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Water Supply Engineering Section, Water Quality Bureau

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Water Supply Engineering Section's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Lead Service Line Replacement Project Requirements

Introduction

Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Intended Use Plan (IUP) applications include a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER). The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) includes funding for Lead Service Line Replacement (LSLR) projects. These projects are different enough from other drinking water infrastructure projects that the Water Supply Engineering Section, which reviews and approves PERs, has set separate requirements for LSLR projects funded through Iowa's DWSRF program.

Service lines eligible for replacement using IIJA LSLR funds must be either A) lead service lines or B) galvanized service lines that are or were ever located downstream of lead service lines or lead connectors within the service line.

This document is intended to provide guidance and direction for LSLR projects that will be submitted for inclusion in the IUP with the intention to use IIJA LSLR funds available through Iowa's State Revolving Fund (SRF) program, or for regular DWSRF project funding. This document will be updated to accommodate changes as needed.

Requirements for Project Plans for Lead Service Line Replacement

In lieu of a PER, at a minimum a "Project Plan for Lead Service Line Replacement" is required. Although a PER is acceptable, the Project Plan for Lead Service Line Replacement does not need to be covered by an engineer's completed Iowa certification block with stamp, signature, and date. If a PER is submitted, it will need to include the same information needed in a Project Plan for Lead Service Line Replacement. The Project Plan for Lead Service Line Replacement should be submitted with the IUP application to srf-iup@dnr.iowa.gov, with the Water Supply Engineering project submittal email (watersupply-engineering@dnr.iowa.gov) copied.

The information needed for this plan to be considered complete and for a Water Supply Engineering project manager to proceed towards approval is as follows:

- Submission of Schedule 1a (DNR Form 542-3178)
- Identification of the public water supply in which lead and/or galvanized downstream of lead lines are planned to be replaced
- An overall project description, including a proposed timeline for the replacement work
 - If there are more lines than can reasonably be replaced in 2-3 years, separate them into multiple 2-3 year phases
- Location of service lines to be replaced, listed by address and census tract, as well as a defined area that replacement work is to occur within 2-3 years
 - Distinguish between lead line and galvanized line locations
 - **NOTE:** in the course of the project, lines/addresses can be removed from the scope of work, but new lines/addresses cannot be added after the LSLR project plan approval has been issued
- Identification of properties listed on National Register of Historic Places or properties located in a historic district
- Separate identification of unknown service line materials and/or likely lead materials can be included
 - Inclusion of unknowns and/or likely lead service lines will allow the environmental review process to cover the work needed to determine if those lines are indeed lead. If they are found to be lead, they would be

expected to be included in the replacement plan; if they are determined to not be lead, that information will be valuable for the public water supply system's lead service line inventory.

- Ownership status of service lines
 - Include a description of how this ownership was established (existing ordinances, etc.)
- Estimated project costs, with costs split by phase if multiple phases of work are proposed
 - Including estimated disposal costs, if service lines will not be abandoned in place
- Description of communication plan with service line owners
- Description of plans regarding risk management of customer exposure to lead as a result of lead service line replacement work
- Plans for gaining access to property, especially private property
- Documentation of any anticipated easements needed for the replacement work
- Anticipated construction method(s) to be used for the replacement work
 - In order to make use of the streamlined environmental review included for LSLR projects in the [Iowa Drinking Water State Revolving Fund State Environmental Review Process \(IA DWSRF SERP\) dated November 2024](#), construction methods must align with SRF Front End Attachment 11: Construction Method Limitations for Lead Service Line Replacement. SRF Front Ends for LSLR projects are available at <https://opportunityiowa.gov/community/water-quality/srf-resources/documents-and-guides>.
- Confirmation or verification of the anticipated depth of service line replacement work
- Circumstances in which depth of the replacement service line will exceed the existing service line depth
- Description of any work that would disturb buildings the service lines serve, including drilling holes, etc.
- Information on how lead service lines or galvanized lines that were or are downstream of lead will be handled after replacement (e.g. abandoned in place versus disposal), and any associated lead disposal considerations, including costs associated with disposal.

After the Water Supply Engineering project manager has reviewed and ensured the plan is complete, an approval letter will be issued. In the future, more information will be available regarding the rest of the SRF process for LSLR projects.

Links and Resources

- [Iowa Department of Natural Resources Lead Service Line Inventory Resources](#)
- [Iowa State Revolving Fund Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act \(IIJA\) Information](#)
- [EPA Guidance for Developing and Maintaining a Service Line Inventory](#)
- AWWA Standard C810-17, Replacement and Flushing of Lead Service Lines
- [AWWA Lead Communications Resources](#)