



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
PO Box 25007
Denver, Colorado 80225-0007

IN REPLY REFER TO:

MAR 15 2010

84-52000
ADM-13.00

Subject: Notice of Opportunity to Comment on Draft Funding Criteria for the Bureau of Reclamation's Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program

Dear Title XVI Project Sponsor or Potential Project Sponsor:

The President's budget for Federal fiscal year (FY) 2011 requests \$20 million for a funding opportunity under the Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse program (Title XVI program). As part of efforts to implement this funding opportunity, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) is making draft funding criteria available for public review and comment. Reclamation invites comments from the public, not-for-profit organizations, other Federal agencies, and State, local, and tribal governments. For your convenience, a copy of the draft criteria posted today at <http://www.usbr.gov/WaterSMART/title.html> is attached to this letter. Please see the attachment for instructions and further details. **All comments must be received by Reclamation by April 16, 2010.**

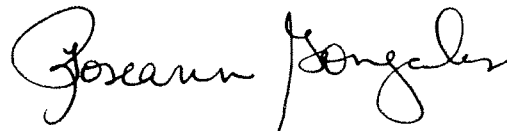
Once comments have been evaluated, Reclamation will consider revisions to these criteria as they are incorporated into an FY 2011 Title XVI funding opportunity. To the extent allowed by final appropriations, funding will be made available for construction projects authorized by Congress as well as pre-construction activities. Activities scheduled to begin in FY 2011 and to be completed within 24 months will be eligible for this opportunity. In the future, Reclamation plans to use these criteria as part of the process of allocating Title XVI program funding.

We also invite you to join a new electronic mail distribution group by sending a blank message to join-titlexvi@listserver.usbr.gov. Reclamation will use this new distribution group to provide updates during the development of these criteria as well as to share other news about the Title XVI program in the future.

Reclamation recognizes the key role water reuse plays in addressing western water issues. Title XVI is an important part of the Department of the Interior's WaterSMART (Sustain and Manage America's Resources for Tomorrow) program, which seeks to achieve a sustainable water strategy to meet the Nation's water needs. Title XVI projects have a huge potential to stretch water supplies using both time-tested methodologies and piloting new concepts. We seek your input to make the program as effective as possible in contributing to this overall strategy.

We look forward to receiving your comments. If you have any questions or would like additional information about this opportunity, please contact Mr. Dean Marrone at 303-445-3577 or dmarrone@usbr.gov or Mr. Collins Balcombe, Great Plains Region Title XVI coordinator, at 512-899-4162 or cbalcombe@usbr.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roseann Gonzales". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R" and a long, sweeping tail on the "s".

Roseann Gonzales
Director, Policy and Administration

Enclosure