United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
P.O. Box 25007
Denver, CO 80225-0007

IN REPLY REFER TO:
84-27814
1.3.11

June 2, 2026

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

County of Orange, California
Attn: Mr. Michael Mori
2301 North Glassell St
Orange, CA 92865-2703

Subject: Funding Opportunity No. R24AS00052 – WaterSMART Grants: Water and Energy Efficiency Grants for Fiscal Year 2025 – GRANT14300781 Application Review Status, Your Application Titled, "H2OC RainSmart Landscape Turf Upgrade Incentive Program"

Dear Mr. Michael Mori:

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) is pleased to inform you that your application for WaterSMART Grants: Water and Energy Efficiency Grants funding was among those receiving the highest ratings and is now being considered for award of a financial assistance agreement.

Your application included a request for $500,000.00 to complete your proposal titled, "H2OC RainSmart Landscape Turf Upgrade Incentive Program." Reclamation anticipates awarding Federal funds in the amount of $500,000.00 for your proposed project. This letter of intent for funding is non-binding on either party and subject to each party's final review and approval of the agreement. No legal liability on the part of the United States of America for any payment or work may arise until the agreement is executed, and funds are made available, in writing.

All new financial assistance awards for infrastructure projects must meet Buy America requirements. See OMB Memorandum M-22-11 at https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/M-22-11.pdf and the Department of the Interior "Buy America" Domestic Sourcing Guidance at https://www.doi.gov/grants/buyamerica for further details.

In working with you to develop your financial assistance agreement, Reclamation will closely review the activities outlined in your proposal to ensure that all activities are eligible for funding and that the proposed costs are allowable under financial assistance regulations. If some costs or activities are determined to be ineligible or unallowable, Reclamation will work with you to refine the scope of work and budget for the project.

In the coming months, Reclamation will work with you to gather the information needed to enter into a financial assistance agreement. Please note that this letter is not a final commitment of funding and all pre-award clearances and approvals must be obtained as described in Section E.2.5 of the Funding Opportunity. In addition, Reclamation must have sufficient evidence prior to award that non-Federal cost share will be available. The final funding amount may be adjusted if necessary.

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All projects being considered for award of funding are required to comply with all Federal environmental and cultural resource requirements, including the National Environmental Policy Act, Endangered Species Act, Clean Water Act, and the National Historic Preservation Act. Ground-disturbing activities of any type, including fieldwork, monitoring or other activities may not occur until Reclamation has determined that all environmental and cultural resource compliance is complete and a Notice to Proceed is issued by a Reclamation Grants Officer. Please note that environmental and cultural resource compliance and review by Reclamation could delay the construction start date.

Reclamation utilizes the Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) to distribute all funds to recipients. ASAP is a completely electronic system that federal agencies use to quickly and securely transfer money to recipient organizations and is free for recipient organizations. The ASAP team is continuing to host free webinars for recipient organization users to learn more. For a list of webinar dates and to register visit www.fiscal.treasury.gov/asap. To verify/protect recipient identities, ASAP utilizes ID.me, a trusted technology partner who assists multiple government agencies. ID.me provides secure digital identity verification to help government agencies verify and secure Recipient information. For more information about ID.me enrollment: Verify Your Identity to Access Government Services | ID.me

Please note that for costs, including pre-award costs, to be eligible for inclusion in the agreement, the costs must meet the applicable administrative and cost principles criteria established in 2 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200. In particular, the procurement of goods and/or services must be compliant with the Procurement Standards (2 CFR §200.317 through §200.326) and contract costs must be compliant with 2 CFR §200.323 – Contract Cost and Price. The Federal financial assistance regulations can be found online at www.ecfr.gov.

Federal statute (42 U.S.C. 10364(a)(3)(B)) requires that before any funds are awarded, you agree not to use any water savings resulting from your proposed project to increase your total irrigated acreage or to otherwise increase the consumptive use of water in your operations. This requirement, which was discussed in Section F.2.4 of the Funding Opportunity, will be included in the financial assistance agreement for your project.

Please be advised that your application has been ranked, in part, based on your description of the expected benefits of your project. Selection criteria placed an emphasis on conserving and using water more efficiently; increasing the production of hydropower; mitigating conflict risk in areas at a high risk of future water conflict; and accomplishing other benefits that contribute to water supply reliability in the western United States.

In order to demonstrate the success of the program and to provide a guide for future applicants, Reclamation will post copies of all successful Water and Energy Efficiency Grants applications as examples on Reclamation's website. While this generally does not raise any issues, Reclamation finds it prudent to provide successful grant applicants with an opportunity to redact any sensitive information from their proposals prior to posting them on our website. As a rule, Reclamation removes the SF-424s; however, if there are any other items you would like to request be redacted, please notify us by sending an email to jgerman@usbr.gov no later than Friday, June 25, 2026. If Reclamation does not hear from you by this date, Reclamation will assume that there are no

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objections to posting the full application.

Reclamation will hold a post-selection webinar to discuss the process for development of financial assistance agreements and next steps with you and all other selected applicants. Webinar details with the date, time, and link will be emailed to you once available. It is anticipated that you will be notified of the grants management specialist assigned to your agreement in the next three weeks. In the meantime, if you have any questions regarding the process or your agreement, please contact Ms. Christina Munoz, Supervisory Grants Officer, at 303-445-3154 or at christina_munoz @ios.doi.gov. Thank you for your interest and participation in the WaterSMART Program. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

CHRISTIN A MUNOZ

Digitally signed by CHRISTINA MUNOZ
Date: 2026.09.09 07:39:33 -07'00'

Christina Munoz
Supervisory Grants Officer