for-profit corporation organized and existing under the Laws of New York State or any other state which is empowered to develop a project or any two or more of the foregoing which are acting jointly in connection with a project. Drinking water applicants are limited to eligible public water systems. Eligible projects must be located in a city, town or village with a population of less than one million.

### ***What project costs for green infrastructure projects can be financed through the GIGP?***

The GIGP can fund “capital costs” for projects, and incurred costs for planning and design. Capital costs include traditional infrastructure expenditures (such as pipes, pumps, and treatment plants), as well as unconventional infrastructure costs (planning and design, equipment purchases including water meters, street sweepers and aquatic weed harvesters, and appropriate tree or vegetative plantings). Operation, maintenance costs, and land acquisition are not eligible for funding.

### ***Is Match Funding Required?***

Grants of up to 90% of eligible project costs may be provided to eligible recipients with GIGP projects that comply with all requirements. The recipient must contribute 10%, in matching funds, which may include direct cash funding or documented in-kind services. Recipients may not use federal funds to match GIGP funds.

### ***Are there other Requirements to receive GIGP Funds?***

Yes. All project construction contracts must be executed by January 1, 2010. The project must be completed and all funds disbursed

by December 31, 2013. CWSRF and DWSRF rules will apply to the GIGP projects. The State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) must be complied with and all necessary permits obtained. Recipients of GIGP funds must comply with all cross-cutting federal authorities for assistance subgrants under ARRA. See EPA’s Guidance, Attachment 6, at [http://www.epa.gov/water/eparecovery/docs/2009-03-02\\_Final\\_ARRA\\_SRF\\_Guidance.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/water/eparecovery/docs/2009-03-02_Final_ARRA_SRF_Guidance.pdf)

### **Selection Criteria**

GIGP eligible projects will be considered for funding based upon demonstrated readiness, economic benefit, sustainability of project, and sustainable management/maintenance plans. Preference will be given to eligible projects that EFC determines are able to begin construction by June 16, 2009.

### ***How Do I Apply?***

A complete GIGP application shall, at a minimum, include:

- A completed, signed and dated Application Form (available at [www.nysefc.org/GreenGrants](http://www.nysefc.org/GreenGrants) on or after April 1, 2009).
- Detailed project description, rationale for undertaking the project and demonstration of how the project meets the evaluation criteria.
- Detailed description of the economic benefits of and number of jobs retained or created by the proposed project.
- A detailed description and schedule indicating how the applicant will complete all necessary environmental and State Historic Preservation Office reviews required for the proposed project in time to meet the January 1, 2010 deadline referred to above.
- Detailed project schedule, including construction start and end dates.
- Listing of all other sources of funding being utilized in support of the project.

For more information about the GIGP application, selection criteria, or other program requirements, see [www.nysefc.org/GreenGrants](http://www.nysefc.org/GreenGrants) on or after April 1, 2009.

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