PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION
PREPARING AND SUBMITTING PROPOSALS FOR THE ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS ON FUTURE WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT (WRRDA 2014, SECTION 7001)

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OVERVIEW

- Context
- The Report to Congress on Future Water Resources Development (“WRRDA 7001 Report”)
- Criteria for Inclusion in the Report
- What it means to be in the Report (and what it doesn’t mean)
- 2020 Deadlines & More Info
Civil Works water resources project delivery is a multi-step process:

1. A Congressionally authorized feasibility study receives appropriations and is cost-shared with a non-federal sponsor.
2. The feasibility study evaluates alternatives and makes a recommendation for a federal project.
3. Cost-shared engineering and design work is conducted to prepare for construction (“Pre-Construction Engineering & Design”).
4. Congress authorizes the project for construction and appropriates funding for Construction.
5. The non-federal sponsor and Corps sign a Project Partnership Agreement and the cost-shared project is constructed.
6. After construction, the project transitions to the non-federal sponsor for operations and maintenance.
This Annual Report (established by WRRDA 2014, Section 7001):

- Identifies proposals for new study authorizations, new project authorizations, and modifications to existing project or feasibility study authorities for Congressional consideration, including proposed modifications to environmental infrastructure program authorities.
- Is based, in part, on annual requests from non-Federal interests.
- ASA(CW) certifies proposals meet criteria established by Congress for inclusion in the report.
- Proposals that don’t meet criteria are included in an appendix.
- Has been developed and submitted annually since 2015.
- Is used by Congress when considering studies and projects that need authorization.
REMEMBER

To initiate a **study** or **project** it must have a:

1) Congressional **Authorization** – usually in a Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) **AND**

2) Congressional **Appropriation** of Funding – and selection as a “New Start” study or project.

*NOTE: Many USACE activities, including smaller studies, projects, and technical assistance already have needed Authorization*
IMPORTANT NOTES

• Inclusion in the Report is not the only path to study or project authorization.
• Inclusion in the Report does not provide authorization or appropriation for a study or project.
• Inclusion in the Report does not replace or influence the selection process for “new start” studies or projects. Congress usually sets a limited number of new start studies and construction projects in annual appropriations bills.
• The Report does not prioritize studies or projects.
BUILDING THE ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS

Annually:

1. Notice published in the Federal Register – generally by the end of April – opens a 120-day open proposal period
2. Published May 1, 2020 / Submittal Deadline: August 31, 2020
3. All interested potential non-federal sponsors of a Civil Works study or project invited to submit a proposal
4. Online proposal website collects basic information about the proposed study or project
5. USACE evaluates the proposals against the five criteria established by Congress
6. All proposals that meet the criteria are included in the Annual Report
7. All proposals that do not meet the criteria are included in an appendix to the Report.
8. The Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) (ASA(CW)) certifies the report and transmits it to Congress, target date is February 1, 2021
THE PROPOSAL PERIOD IS OPEN!

All proposals for consideration for the 2021 Report to Congress on Future Water Resources Development must be submitted by 31 August 2020.

http://www.wrrda7001proposals.us/

Link to Proposal Submittal Website
CRITERIA FOR INCLUSION IN THE REPORT
ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS

1. Proposed studies and modifications are related to USACE primary missions and authorities
2. Require specific congressional authorization
3. Have not been congressionally authorized
4. Have not been included in the main table of a previous annual report
5. If authorized could be carried out by USACE
CRITERIA FOR INCLUSION OF A NEW OR MODIFIED STUDY OR PROJECT

1. Related to USACE authorities and one or more of the core missions

   - USACE primary missions are navigation*, flood risk management*, and aquatic ecosystem restoration. Recreation, hydropower and/or water supply will be considered “related” when it is performed in conjunction with one or more of the primary mission(s).

*This includes inland flood risk management and coastal storm damage risk reduction projects; inland navigation and coastal harbors/navigation.
CRITERIA FOR INCLUSION OF A NEW OR MODIFIED STUDY OR PROJECT

2. Require specific congressional authorization
3. Has not been previously congressionally authorized
4. Has not been included in a previous annual report (under 7001), AND
5. Able to be carried out by the USACE, if authorized

NOTE: The decision document process must be followed and completed before a project or project modification can be recommended for construction.
WHAT ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROPOSALS?

• To be included in the table within the Annual Report the proposal must be for either:
  • a modification to an environmental infrastructure project authority that was authorized prior to the date of enactment of the Water Resources Development Act of 2016 (December 16, 2016) pursuant to Section 219 of WRDA 1992, as amended or
  • A modification to a programmatic authority for an environmental infrastructure assistance program.

• Proposals for modifications to environmental infrastructure program authorities must also include a description of assistance provided to date and the total Federal cost of assistance provided to date.
NOT ELIGIBLE FOR THE REPORT

• Proposals for studies or projects that already have authorization.
• Proposals for modifications to non-Federal activities where USACE has provided previous technical assistance (not an authorized project).
• Proposals for construction of a new project unrelated to a currently authorized Corps project that is not the subject of a complete or ongoing feasibility study.
• Proposals that are not requesting a potential future water resources development study or project (e.g., changes to legislation).
THE APPENDIX

Proposals that do not meet the criteria or do not contain all the required information will not be included in the Annual Report, but will be included in an appendix, citing which criteria were not met.

The Report – and appendix – are posted publicly. Projects in the appendix may be revised/resubmitted in future years.
Click here to submit proposal
INSTRUCTIONS ON PREPARING AND SUBMITTING PROPOSALS

Online Proposal Form for non-Federal Interests
INSTRUCTIONS ON PREPARING AND SUBMITTING PROPOSALS

Preparing and Submitting a Proposal


All non-Federal interests are invited to submit proposals for new or continued USACE development project study authority, modifications to an existing Corps water resources development project study authority, modifications to an existing Corps water resources development project authority, and modifications to an existing Corps environmental infrastructure program authority. Please submit one form for each study or modification to a study, project, or environmental infrastructure program authority being proposed. Do not include confidential business information, information whose disclosure is restricted by law, or information that is protected by the provisions of Executive Order 13526, and information whose disclosure is restricted by law, or information that is protected by the provisions of Executive Order 13526.

We recommend completing the proposal form in one sitting and having all letters of support and other materials assembled before completing the form. The following information will be requested:

1. Contact information for the individual/agency submitting the proposal.
2. Study project/cover the portion of the study/project area (8.5 x 11" PDD).
3. The name of the non-Federal interest planning to act as the sponsor, or all non-Federal interests in the case of a modification to an environmental infrastructure program authority, including any non-Federal interest that has contributed to or is expected to contribute toward the non-Federal share of the proposed feasibility study or modification.
4. A letter of statement of support from each associated non-Federal interest. Letters may be addressed generically to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the local Corps District office, or the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works. Please limit your letters to a maximum of 30 MB (30,000 KB) in size. Files larger than 30 MB will not be considered.
5. State if this proposal is for a feasibility study, a modification to a USACE water resources development feasibility study authority, a modification to a USACE water resources project authority, or a modification to a USACE environmental infrastructure program authority.
6. If the proposal is for a modification, the name of the authorized study, project, or environmental infrastructure program must be specified.
7. If the proposal is for a modification to an environmental infrastructure program authority, a brief description of the assistance provided to date and total Federal cost of assistance provided to date must be provided.
8. State the specific project purpose(s) of the proposed study or modification and demonstrate the proposal is related to USACE missions and authorities and why additional or new authorization is needed.
9. Provide an estimate, to the extent practicable, of the total cost, and the Federal and non-Federal share of those costs, of the proposed study and, separately, an estimate of the cost of construction or modification.
10. Describe, to the extent applicable and practicable, an estimate of the anticipated monetary and non-monetary benefits of the proposal with regard to benefits to the protection of human life and property and improvement to transportation, the national economy, the environment, or the national security interests of the United States.
11. Describe local support for the proposal.
12. State if the proposal is for a modification to an environmental infrastructure program authority, a brief description of the assistance provided to date and total Federal cost of assistance provided to date must be provided.

Although additional proposal documentation may be uploaded (30MB max file size), please be sure to answer each question in the field provided. Responses should not state "Refer to uploaded documents" with no other response.
INFORMATION EACH SUBMISSION INCLUDES:

- Non-Federal Interest’s Name(s)
- Study or Project Purpose
- Estimated cost (Fed and non-Fed)*
- Anticipated monetary and nonmonetary benefits
- Letter or statement of support
- Financial capability of Sponsor
- Map (PDF)

*For Environmental Infrastructure, if suggesting a cost increase to an authority, must include amount of proposed cost increase.

Costs and Benefits estimates should use available information
ANNUAL TIMELINE

Proposal Process
– Federal Register Notice: Request for Proposals – May 1, 2020
– Public Webinars – 23 July and 20 August, both at 2PM ET
– Collection of Proposals - 120 Days
– Deadline for Submission: August 31, 2020

Evaluation of Proposals – Section 7001 Criteria
– Corps & Office of the ASA(CW) – September through January

Report to Congress - Planned: 1 February 2021

Note: After submission to Congress the Corps will begin contacting those who submitted proposals with the status of their proposal, i.e., included in the Main Report or Appendix.
PUBLISHING THE REPORT TO CONGRESS


Report to Congress on Future Water Resources Development

Section 7001 of WRRDA 2014, as amended, requires that the Secretary of the Army annually submit to the Congress a report that identifies, for potential congressional authorization, completed feasibility reports, proposed feasibility studies submitted by non-Federal interests, proposed modifications to authorized water resources development projects or feasibility studies, and proposed modifications to environmental infrastructure program authorities proposed feasibility studies, and proposed modifications to authorized projects or studies that meet all the following criteria:

- Are related to the missions and authorities of the Corps of Engineers (Corps). The Corps’ primary missions are navigation, flood risk management, and aquatic ecosystem restoration. Recreation, hydropower, and/or water supply will be considered “related to the Corps’ missions and authorities” when such function is performed in conjunction with one or more of the primary missions.
- Require specific congressional authorization.
- Have not been congressionally authorized.
- Have not been included in the main table of a previous annual report.
- If authorized could be carried out by the Corps of Engineers.

The annual Report to Congress on Future Water Resources Development is to be based, in part, upon annual requests for proposals for authorization from non-Federal interests.

Section 7001 requires that the Secretary certify that the proposals included in the annual report meet the five criteria established by Congress, listed above. Any proposals that do not meet the criteria will be included in the report’s appendix. Inclusion in the annual Report to Congress does not provide authorization or appropriation for a study or project.

Preparing and Submitting a Proposal

Links

- Compilation of U.S. Laws Relating to Water Resources Development Purposes
- Video Message from MG Jackson
- Submit a Proposal
- Annual Report to Congress
- April 2019 Federal Register Notice
- Fact Sheet
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Planning Community Toolbox

For More Information

2019 Public Information Sessions
Two online public information sessions about preparing and submitting proposals for the Report to Congress for Future Water Resource Development will be held in 2019:
1) 16 July, 2:00 PM Eastern
2) 14 August, 2:00 PM Eastern

Links to past Annual Reports and the last year’s proposals
WHAT HAPPENS WITH THE REPORT?

It’s up to Congress

Since the first Report, most of the new studies authorized by Congress in WRDAs have been based on proposals included in the reports:

**WRDA 2016**: 34 studies authorized – 32 were in previous Reports to Congress
- New Authorization (29 / 30)
- Modified study authority (3 / 4)

**WRDA 2018**: 12 studies authorized – all 12 were in previous Reports to Congress
- New Authorization (10)
- Modified Study Authority (2)
QUESTIONS?

For more information, visit us online at:
www.usace.army.mil

Or contact the 7001 Management Team, HQUSACE
wrrda7001proposal@usace.army.mil