WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §31-15A-17b

§31-15A-17b. Infrastructure lottery revenue bonds for watershed compliance projects.

(a)(1) The Chesapeake Bay has been identified as an impaired water body due to excessive nutrients entering the bay from various sources in six states, including wastewater facilities in West Virginia. To restore the Chesapeake Bay, the states have agreed to reduce their respective nutrient contributions to the Chesapeake Bay.

(2) The Greenbrier River Watershed in southeastern West Virginia which encompasses approximately 1,646 square miles, the majority of which lies within Pocahontas, Greenbrier, Monroe, and Summers counties, has been identified as an impaired water body due to excessive levels of fecal coliform and phosphorus entering the watershed from various sources, including wastewater facilities in West Virginia. To restore the Greenbrier River Watershed, the state agrees to reduce the fecal coliform and phosphorus contributions to the Greenbrier River Watershed.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this code to the contrary, the Water Development Authority may issue, in accordance with the provisions of §31-15A-17 of this code, infrastructure lottery revenue bonds payable from the West Virginia Infrastructure Lottery Revenue Debt Service Fund created by §31-15A-9 of this code and such other sources as may be legally pledged for such purposes other than the West Virginia Infrastructure Revenue Debt Service Fund created by §31-15A-17 of this code.

(c) The council shall direct the Water Development Authority to issue bonds in one or more series when it has approved Chesapeake Bay watershed compliance projects and Greenbrier River watershed compliance projects with an authorized permitted flow of 400,000 gallons per day or more. The proceeds of the bonds shall be used solely to pay costs of issuance, fund a debt service reserve account, capitalize interest, pay for security instruments necessary to market the bonds, and to make grants to governmental instrumentalities of the state for the construction of approved Chesapeake Bay watershed compliance projects and Greenbrier River watershed compliance projects. To the extent funds are available in the West Virginia Infrastructure Lottery Revenue Debt Service Fund that are not needed for debt service, the council may direct the Water Development Authority to make grants to project sponsors for the design or construction of approved Chesapeake Bay watershed compliance projects and Greenbrier River watershed compliance projects: *Provided*, That the council shall direct the Water Development Authority to provide from moneys in the Lottery Revenue Debt Service Fund not needed to pay debt service in fiscal year 2013, a grant of $6 million to a Chesapeake Bay watershed compliance project which opened bids on December 28, 2011, and further provided that such Chesapeake Bay watershed compliance project shall receive no further grant funding under this section after receipt of the $6 million grant.

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(d) No later than June 30, 2012, each publicly owned facility with an authorized permitted flow of 400,000 gallons per day or more that is subject to meeting Chesapeake Bay compliance standards or Greenbrier River watershed compliance standards shall submit to the council a 10-year projected capital funding plan for Chesapeake Bay watershed compliance projects or Greenbrier River watershed compliance projects, as the case may be, including a general project description, cost estimate, and estimated or actual project start date and project completion date, if any. The council shall timely review the submitted capital funding plans and forward approved plans to the Water Development Authority for further processing and implementation pursuant to this article. If the council finds a plan to be incomplete, inadequate, or otherwise problematic, it shall return the plan to the applicant with comment on the plan shortcomings. The applicant may then resubmit to council an amended capital funding plan for further consideration pursuant to the terms of this subsection.

(e) Upon approval, each proposed Chesapeake Bay watershed compliance project or Greenbrier River watershed compliance project, or portion of a larger project, which portion is dedicated to compliance with nutrient standards, or fecal coliform and phosphorus standards, established for the protection and restoration of the Chesapeake Bay or the Greenbrier River watershed, as the case may be, shall be eligible for grant funding by funds generated by the infrastructure lottery revenue bonds described in subsection (b) of this section. At the request of the applicant, the remaining percentage of project funding not otherwise funded by grant under the provisions of this article may be reviewed as a standard project funding application.

(f) Eligible projects that have obtained project financing prior to December 31, 2012, may apply to the council for funding under the provisions of this section. These applications shall be processed and considered as all other eligible projects, and a grant funding awarded shall, to the extent allowed by law, be dedicated to prepay all or a portion of debt previously incurred by governmental instrumentalities of the state for required Chesapeake Bay nutrient removal projects or Greenbrier River watershed fecal coliform and phosphorus removal projects, subject to the bond covenants and contractual obligations of the borrowing governmental entity. However, any private portion of funding provided by agreement between a political subdivision and one or more private entities, either by direct capital investment or debt service obligation, shall not be eligible for grant funding under the provisions of this article.

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