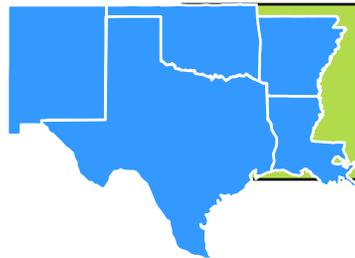


Ground Water Funding in EPA Grants



Donna Miller
U.S. EPA Region 6



The Ground Water Summit
The Future of Ground Water in EPA Region 6
February 4 – 5, 2009 **Dallas, TX**

Ground Water Funding in EPA Grants

Clean Water Act Section 106 Funding for Ground Water

Section 106 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) authorizes:

- States and interstate agencies to administer water pollution programs;
- Use of funds for prevention, reduction, and elimination of water pollution;
- Use of funds for Surface Water and Ground Water program activities.

Ground Water Funding in EPA Grants

Section 106 funds a number of water quality activities some of which includes monitoring, standards, permitting, enforcement, ground water, etc. EPA HQs recommends that 15% of the annual Section 106 allotments be used for ground water activities. The Region supports this percentage as a minimum.



Ground Water Funding in EPA Grants

- Section 106 funds are awarded to State agencies annually based on the funding provided to EPA in the President's budget.
- Before the funds can be awarded, the States must submit to EPA for approval an application and a work plan that describes the proposed activities.
- States are encouraged to direct Section 106 grant resources to priority activities per national and Regional guidance. Priority activities are funded as agreed by the Region and States.

Ground Water Funding in EPA Grants

The Region has not received the final FY 09 State allotments, due to operation under the Continuing Resolution. Current State funding has been based on the FY 08 allocations as follows:

STATE	Total Sec. 106 Allotment	Ground Water Funding	Percentage of Sec. 106 Funding
Arkansas	\$1,972,200	\$295,800	12%
New Mexico	\$1,483,800	\$351,400	24%
Oklahoma	\$2,391,300	\$358,700	15%
Texas	\$8,858,000	\$800,345	9%
Louisiana *		NA	

* State of Louisiana funds its ground water activities with Clean Water Act Section 319 (nonpoint source) monies.

Ground Water Funding in EPA Grants

The types of activities funded by the ground water programs vary by States. Some examples of the activities funded are as follows:

- Ground water planning and policy development,
- Monitoring and support equipment,
- Ground water characterization,
- Data management
- Compliance and enforcement (permitted dischargers),
- Domestic well owner outreach,

- Training and technical assistance for water/wastewater facility operators,
- Wastewater related groundwater impact evaluations ,
- Monitoring of industrial and municipal wastewater Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs).



Ground Water Funding in EPA Grants

Clean Water Act Section 319 Funding for Ground Water

The Clean Water Act, Section 319(h) allows the use of Federal funds for ground water protection. Ground water activities eligible for Section 319(h) grants:

- Must be identified directly in the State's Nonpoint Source (**NPS**) Management Program or
- Must be incorporated into the Management Program by reference to the State's Ground Water Protection Strategy, Comprehensive State Ground Water Protection Program, or Source Water Protection Program.
- If such activities are not currently included in the State's NPS Management Program, the Program should be amended to include them.

Ground Water Funding in EPA Grants

Clean Water Act Section 319 Funding for Ground Water

- EPA encourages States to coordinate their NPS Management Programs with their source water protection programs. This will assure that programs, authorities, and funding sources to protect sources of drinking water from NPS pollution are appropriately coordinated to maximize the effectiveness and efficiency of both programs' efforts.



Ground Water Funding in EPA Grants

Clean Water Act Section 319 Funding for Ground Water

Examples of how States have used 319 funds for groundwater projects:

STATE	FUNDING	ACTIVITIES FUNDED
Louisiana	\$290,000	<p><u>From 2003 – 2005</u>, LDEQ used 319(h) funds to determine the ground water impacts of malfunctioning onsite sewage systems for 3 projects.</p> <p><u>LDEQ currently uses Section 319</u> to fund the Ground Water Program (does include some surface water activities).</p> <p>Some activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Development of contingency plans for all water systems; -Formation of local Source Water Protection Committees for drinking water protection and Best Management Practices (BMPs) to control nonpoint sources; - Public education/awareness campaigns to educate the local public on drinking water
	\$431,000	

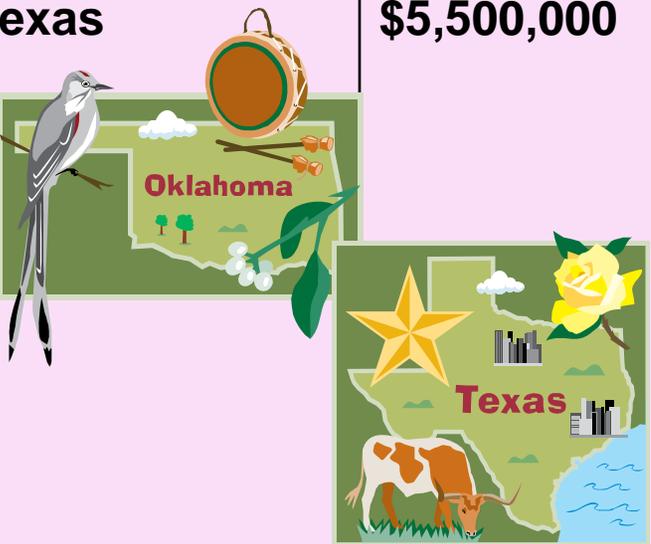


Ground Water Funding in EPA Grants

Clean Water Act Section 319 Funding for Ground Water

Examples of how States have used 319 funds for groundwater projects:

STATE	FUNDING	ACTIVITIES FUNDED
Oklahoma	\$400,000	Funds awarded to the Oklahoma Office of the Secretary were used to cap abandoned oil wells.
Texas	\$5,500,000	Sec.319 funds have been used since 2001 for groundwater protection projects. The majority of funds have been used by the Texas Railroad Commission to cap abandoned oil wells. Also, funds have been used to support the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality staff to oversee the Edwards Aquifer Permits program, and to quantify limestone geomorphology in critical areas.

The table cell for Texas contains two illustrations. The first is a map of Oklahoma with a grey and white bird perched on a branch to the left, a woven basket, and some fruit. The second is a map of Texas with a yellow star, a yellow rose, a brown and white cow, and a blue body of water.

Ground Water Funding in EPA Grants

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Ground Water Funding in EPA Grants

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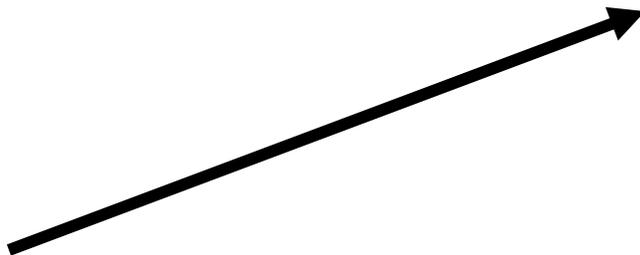
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Ground Water Funding in EPA Grants

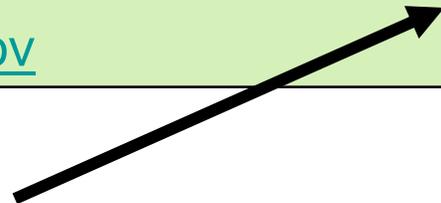
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Ground Water Funding in EPA Grants

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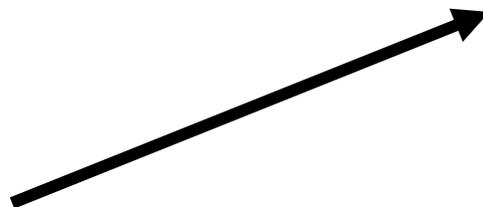
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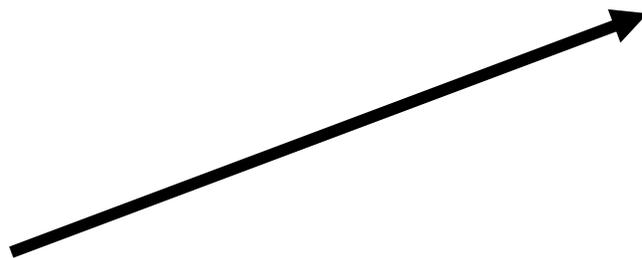
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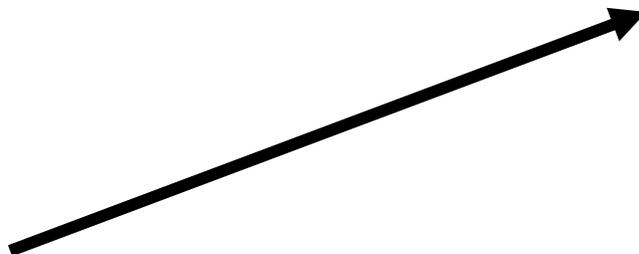
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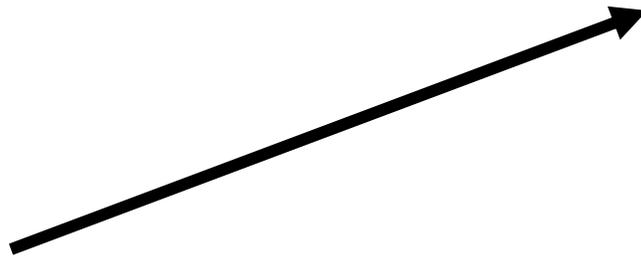
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Ground Water Funding in EPA Grants

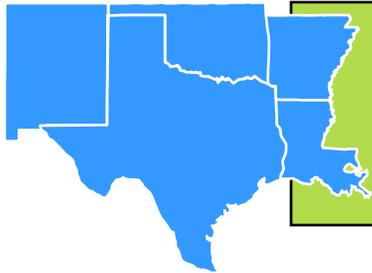
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