

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

SB3375

Introduced 2/7/2024, by Sen. Sue Rezin

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

415 ILCS 5/19.3

from Ch. 111 1/2, par. 1019.3

Amends the Environmental Protection Act. Provides that a wastewater treatment facility located in the Village of Lisbon in Kendall County is allowed to apply for the Water Pollution Control Loan Program for the purposes of refinancing existing debt. Effective immediately.

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1 AN ACT concerning safety.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Environmental Protection Act is amended by 5 changing Section 19.3 as follows:

6 (415 ILCS 5/19.3) (from Ch. 111 1/2, par. 1019.3)

7 Sec. 19.3. Water Revolving Fund.

8 (a) There is hereby created within the State Treasury a 9 Water Revolving Fund, consisting of 3 interest-bearing special 10 programs to be known as the Water Pollution Control Loan 11 Program, the Public Water Supply Loan Program, and the Loan 12 Support Program, which shall be used and administered by the 13 Agency.

14 (b) The Water Pollution Control Loan Program shall be used 15 and administered by the Agency to provide assistance for the 16 following purposes:

17 (1) to accept and retain funds from grant awards,
18 appropriations, transfers, and payments of interest and
19 principal;

20 (2) to make direct loans at or below market interest 21 rates and to provide additional subsidization, including, 22 but not limited to, forgiveness of principal, negative 23 interest rates, and grants, to any eligible local - 2 - LRB103 38336 BDA 68471 b

1 government unit to finance the construction of treatments 2 works, including storm water treatment systems that are 3 treatment works, and projects that fulfill federal State 4 Revolving Fund grant requirements for a green project 5 reserve;

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(2.5) with respect to funds provided under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009:

8 (A) to make direct loans at or below market 9 interest rates to any eligible local government unit 10 and to provide additional subsidization to anv 11 eligible local government unit, including, but not 12 limited to, forgiveness of principal, negative 13 interest rates, and grants;

(B) to make direct loans at or below market
interest rates to any eligible local government unit
to buy or refinance debt obligations for treatment
works incurred on or after October 1, 2008; and

(C) to provide additional subsidization,
including, but not limited to, forgiveness of
principal, negative interest rates, and grants for
treatment works incurred on or after October 1, 2008;

(3) to make direct loans at or below market interest
rates and to provide additional subsidization, including,
but not limited to, forgiveness of principal, negative
interest rates, and grants, to any eligible local
government unit to buy or refinance debt obligations for

costs incurred after March 7, 1985, for the construction of treatment works, including storm water treatment systems that are treatment works, and projects that fulfill federal State Revolving Fund grant requirements for a green project reserve;

6 (3.5) to make loans, including, but not limited to, 7 loans through a linked deposit program, at or below market 8 interest rates for the implementation of a management 9 program established under Section 319 of the Federal Water 10 Pollution Control Act, as amended;

11 (4) to guarantee or purchase insurance for local 12 obligations where such action would improve credit market 13 access or reduce interest rates;

14 (5) as a source of revenue or security for the payment 15 of principal and interest on revenue or general obligation 16 bonds issued by the State or any political subdivision or 17 instrumentality thereof, if the proceeds of such bonds 18 will be deposited in the Fund;

19 (6) to finance the reasonable costs incurred by the20 Agency in the administration of the Fund;

21 (7) to transfer funds to the Public Water Supply Loan22 Program; and

(8) notwithstanding any other provision of this
subsection (b), to provide, in accordance with rules
adopted under this Title, any other financial assistance
that may be provided under Section 603 of the Federal

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Water Pollution Control Act for any other projects or activities eligible for assistance under that Section or federal rules adopted to implement that Section.

4 <u>(b-5) The wastewater treatment facility located in the</u> 5 <u>Village of Lisbon in Kendall County, specifically located at</u> 6 <u>200 East Joliet Street, is allowed to apply for the Water</u> 7 <u>Pollution Control Loan Program for the purposes of refinancing</u> 8 existing debt.

9 (c) The Loan Support Program shall be used and 10 administered by the Agency for the following purposes:

11 (1) to accept and retain funds from grant awards and 12 appropriations;

13 (2) to finance the reasonable costs incurred by the
14 Agency in the administration of the Fund, including
15 activities under Title III of this Act, including the
16 administration of the State construction grant program;

17 (3) to transfer funds to the Water Pollution Control
 18 Loan Program and the Public Water Supply Loan Program;

19 (4) to accept and retain a portion of the loan 20 repayments;

(5) to finance the development of the low interest loan programs for water pollution control and public water supply projects;

(6) to finance the reasonable costs incurred by the
 Agency to provide technical assistance for public water
 supplies; and

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(7) to finance the reasonable costs incurred by the 1 2 Agency for public water system supervision programs, to 3 administer or provide for technical assistance through source water protection programs, to develop and implement 4 5 a capacity development strategy, to delineate and assess source water protection areas, and for an 6 operator 7 certification program in accordance with Section 1452 of 8 the federal Safe Drinking Water Act.

9 (d) The Public Water Supply Loan Program shall be used and 10 administered by the Agency to provide assistance to local 11 government units and privately owned community water supplies 12 for public water supplies for the following public purposes:

(1) to accept and retain funds from grant awards, appropriations, transfers, and payments of interest and principal;

16 (2) to make direct loans at or below market interest 17 rates and to provide additional subsidization, including, but not limited to, forgiveness of principal, negative 18 19 interest rates, and grants, to any eligible local 20 government unit or to any eligible privately owned community water supply to finance the construction of 21 22 water supplies and projects that fulfill federal State Revolving Fund grant requirements for a green project 23 24 reserve;

(2.5) with respect to funds provided under the
 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009:

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(A) to make direct loans at or below market 1 2 interest rates to any eligible local government unit 3 or to any eligible privately owned community water supply, and to provide additional subsidization to any 4 5 eligible local government unit or to any eligible privately owned community water supply, including, but 6 7 not limited to, forgiveness of principal, negative interest rates, and grants; 8

9 (B) to buy or refinance the debt obligation of a 10 local government unit for costs incurred on or after 11 October 1, 2008; and

12 (C) to provide additional subsidization, 13 including, but not limited to, forgiveness of 14 principal, negative interest rates, and grants for a 15 local government unit for costs incurred on or after 16 October 1, 2008;

17 (3) to make direct loans at or below market interest rates and to provide additional subsidization, including, 18 19 but not limited to, forgiveness of principal, negative 20 interest rates, and grants, to any eligible local 21 government unit or to any eligible privately owned 22 community water supply to buy or refinance debt 23 obligations for costs incurred on or after July 17, 1997, 24 for the construction of water supplies and projects that 25 fulfill federal State Revolving Fund requirements for a 26 green project reserve;

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1 (4) to guarantee local obligations where such action 2 would improve credit market access or reduce interest 3 rates;

4 (5) as a source of revenue or security for the payment
5 of principal and interest on revenue or general obligation
6 bonds issued by the State or any political subdivision or
7 instrumentality thereof, if the proceeds of such bonds
8 will be deposited into the Fund;

9 (6) to transfer funds to the Water Pollution Control 10 Loan Program; and

11 notwithstanding any other provision of this (7)12 subsection (d), to provide to local government units and 13 privately owned community water supplies any other 14 financial assistance that may be provided under Section 15 1452 of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act for any 16 expenditures eligible for assistance under that Section or 17 federal rules adopted to implement that Section.

(e) The Agency is designated as the administering agency 18 19 the Fund. The Agency shall submit to the Regional of 20 Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection 21 Agency an intended use plan which outlines the proposed use of 22 funds available to the State. The Agency shall take all 23 actions necessary to secure to the State the benefits of the 24 federal Water Pollution Control Act and the federal Safe 25 Drinking Water Act, as now or hereafter amended.

26 (f) The Agency shall have the power to enter into

intergovernmental agreements with the federal government or 1 2 the State, or any instrumentality thereof, for purposes of 3 capitalizing the Water Revolving Fund. Moneys on deposit in the Water Revolving Fund may be used for the creation of 4 5 reserve funds or pledged funds that secure the obligations of repayment of loans made pursuant to this Section. For the 6 purpose of obtaining capital for deposit into the Water 7 8 Revolving Fund, the Agency may also enter into agreements with 9 financial institutions and other persons for the purpose of 10 selling loans and developing a secondary market for such 11 loans. The Agency shall have the power to create and establish 12 such reserve funds and accounts as may be necessary or 13 desirable to accomplish its purposes under this subsection and 14 to allocate its available moneys into such funds and accounts. 15 Investment earnings on moneys held in the Water Revolving 16 Fund, including any reserve fund or pledged fund, shall be 17 deposited into the Water Revolving Fund.

(g) Beginning on the effective date of this amendatory Act 18 of the 101st General Assembly, and running for a period of 5 19 20 years after that date, the Agency shall prioritize within its annual intended use plan the usage of a portion of the Agency's 21 22 capitalization grant for federally authorized set-aside 23 activities. The prioritization is for the purpose of supporting disadvantaged communities and utilities throughout 24 Illinois in building their capacity for sustainable and 25 26 equitable water management. This may include, but is not

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limited to, assistance for water rate studies, preliminary engineering or other facility planning, training activities, asset management plans, assistance with identification and replacement of lead service lines, and studies of efficiency measures through utility regionalization or other collaborative intergovernmental approaches.

7 (Source: P.A. 101-143, eff. 1-1-20.)

8 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon 9 becoming law.