

# Guide to Green Project Reserve (GPR) Eligible Projects



S.C. Department of Environmental Services

## **Introduction to the Green Project Reserve**

The Green Project Reserve (GPR) is a percentage of funds from an SRF capitalization grant intended to fund *green* projects in one of four categories: green infrastructure, water efficiency, energy efficiency, or other environmentally innovative activities. The GPR was first required as a provision of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 for both Clean Water (CW) and Drinking Water (DW) SRF projects.

The GPR continues as a requirement for the SRFs; however, the CW percentage has decreased to no less than 10% and the GPR is no longer required for DW (but projects may be identified for the GPR at the discretion of the State). The South Carolina SRF program seeks qualified DWSRF GPR projects each fiscal year along with the required CWSRF GPR projects, and will continue to do so as long as green projects are still a priority of EPA.

## **Documenting GPR projects**

Use the GPR Project template on the second page of this GPR Guide to provide summary documentation on the green components of the project for review by the SRF Division. Limit the information contained in the summary to the pertinent *green* information needed to justify the project.

Consult GPR Eligibility Guidance documents to identify green projects or green project components. Include anticipated water and/or energy savings or water loss reduction for water and energy efficiency projects.

- The most recent EPA DWSRF GPR Eligibility Guidance can be found in Appendix B of the "Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Eligibility Handbook." This handbook can be found on EPA's website at [www.epa.gov/dwsrf/dwsrf-eligibility-handbook](http://www.epa.gov/dwsrf/dwsrf-eligibility-handbook).
- The most recent EPA CWSRF GPR Eligibility Guidance can be found in the "GPR Project Eligibility Guidance" on EPA's website at [www.epa.gov/cwsrf/green-project-reserve-guidance-clean-water-state-revolving-fund-cwsrf](http://www.epa.gov/cwsrf/green-project-reserve-guidance-clean-water-state-revolving-fund-cwsrf). Please note that while this guidance is helpful in identifying projects that count towards GPR, the EPA (and hence, the State) no longer distinguishes between "categorical projects" and "business cases."

The South Carolina SRF must approve all potential GPR projects/project components as qualified to count toward the GPR. In cases where an SRF project could qualify for the GPR, but GPR justification has not been submitted, the SRF Division may evaluate the project and identify the project or project components as GPR eligible.

**SC SRF Green Project Reserve (GPR) Project Summary**

Sponsor Name:

Project Name:

Indicate one:  Clean Water  Drinking Water

Indicate all that apply:

Green Infrastructure  Energy Efficiency  Water Efficiency  Environmentally Innovative

Include the elements presented in this template in any Green Project Reserve Summary to be submitted to SC SRF.

Introduction (Address each bullet item)

- Provide a summary statement about the green project or project portion considered as green.
- SRF loan amount estimate
- Estimate of the cost of green construction and/or green equipment (do not include engineering cost)
- Percentage of loan that is green
- Expected annual energy or water savings, or environmental benefit as applicable

Background

Describe the utility's current situation and how that relates to the desire for the project – enumerate energy used/lost, water used/lost, etc.

Results

Explain what will be accomplished by the green [or green component of the] project

[Alternatives Considered] (If Needed)

[Calculated Energy/Water Efficiency Improvements] (If Needed)

Conclusion

Enumerate benefits and savings

\_\_\_\_\_  
Provide citations as needed