ANNOUNCEMENT OF DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Funding Opportunity Title: Chesapeake Bay Program Technician /Engineer Funding

Announcement Type: Initial Announcement

Submittal Date: Full Proposals must be received by March 31, 2010

Contact Information:
DEP Central Office
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Funding Opportunity Description:

<u>Technicians</u>: Funds for Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) Technicians are available to county conservation districts within the Pennsylvania portion of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Funds can be used to employ technical personnel, obtain technical services, or to acquire technical equipment and supplies for the purposes of implementing the program. The total cost of employment shall include salary and salary related expenses such as social security, workmen's compensation, health plans, and retirement. For technicians working part time or funded in part through other programs, the application should include only that portion of the technician's costs meeting the purposes of the CBP.

As the Department continues to focus limited resources toward restoring impaired waters, it is becoming increasingly important to coordinate with other funding sources such as federal Farm Bill, federal 319, and Growing Greener. These technicians are encouraged to seek out additional funding opportunities, particularly projects that leverage the \$11 million available through USDA's Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative.

The Chesapeake Bay TMDL, Chesapeake Bay Executive Order and EPA's interest in agricultural compliance have increased focus on Pennsylvania's Chesapeake Bay efforts. This increased focus is a positive development, as it will lead to improved water quality in Pennsylvania's waterways and, potentially, to increased funds for our Chesapeake Bay efforts. This increased focus has prompted DEP to include an additional criterion to Chesapeake Bay Technician contracts for fiscal year 2010-11.

• DEP is requiring that all districts that receive funds for Chesapeake Bay Technicians to submit a written description of how the district addresses complaints regarding on-farm pollution incidents and agricultural compliance. These shall be submitted prior to or with the first quarter invoices for reimbursements under the Chesapeake Bay Program. An existing agricultural compliance policy or plan may be submitted to meet this requirement. An objective of the Chesapeake Bay Technician position may include the development of a policy / procedure to address complaints and

agricultural compliance issues under Chapter 102 (agricultural erosion and sediment control) and Chapter 91.36 (manure management planning.)

<u>Engineers</u>: Funds for CBP Engineering Specialist and Engineering Assistant positions are available to county conservation districts within the Pennsylvania portion of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Funds can be used to employ engineering personnel or to acquire technical equipment and supplies for the purposes of implementing the program. The total cost of employment shall include salary and salary related expenses such as social security, workmen's compensation, health plans, and retirement. For Engineering Specialists and Engineering Assistants working part time or funded in part through other programs, the application should include only that portion of the specialist/assistants costs meeting the purposes of the CBP.

Award Information:

<u>Technicians</u>: This solicitation announces that funds may be available in FY 2010/11 in award amounts to be determined by the applications and available funds. The maximum amount available for salary and salary related expenses for a full time technician for the 2010/11 FY will be \$56,000, of which up to \$7,000 may be used for expenses (travel, equipment, supplies, program administration)

<u>Engineers</u>: This solicitation announces that funds may be available in the 2010/11 FY in award amounts to be determined by the applications and available funds. The maximum amount available for salary and salary related expenses will be \$75,000 for the Engineering Specialist and \$69,000 for the Engineering Assistant positions, of which up to \$5,000 may be used for expenses (travel, equipment, supplies, program administration).

Application and Submission Information:

<u>Technicians</u>: The *Chesapeake Bay Program Technician Application Form* can be completed and submitted electronically or printed out and submitted as a paper application as well. Electronic application packages are available at:

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=514&objID=554224&mode=2

If the applicant has difficulty accessing the website or downloading the required forms, they should contact Dave Lewis (Contact information on Page 1)

The objectives of the position should be developed by the district in conjunction with the appropriate DEP Chesapeake Bay Field Representative. The application should demonstrate how the technician position will fulfill the goals and objectives of the district's County Implementation Plan. Special attention should be given to Section 6 of the application – Outputs To Be Tracked. These outputs should include Special Projects being contracted with the district and any other CBP projects the district will be performing. As the Department continues to focus limited resources toward restoring impaired waters, it is becoming increasingly important to coordinate with other funding sources such as federal Farm Bill, federal 319, and Growing Greener.

Application forms are due by **March 31, 2010** and must be sent to Dave Lewis and the appropriate DEP Regional Office (address below). Applications will be processed by DEP staff in Harrisburg after review and approval from DEP Regional Office Staff.

<u>Engineers</u>: The *Chesapeake Bay Program Engineer Specialist /Assistance Form* can be completed and submitted electronically or printed out and completed as a paper application. Electronic

application packages are available at:

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=514&objID=554224&mode=2

If the applicant has difficulty accessing the website or downloading the required forms, they should contact Dave Lewis (Contact information on Page 1)

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Harrisburg, PA 17110-8200

Contact: Scott Williamson <u>scwilliams@state.pa.us</u> (717) 705-4817

DEP Northcentral Regional Office Suite 101, 208 West Third Street

Williamsport, PA 17701

Contact: Patricia Havens <u>phavens@state.pa.us</u> (570) 327-3667

DEP Northeast regional Office 2 Public Square

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Contact: Peter Tarby <u>ptarby@state.pa.us</u> (570) 826-2102