REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS AND
GUIDANCE FOR TMDL SUPPORT GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation is seeking project proposals for funding of grants that support Tennessee's TMDL program.

Qualified Applicants.
Tennessee state-run colleges and universities, state agencies, local government entities, and federal agencies are invited to submit proposals.

Deadline for Submittal of Proposals
There is no deadline for submittal of proposals. Awards are based on funds availability.

Priorities for Awards
The grant program's goal is to support the monitoring, identification, and quantification of specific sources of pollutants and seek to reduce and eliminate them so that Tennessee's waters fully support designated uses.

The highest priority for funding are projects that collect the necessary data for TMDLs that TDEC is developing or address the implementation plan of EPA-approved TMDLs. Information about Tennessee's TMDL program may be found at:
http://www.state.tn.us/environment/wpc/tmdl/

Criteria Used to Evaluate Proposals
The proposed projects will be evaluated based on one or more of six criteria:

- Ability to complete project successfully (including proposed timeline)
- Technical expertise of the applicant
- Relevance of data collection to TDEC for developing TMDL(s)
- Support implementation plan of EPA-approved TMDLs
- Development or enhancement of model that can be used for future protocols
- Partnership with local watershed groups to protect water quality

Project Funding.
Awards are for one year and usually do not exceed $25,000 in direct costs. Whatever the total requested, a 50% match is expected. This match may be in the form of cash or in-kind services. Therefore, the total cost of the project will be the amount requested from TDEC (up to $25,000) plus the amount of the match. Indirect costs (if any) may not exceed 20% of the total requested.

Cost Reimbursement.
Grants are managed through a reimbursement schedule that will be described in the contract. Reimbursement for prior expenses will be made quarterly.

Proposal Evaluation Process.
Attachment A is an example of a workplan to be submitted for consideration. It is strongly suggested that applications be submitted only after preliminary discussions have taken place. For this, or any questions about the grant process, please contact:

Sherry Wang, Manager   David Duhl
Watershed Management Section   Watershed Coordinator
(615)532-0656   (615)532-0438
sherry.wang@state.tn.us   david.duhl@state.tn.us

Applications must be submitted as a Microsoft Word or a Rich Text Format (RTF) document transmitted via e-mail. Documents, databases, and spreadsheets must be compatible with Microsoft Office 2000. All photographs must be sent as jpegs.

ATTACHMENT A

Sample Workplan

The successful application will contain the following materials (at a minimum):

- Name of Project
- Name of Applicant Organization
- Contact Information
- Project Objective
- Project Location
- TMDL(s) Addressed
- Abstract
- Project Description
- Milestones
- Budget Table
- Letters of Support (if any)
- Applicant background and summary of qualifications

The budget table should appear in the following format. Please use as many lines as necessary to itemize all expense categories.

LINE ITEM	TDEC	GRANTEE MATCH*	TOTAL
Personnel			
Travel**			
Lab Fees			
Indirect Cost (no more than 20%)***			
TOTAL	$	$	$

*Grantee match is expected to be at least 50% of the total cost of the project.
**Travel is reimbursed at the current state-approved rate.
***Indirect Costs apply to agency and educational institutions.

Budget Summary:

TDEC Grant Amount: $_____

Grantee Match Amount: $_____

Total Grant Amount: $_____