



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
HARRISBURG

THE GOVERNOR

April 3, 2009

Ms. Lisa Jackson, Administrator  
U.S. EPA Headquarters, Ariel Rios Building  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Mail Code: 1101A  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Jackson:

The economic crisis our nation faces offers us an unprecedented opportunity for cooperation and creativity. Pennsylvania, like many states, has a critical need to rebuild the infrastructure that communities and businesses need to survive—waterlines, wastewater treatment systems, dams, flood mitigation, hospitals, energy, aviation, rail lines, schools and ports all need our attention.

In May of 2008, I convened a Task Force comprised of representatives from industry, local government, state government, the legislature and academia to provide an analysis of issues related to the cost-effective and sustained investment in our water and sewer infrastructure with a goal of including their recommendations in our FY 09-10 budget proposal. The Task Force submitted their final report to me on November 1. The additional funds provided by ARRA will help to address a number of the Task Force recommendations.

We have already identified and published a list of 163 priority projects totaling over \$1 billion that are “shovel ready.” This opportunity allows us to address a number of wastewater treatment infrastructure problems in low-income areas of the state that do not have the necessary resources to accomplish this on their own. This will be accomplished by allocating a minimum of 50% of these funds in the form of “principle forgiveness” loans to these disadvantaged communities.

You are also providing a unique opportunity to start promoting more cost-effective, non-structural alternatives to manage our storm water and wastewater. Pennsylvania intends to meet the goal established in the ARRA to spend a minimum of \$44 million on “green infrastructure” practices to: (1) promote water conservation; (2) improve energy efficiency; (3) enhance the management of storm water through the restoration, maintenance and preservation of our natural landscape features; and (4) foster innovative approaches to the management of our water resources in a more sustainable manner through a second solicitation for “green projects.”

Consistent with Section 1607 of the Act, we will oversee these funds under the high standards of accountability and transparency that have been the strictest policy under my administration to ensure that these funds are utilized effectively to create jobs and promote economic growth.

I look forward to working with you to ensure that we meet this challenge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edward G. Rendell".

Edward G. Rendell  
Governor of Pennsylvania

cc: Maggie Cunningham, CWSRF Coordinator, EPA Region 3  
Mary Brewster, DWSRF Coordinator, EPA Region 3  
Paul Marchetti, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority  
Cathy Curran Myers, Special Assistant to the Secretary, DEP  
Veronica Kasi, Program Manager, DEP