

CHAPTER 301

AN ACT appropriating moneys from the "Wastewater Treatment Fund" for grants to project sponsors to finance a portion of the costs of construction of wastewater treatment system projects.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. a. There is appropriated to the Department of Environmental Protection from the "Wastewater Treatment Fund" established pursuant to section 15 of the "Wastewater Treatment Bond Act of 1985," P.L.1985, c.329, the sum of \$24,180,000 for the purpose of providing grants to or on behalf of local government units (hereinafter referred to as "project sponsors") to finance up to 20% of the project costs for wastewater treatment system projects as follows:

Project Sponsor	Project Description	Estimated Project Cost	Grant Amount
Asbury Park City	Street and storm drain cleaning equipment acquisition	\$500,000	\$66,515
Atlantic County UA	Street and storm drain cleaning equipment acquisition	\$552,500	\$73,498
Bayonne MUA	Combined sewer system partial separation	\$400,000	\$53,211
Bergen County UA	Wastewater treatment plant wet weather system improvements	\$14,411,770	\$1,917,165
Bergen County UA	Sewer main construction	\$50,000,000	\$6,401,387
Cranford Twp	Storm sewer trunk lines/pump station construction	\$5,308,000	\$706,111
Dumont Boro	Stormwater management equipment and stream bank rehabilitation/flood control project	\$1,879,900	\$250,000
East Newark Boro	Solids/Floatables control measures	\$1,200,000	\$159,633
Edgewater MUA	Combined sewer system separation	\$2,250,000	\$299,312
Gloucester County	Procurement of street sweeping equipment and construction of salt storage facility; planning, engineering and implementation of County-Wide Stormwater Management Program	\$7,601,500	\$1,011,210
Hackensack City	Combined sewer system partial separation	\$5,000,000	\$665,140
Hudson County	Truck wash facility and	\$1,000,000	\$133,028
Kearny MUA	Pump station improvements	\$2,250,000	\$299,312
Kearny Town	Sewer separation and Solids/Floatables Control Measures	\$2,116,200	\$281,513
Mercer County	Stormwater drainage improvements and cleaning equipment	\$1,000,000	\$133,028
Monmouth County	Wreck Pond stormwater restoration project	\$1,871,500	\$248,961
Newark City	Solids/Floatables control measures	\$13,813,000	\$1,837,512
Newark City	Stormwater drainage Improvements	\$1,877,000	\$249,693
North Bergen MUA	Sewage conveyance and	\$15,955,000	\$2,122,458

	reduction of Combined Sewer Overflow discharges		
North Hudson SA	Pump Station Rehabilitation and replacement of force mains	\$1,368,000	\$181,982
North Hudson SA	Pump Station Rehabilitation and replacement of force mains	\$9,009,000	\$1,198,447
Nutley Twp	Street sweeping equipment procurement	\$500,000	\$66,514
Ocean County	Long Swamp Creek stormwater restoration project	\$126,000	\$16,761
Paterson City	Netting & Romag screen construction and sewer separation	\$21,918,400	\$2,915,755
Perth Amboy City	Combined sewer system partial separation and Solids/floatables control netting facility	\$3,000,000	\$399,083
Rahway Valley SA	Gravity relief sewer construction	\$13,958,733	\$1,856,899
Wall Twp	Salt storage facility construction	\$250,000	\$33,257
West Milford Twp MUA	Sewer system replacement and rehabilitation	\$2,430,000	\$323,257
West Orange Twp	Storm sewer construction	\$2,100,000	\$279,358

b. There is appropriated to the Department of Environmental Protection from the "Wastewater Treatment Fund" established pursuant to section 15 of the "Wastewater Treatment Bond Act of 1985," P.L.1985, c.329, the sum of \$3,000,000 for the purpose of providing grants to or on behalf of Bayonne MUA, Bergen County Utilities Authority, Camden City, Camden County MUA, Cliffside Park Borough, East Newark Borough, Edgewater MUA, Elizabeth City, Fort Lee Borough, Gloucester City, Guttenberg Town, Hackensack City, Harrison Town, Jersey City MUA, Joint Meeting of Essex & Unions Counties, Kearny Town, Middlesex County Utilities Authority, Newark City, North Bergen MUA, North Hudson SA, Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners, Paterson City, Perth Amboy City and Ridgefield Park Village (hereinafter referred to as "project sponsors") to finance up to 20% of costs for preliminary engineering projects for the development and evaluation of pathogen control alternatives and cost performance analyses for combined sewer systems as required pursuant to a New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit issued by the department.

c. There is appropriated to the Department of Environmental Protection from the "Wastewater Treatment Fund" established pursuant to section 15 of the "Wastewater Treatment Bond Act of 1985," P.L.1985, c.329, the sum of \$2,820,000 for the purpose of providing grants to the following local government units (hereinafter referred to as "project sponsors") to finance up to 20% of the project costs for the following wastewater effluent reuse/recharge projects:

Project Sponsor	Wastewater Project Description	Total Estimated Project Cost	Grant Amount
Atlantic County UA	Wastewater effluent reuse/recharge project	\$6,300,000	\$1,260,000
Cape May County MUA	Wastewater effluent reuse/recharge project	\$7,800,000	\$1,560,000

d. To the extent that the balance of the moneys available in the "Wastewater Treatment Fund" that have not been previously appropriated pursuant to law is insufficient to support the sums appropriated pursuant to subsections a. and b. of this section, the following moneys shall be made available from the "Wastewater Treatment Fund" to support the remainder of the appropriations made in those subsections as required:

(1) moneys returned to the "Wastewater Treatment Fund" due to project withdrawals, cancellations, or cost savings involving projects previously funded by law; or

(2) moneys previously appropriated pursuant to law from the "Wastewater Treatment Fund" to finance projects deemed by the department to be no longer active as of the effective date of this act.

e. The grant amount to be provided each project sponsor listed in subsection b. of this section shall be awarded only upon the receipt and approval by the Department of Environmental Protection of an engineering project proposal submitted by the project sponsor. Grant amounts to be provided each project sponsor listed in subsection b. of this section shall be determined and allocated after a review by the department of the engineering study cost estimates submitted by these project sponsors to the department. The total amount of grants awarded pursuant to subsection b. of this section shall not exceed \$3,000,000 and no grant shall exceed 20% of the cost for the required engineering studies.

f. Any moneys from projects listed in subsection a., b. or c. of this section that have not been obligated as of June 30, 2006 may be applied to any other project listed in subsection a., b. or c. of this section, provided that the grant amount awarded to a project sponsor for a particular project shall not exceed 20% of the project cost and that the total amount of grants awarded to project sponsors pursuant to this section shall not exceed \$30,000,000.

g. The Department of Environmental Protection is authorized to make grants to or on behalf of the project sponsors for the wastewater treatment system projects listed in subsection a. of this section, up to the individual amounts indicated, except as any such amount may be reduced or increased by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection pursuant to section 2 of this act, or if a project fails to meet the requirements of section 3 of this act.

h. If the Commissioner of Environmental Protection, after the review of project-specific documentation submitted by the project sponsor in support of a grant authorized pursuant to subsection a., b. or c. of this section, determines that the project will not result in a significant water quality benefit during wet weather conditions or its purpose is inconsistent with the provisions of P.L.1985, c.329, the commissioner may disapprove the project or any portion thereof.

2. The Commissioner of Environmental Protection is authorized to reduce or increase the individual amount of grants made available to or on behalf of project sponsors pursuant to subsection a. of section 1 of this act based upon final costs defined in and determined in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the commissioner pursuant to section 4 of P.L.1985, c.329, provided that the total amount of the grants awarded pursuant to this act shall not exceed \$30,000,000.

3. Any grant made by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to this act shall be subject to the following requirements:

a. The Commissioner of Environmental Protection has certified that the project is in compliance with the provisions of P.L.1985, c.329 and any rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto;

b. The grant amount shall not exceed 20% of the estimated project cost;

c. The grant shall be subject to any other terms and conditions as may be established by the commissioner.

4. The authorization for the making of grants pursuant to subsection a. of section 1 of this act shall expire on December 31, 2006, and any project sponsor which has not executed and delivered an agreement with the department for a grant authorized in this act shall no longer be entitled to that grant.

5. The Department of Environmental Protection shall provide general technical assistance to any project sponsor requesting assistance regarding project development or applications for funds for a project.

6. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved January 9, 2006.