

Process for Great Lakes Legacy Funds

Great Lakes Legacy Funds is targeted to sediment cleanups in an AOC where there is no “responsible party” to provide identified.

There is an open application process, so you can apply for the funds at anytime. By submitting an application a project gets in line for funds. There is a **35% non-federal match** requirement for these funds. This can be in-kind services and other expenses that support the project. Marc Tuchman indicated that once an application is received then in-kind services and other expenses can start accruing towards the 35% match.

Funds are appropriated through the Federal budget process on an annual basis. Since the Legacy Fund began in 2004 funds have increased each year: FY2004 \$10 million; FY2005 \$22 million; and FY2006 \$30 million. Funding for FY2007 is unknown at this time.

This is from the EPA website on the Legacy funds project selection. Under the Act, priority is given to the following projects:

- Remedial action for contaminated sediment;
- Projects that have been identified in a Remedial Action Plan;
- Projects that are ready to be implemented;
- Projects that will use an innovative approach, technology, or technique that may provide greater environmental benefits, or equivalent environmental benefits at a reduced cost; or
- Projects that include remediation to be commenced not later than one year after the date of receipt of funds.

EPA Website for the Legacy fund: <http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/sediment/legacy/>

The process for the selection of Legacy projects is not a grants competition, but is based on the development of a negotiated Project Agreement (PA) between EPA and the non-federal sponsor. Legacy Funds are not dispersed to the applicant. EPA contracts for the work with their contractors or ACOE. Note: Wisconsin DNR did receive Legacy funds for the Hog Island Remediation Project which is currently in progress. John Robinson of the RR program is the lead contact with EPA on this project.

Three options are available to complete the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study – RI/FS:

- 1) Apply for GLNPO Funding. The RFP for these funds will come out in Dec. 05/Jan. 06. This is a competitive grant process. Money would not be available until Aug./Sept. '06 at the earliest to start the work. Amount of funding is unknown at this time. No match was required for these funds last year.
- 2) EPA can do the work directly with their sediment group. No match/cost sharing is required. Questions which need to be clarified: What is the application

- process? How soon could EPA complete the work? Are funds currently available?
- 3) Apply for Legacy Funds to complete this work. This would require a 35% non-federal match. Questions which need to be clarified: Is there money currently available to do this work? How soon could be get started? Would these funds be dispersed to the applicant (WDNR) or would EPA contract the work out directly?

Based on the options for completing the RI/FS work option 2 seems to be the best as far as cost and moving the processes along quickly.

Marc Tuchman is the EPA contact person for information on the Legacy fund. Marc's contact information is:

Marc Tuchman
USEPA-GLNPO
77 W. Jackson Blvd (G-17J)
Chicago, IL 60604
Tel: (312) 353-1369
Fax: (312) 353-2018
E-mail: tuchman.marc@epa.gov

If we need someone from EPA to talk with the concerned citizens or others about the Legacy Funds, Susan Boehme offered to do that. Her contact information is:

Susan E. Boehme, PhD
Coastal Sediment Specialist
Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant
GLNPO-EPA
77 W. Jackson Blvd G-17J
Chicago, IL 60604-3511
312.353.4383
312.353.2018 fax
www.iisgcp.org