



ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR WATER

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2026 Allotments of Tribal Set-Asides of the Drinking Water and Clean Water State Revolving Funds; the Small, Rural, and Tribal Drinking Water Assistance Tribal Grant Program; and the Emerging Contaminants in Small or Disadvantaged Communities Tribal Grant Program

FROM: Jessica L. Kramer

TO: Water Division Directors, Regions I-X
Regional Drinking Water Tribal Coordinators
Regional Clean Water Tribal Set-Aside Coordinators

This memorandum provides allotment information for a total of \$227,140,000 in fiscal year 2026 funding to improve Tribal drinking water and wastewater infrastructure appropriated through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and the Commerce, Justice, Science; Energy and Water Development; and Interior and Environment Appropriations Act, 2026 (P.L. 119-74) (hereinafter the 2026 Appropriations Act). This funding will help Tribes to significantly advance public health protections by improving reliable access to safe drinking water and wastewater services, promoting utilities' compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act and Clean Water Act requirements, and addressing lead, per- and polyfluorinated substances (PFAS), and emerging contaminants in drinking water and wastewater systems.

Tribal funding amounts for the programs included in this funding memorandum are summarized in Table 1 below. This includes \$155,804,000 in funding for Tribal drinking water infrastructure improvements through the Drinking Water Infrastructure Grants – Tribal Set-Aside (DWIG-TSA); the Small, Rural, and Tribal (SmaRT) Drinking Water Assistance Tribal Grant Program (formerly known as the Small, Underserved, and Disadvantaged Communities (SUDC) Tribal Grant Program); and the Emerging Contaminants in Small or Disadvantaged Communities (EC-SDC) Tribal Grant Program. This funding memorandum also includes allotment information for \$71,336,000 in funding for the Clean Water Indian Set-Aside (CWISA), including \$4,500,000 in CWISA Emerging Contaminants (CWISA-EC) funding.

Table 1: Summary of FY 2026 Tribal Funding Allocations

Funding Program	Total FY26 Funds Available
Drinking Water Infrastructure Grants – Tribal Set-Aside (DWIG-TSA) Base	\$8,094,000
DWIG-TSA General Supplemental	\$52,060,000
DWIG-TSA Emerging Contaminants	\$16,000,000
DWIG-TSA Lead Service Line Replacement	\$57,500,000
Emerging Contaminants in Small or Disadvantaged Communities (EC-SDC) Tribal Grant Program	\$19,300,000
Small, Rural, and Tribal (SmaRT) Drinking Water Assistance Tribal Grant Program	\$2,850,000
Drinking Water Funding Total	\$155,804,000
Clean Water Indian Set-Aside (CWISA) Base	\$14,776,000
CWISA General Supplemental	\$52,060,000
CWISA Emerging Contaminants (CWISA- EC)	\$4,500,000
Clean Water Funding Total	\$71,336,000
Total Tribal Drinking Water and Clean Water Funding	\$227,140,000

If you have any questions concerning the contents of the wastewater components of this memorandum, please contact Matthew Richardson (richardson.matthew@epa.gov) and for the drinking water funding programs components of this memorandum, please contact Karen Gude (gude.karen@epa.gov).

ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment A: FY 2026 Tribal Drinking Water Infrastructure Funding Allotments
2. Attachment B: FY 2026 CWISA Allotments
3. Attachment C: FY 2026 CWISA-EC Allotments
4. Attachment D: FY 2026 CWISA Allotment Policies
5. Attachment E: CWISA Policy Update Memo: Funding Decision Rationale

cc: Jennifer McLain, Director, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water
Yu-Ting Guilaran, Deputy Director, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water
Andrew Sawyers, Director, Office of Wastewater Management
Marietta Echeverria, Director, Drinking Water Capacity and Compliance Assistance Division
Rose Kyprianou, Deputy Director, Drinking Water Capacity and Compliance Assistance Division
Raffael Stein, Director, Water Infrastructure Division
Veronica Blette, Deputy Director, Water Infrastructure Division
Danusha Chandy, Supervisor, Rural, Small, and Tribal Assistance Branch
Valerie Blank, Acting Supervisor, Tribal and Water Resources Assistance Branch
Mark Calkins, Director Division of Sanitation Facilities Construction (DSFC) Indian Health Service

Attachment A
FY 2026 Tribal Drinking Water Infrastructure Funding Allotments

This memorandum provides Regional allotment information for a total of \$155,804,000 in FY 2026 funding to improve Tribal drinking water infrastructure. The EPA Regional Offices (Regions) administer this grant funding under the following programs:

1. [Drinking Water Infrastructure Grants – Tribal Set-Aside \(DWIG-TSA\) Program](#), including DWIG-TSA Base Funds, DWIG-TSA General Supplemental Funds, DWIG-TSA Emerging Contaminants Funds, and DWIG-TSA Lead Service Line Replacement Funds;
2. [Small, Rural, and Tribal \(SmaRT\) Drinking Water Assistance Tribal Grant Program](#); and
3. [Emerging Contaminants in Small or Disadvantaged Communities \(EC-SDC\) Tribal Grant Program](#).

Each Region administers its allotments of funding according to Region-specific funding program processes, procedures, and timelines designed to meet the unique needs of the Tribes within their Region. Tribes are encouraged to contact their [EPA Regional Office](#) for information on how to apply for Tribal drinking water infrastructure funding. General information about projects and activities eligible for funding, entities eligible to receive funds, and other eligibility specifications for each funding program can be found on the [EPA’s Tribal drinking water website](#). Total FY 2026 Tribal funding amounts for the programs included in this funding memorandum are summarized in Table 1, and the allocations provided to each Region are summarized in Table 2.

Table 1: Summary of FY 2026 Tribal Funding Allocations

Program	Total FY26 Funding	Program Purpose
Drinking Water Infrastructure Grants Tribal Set-Aside (DWIG-TSA) Base	\$8,094,000	Authorized under SDWA § 1452(i), the DWIG-TSA is a set-aside from Drinking Water State Revolving Fund appropriations. This program funds improvements to public water systems (PWS) serving Tribes, focusing on facilitating compliance with NPDWRs and improving access to drinking water.
DWIG-TSA General Supplemental (GS)	\$52,060,000	General supplemental DWIG-TSA funding appropriated under the IJJA.
DWIG-TSA Emerging Contaminants (EC)	\$16,000,000	Supplemental DWIG-TSA funding appropriated under IJJA specifically for activities to address PFAS and emerging contaminants in PWS serving Tribes.
DWIG-TSA Lead Service Line Replacement (LSLR)	\$57,500,000	Supplemental DWIG-TSA funding appropriated under IJJA specifically for lead service line identification and replacement in water systems serving Tribes.
EC-SDC Tribal Grant Program	\$19,300,000	Authorized under SDWA § 1459A, the EC-SDC Tribal Grant Program funds projects and activities that address emerging contaminants and PFAS in PWS serving Tribes.
SmaRT Drinking Water Assistance Grant Program	\$2,850,000	Authorized under SDWA § 1459A, the SmaRT Drinking Water Assistance Grant Program assists PWS serving Tribes to make improvements necessary to ensure compliance with SDWA requirements.
Total Funding	\$155,804,000	

Table 2: FY 2026 DWIG-TSA Base, DWIG-TSA IJJA, EC SDC, and SmART Regional Allotments

Region	DWIG-TSA Base	DWIG-TSA GS	DWIG-TSA EC	DWIG-TSA LSLR	EC-SDC	SmART	Total
Region 1	\$29,000	\$189,000	\$118,000	\$0	\$142,000	\$11,000	\$489,000
Region 2	\$152,000	\$977,000	\$164,000	\$45,000	\$198,000	\$54,000	\$1,590,000
Region 3 ¹	\$21,000	\$136,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$157,000
Region 4	\$106,000	\$682,000	\$368,000	\$20,739,000	\$444,000	\$38,000	\$22,377,000
Region 5	\$336,000	\$2,164,000	\$1,735,000	\$161,000	\$2,092,000	\$119,000	\$6,607,000
Region 6	\$1,155,000	\$7,431,000	\$1,478,000	\$9,661,000	\$1,783,000	\$408,000	\$21,916,000
Region 7	\$116,000	\$745,000	\$228,000	\$520,000	\$275,000	\$42,000	\$1,926,000
Region 8	\$1,003,000	\$6,453,000	\$1,891,000	\$9,905,000	\$2,281,000	\$354,000	\$21,887,000
Region 9	\$2,623,000	\$16,861,000	\$6,440,000	\$14,448,000	\$7,769,000	\$924,000	\$49,065,000
Region 10	\$2,553,000	\$16,422,000	\$3,578,000	\$2,021,000	\$4,316,000	\$900,000	\$29,790,000
Totals	\$8,094,000	\$52,060,000	\$16,000,000	\$57,500,000	\$19,300,000	\$2,850,000	\$155,804,000

The EPA allocated FY26 Tribal drinking water infrastructure funding among Regions using the following three program-specific allocation formulas, which use several types of data to estimate relative funding needs among the Tribes within each Region.

1. **General Eligibilities Formula:** This formula is used to allocate funds for the following tribal drinking water grant programs: *DWIG-TSA Base Funds, DWIG-TSA General Supplemental Funds, and SmART Drinking Water Assistance Grant Program*. The General Eligibilities allocation formula uses the following three factors to determine Regional allocations of funds:
 - a. 2.5% of total appropriations are allocated across Regions evenly. This provides 0.25% of total tribal appropriations to each Region; AND
 - b. 48.75% of available funds is allocated to Regions based on the proportion of tribal infrastructure needs in each Region identified through the EPA’s national Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey and Assessment (DWINSA). This is calculated by dividing the DWINSA tribal funding needs for each Region by the total national DWINSA tribal funding needs; AND
 - c. 48.75% of available funds is allocated to Regions based on the proportion of tribal infrastructure needs in each Region identified annually by the Indian Health Service (IHS) Sanitary Deficiency System (SDS). This is calculated by dividing the needs identified in the SDS for each Region by the total national needs identified in the SDS.

2. **Emerging Contaminants Formula:** This formula is used to allocate funds for the following tribal drinking water grant programs: *DWIG-TSA Emerging Contaminants Funds and EC-SDC Tribal Grant Program*. The Emerging Contaminants allocation formula uses the following two factors

¹ Regions 3 has already received sufficient funding to administer the DWIG-TSA EC, DWIG-TSA LSLR, EC SDC, and SmART programs to meet the needs of Public Water Systems servicing Tribes in Region 3 and are declining additional funding from these programs for FY 2026.

to determine the Regional allocations of funds for addressing emerging contaminants in tribal drinking water:

- a. 80% of total available funds is allocated to Regions based on the proportion of tribal public water system (PWS) in each region, which is calculated by dividing the number of tribal PWS in the region by the total number of PWS nationwide; AND
- b. 20% of total available funds is allocated to Regions based on the proportion of large (serving over 3,300 individuals) tribal PWS in each region, which is calculated by dividing the number of large PWS in the region by the national total.

3. Lead Service Line Replacement Formula: This formula is used to allocate ***DWIG-TSA Lead Service Line Replacement Funds***. The Lead Service Line Replacement allocation formula uses the following two factors to determine Regional allocations of funds:

- a. Identified LSL Replacement Needs: The percentage of tribal public water systems across the country with completed service line inventories multiplied by the Region's proportion of identified needed individual LSL replacements relative to the total number of identified needed individual LSL replacements nationwide; AND
- b. LSL Inventorying Needs: The percentage of tribal water systems that don't have a complete service line inventory multiplied by the proportion of un-inventoried individual service connections in the Region relative to the total number of individual, un-inventoried service connections nationwide.

Additional details about these three allocation formulas can be found in the [Regional Allocation Formulas for Non-Competitive Tribal Drinking Water Infrastructure Grants](#) document on the EPA's website.

**Attachment B
FY 2026 CWISA Allotments**

This memorandum allocates FY 2026 Clean Water Indian Set-aside Program funding to EPA Regions and accompanies the project priority Sanitation Deficiency System (SDS) data provided to the EPA by the Indian Health Service. [Program policies](#) are provided in the CWISA Guidance and FAQs. Please note the recent CWISA policy modification described in Appendix E that will be incorporated into the [CWISA Guidance](#) in a future update.

IHS Area	EPA Region(s)	Sewer Need *	Percent of Total Need	CWISA IJJA Allotment	CWISA BASE Allotment	Total
Albuquerque	6 & 8	\$17,341,024	4.08%	\$2,122,000	\$602,000	\$2,724,000
Anchorage	10	\$110,599,269	25.99%	\$13,533,000	\$3,842,000	\$17,375,000
Bemidji	5	\$30,697,237	7.21%	\$3,756,000	\$1,066,000	\$4,822,000
Billings	8	\$8,651,028	2.03%	\$1,058,000	\$300,000	\$1,358,000
California	9	\$9,294,869	2.18%	\$1,137,000	\$323,000	\$1,460,000
Great Plains	7 & 8	\$39,418,146	9.26%	\$4,823,000	\$1,369,000	\$6,192,000
Navajo	9	\$94,739,502	22.27%	\$11,592,000	\$3,290,000	\$14,882,000
Nashville	1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6	\$6,142,512	1.44%	\$752,000	\$213,000	\$965,000
Oklahoma	6 & 7	\$24,747,348	5.82%	\$3,028,000	\$859,000	\$3,887,000
Phoenix	8 & 9	\$57,440,783	13.50%	\$7,028,000	\$1,995,000	\$9,023,000
Portland	10	\$24,249,396	5.70%	\$2,967,000	\$842,000	\$3,809,000
Tucson	9	\$2,160,880	0.51%	\$264,000	\$75,000	\$339,000
Infrastructure		\$425,481,994	100.00%	\$52,060,000	\$14,776,000	\$66,836,000
CWISA-EC	All**	-	-	\$4,500,000	n/a	\$4,500,000
FY26 Total				\$56,560,000	\$14,776,000	\$71,336,000

* Sewer need based on IHS SDS feasible need from IHS System-Wide HQ # 20167 (11/13/2025).
 ** CWISA Program allocated \$4.5 Million of EC funds, as per IJJA (see Attachment C).

Attachment C
FY 2026 CWISA-EC Allotments

The FY 2026 CWISA-EC funding allocations for the EPA Regions are described below. Regions should continue administering CWISA EC funding using the CWISA and CWISA-EC program guidance. Regions are asked to continue tracking CWISA-EC projects within Tribal Direct Implementation Nexus regularly.

To help Regions identify Tribal projects that may be eligible for IJA CWISA-EC funding, the EPA released the [CWISA Emerging Contaminant Funding Eligibility Summary](#) document and the [CWISA Emerging Contaminants Project Eligibility Decision Tool](#), accessible at the [Clean Water Indian Set-Aside website](#). The updated [CWSRF Emerging Contaminants – Frequent Questions and Answers](#) webpage and [CWSRF Emerging Contaminants case studies](#) may also be of assistance. While similar, CWISA-EC eligibilities are in some cases distinct and broader than the [Clean Water State Revolving Fund Emerging Contaminants](#) (CWSRF-EC) eligibilities. Therefore, Regions are encouraged to review these resources and contact Jake Adler (adler.jacob@epa.gov) with questions.

The CWISA-EC allocations described herein are based on the previously distributed memorandum from the EPA’s Office of Water to the Regional Water Division Directors dated February 1, 2024, *Clean Water Indian Set-Aside – Emerging Contaminants Program Guidance*. The memorandum articulated that each EPA Region’s CWISA-EC funding distribution is calculated by the percent of CWISA infrastructure funds distributed to each Region in FY 2018 - 2022. That memorandum also articulated that CWISA-EC projects, unlike projects funded by CWISA, do not need to be identified in the IHS SDS.

EPA Region	Percent of CWISA Distribution FY18-22	FY26 CWISA-EC Total
1	0.80%	\$35,000
2	1.10%	\$48,000
3	0.00%	\$0
4	0.10%	\$4,000
5	6.50%	\$292,000
6	8.30%	\$374,000
7	0.90%	\$41,000
8	15.40%	\$695,000
9	34.40%	\$1,546,000
10	32.60%	\$1,465,000
Total	100.00%	\$4,500,000

Attachment D
FY 2026 CWISA Allotment Policies

The EPA’s Office of Water is distributing CWISA funds using the existing allocation procedures described in the EPA’s CWISA Program Guidance. The amount of CWISA funding available to an EPA Region is based on its percentage of tribal wastewater (sewer) needs identified in the IHS Sanitary Deficiency System database for each of the 12 IHS areas.

The IHS SDS database maintains an inventory of sanitation deficiencies and projects to address those deficiencies for new and existing Indian homes and communities. As described in the CWISA Guidance, Regions are to identify projects based on the IHS SDS priority lists. The 24 SDS lists were provided electronically on January 16, 2026 and are available upon request.

Further CWISA information including eligibility requirements and the CWISA Program Guidelines (2015, amended 2025) can be found at the [CWISA Program](#) website. Please note the recent CWISA policy modification described in Appendix E and will be incorporated into the [CWISA Guidance](#) in a future update. [EPA HQ and Regional contacts](#) will continue to administer the CWISA funding in close cooperation with the IHS Division of Sanitation Facilities Construction (DSFC) Program.

EPA Regions should obligate funds under Interagency Agreements (IAs) or direct grants by September 30, 2026, or the funds could be subject to Congressional rescission. Furthermore, funds that are not obligated under an Interagency Agreement or a direct grant by September 30, 2027, could be reallocated to a different EPA Region. The Interagency Agreement Shared Service Center (IASSC) requests that all FY 2026 funded Interagency Agreements with IHS be submitted prior to late July 2026. Any Interagency Agreement packages submitted after September 30, 2026, will not be processed without a Special Handling Memo from the regional Project Officer’s (PO’s) Senior Resource Official (SRO).

After EPA Regions have consulted with the appropriate parties and identified projects, they are to submit to OW/Office of Wastewater Management (OWM) CWISA staff key information for each project. The information for each proposed CWISA funded project is identified below (Table 1) and is requested within two months of issuance of this guidance to meet either your Region’s award deadlines or the IASSC deadline:

Table 1: Key Project Information

1. Project name
2. Project description
3. Tribe/Alaskan Native Village name
4. IHS area name
5. IHS SDS number
6. SDS priority number
7. Amount of CWISA funds requested
8. Total project cost
9. Number of homes served by the project
10. Funds to be distributed through a direct grant with a tribe or an IA
11. Project type (piping, treatment, onsite, planning, etc.)
12. ***NEW*** CWISA Funding Decision Rationale: Attributes of SDS projects ranked higher than the proposed CWISA project (see Appendix E).

The funds will be released to each Region once this information is received, reviewed and approved by OWM staff. OWM approval will be in the form of a reprogramming of CWISA funds from OWM to the appropriate Regions.

OW/OWM CWISA staff collect and summarize CWISA data related to, but not exclusive of: (1) program performance, (2) fund expenditures and utilization, and (3) inter-agency coordination and collaboration. In support of the above, Regions are expected to provide CWISA data on a regular and as needed basis. This may require regional coordinators to track individual project details. Once the projects are funded, Regions are asked to populate the Tribal Direct Implementation Nexus² (TDI Nex) system in a timely manner.

For those Regions considering the transfer of funds between CWISA and the DWIG-TSA programs, please contact OW/OWM CWISA staff.

Section 608 of the Clean Water Act and Section 1452(a)(4) of the Safe Drinking Water Act also have provisions concerning use of iron and steel made in the United States. This does not apply to CWISA funding because the tribes receive these funds as grants, or through IAs, and the funds are not put into a revolving loan fund. However, if a project utilizes both CWISA and State Revolving Loan (SRF) funds, American Iron and Steel provisions must be incorporated into all project contracts regardless of funding source consistent with Federal law. For projects managed through an IA with IHS, IHS's iron and steel policies apply.

The EPA's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program requirements for procurement activities under assistance agreements are described in the EPA's regulations at 40 CFR Part 33. As of April 2025, there have been changes to the implementation of this section. Please refer to [this notice](#) for direction. Future updates may be accessed [here](#)."

Term and Condition: The Office of Grants and Debarment (OGD) has revised the existing General Term and Condition, "Utilization of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises". The term and condition is applicable to all recipients and supersedes all previously existing DBE terms and conditions.

² See CWISA Guidance (2015 amended 2025) for TDI Nex details.

Attachment E
CWISA Policy Update Memo: Funding Decision Rationale

CWISA Policy Update: Funding Decision Rationale Memorandum signed 3/20/2026 by Raffael Stein, Director, Water Infrastructure Division, OWM was emailed to the Regional Water Division Directors on Friday 3/20/2026 at 4:17pm (eastern) from Matthew Richardson, OWM on behalf of Raffael Stein. (Copies are available upon request.)

In summary, current CWISA program policy directs Regions to document eleven key project information items when selecting projects to fund. This policy update adds the requirement of an additional twelfth item that documents the attributes of projects ranked higher than the proposed CWISA-funded project in the IHS SDS. Regions are directed to complete the following table for each proposed CWISA project.

Key Project Information	
Item #12: CWISA Funding Decision Rationale	
Attributes of SDS projects ranked higher than the proposed CWISA project:	Check Any/All Boxes as Applicable
The higher ranked projects are not CWISA eligible activities (e.g drinking water or solid waste)	<input type="checkbox"/>
The higher ranked wastewater projects are to be funded by other sources (such as, but not limited to the local Tribe, IHS, USDA, DOI, BOR, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>
The higher ranked projects are to be funded by other CWISA funds	<input type="checkbox"/>
The higher ranked wastewater projects are not currently ready for funding (e.g. different Tier, no preliminary engineering report, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>
The costs of higher ranked wastewater project costs are greater than available CWISA funds	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not applicable: the proposed CWISA project is the highest SDS priority ranked project	<input type="checkbox"/>
Optional additional statement *	<input type="checkbox"/> (*)

* Optional additional statement is anticipated to be 1 to 5 sentences in length and topics may include, but are not limited to:

- Information and data used to decide which tribal wastewater infrastructure projects to fund,
- Documentation of Regional and IHS coordination on project prioritization and selection,
- Records of how project selection decisions were made, and/or
- Rationale and data used through the decision-making process.