

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Rural Utilities Service

**RUS BULLETIN 1777-2**

**SUBJECT: Section 306C Water and Waste Disposal (WWD) Loans and Grants Project Selection Criteria**

**TO:** RUS Water and Environmental Programs Staff.

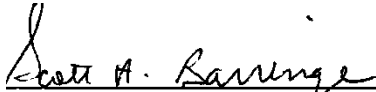
**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Date of approval.

**OFFICE OF PRIMARY INTEREST:** Water and Environmental Programs.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** This bulletin replaces previous versions.

**AVAILABILITY:** This Bulletin is available on the Internet at  
[http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/RDU\\_Bulletins\\_Water\\_and\\_Environmental.html](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/RDU_Bulletins_Water_and_Environmental.html)

**PURPOSE:** To provide a worksheet for Section 306C WWD Loans and Grants Project Selection Criteria.



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FOR JACQUELINE M. PONTI-LAZARUK  
Assistant Administrator  
Water and Environmental Programs

8/21/12

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this bulletin is to provide current project selection criteria that will be used when reviewing applications for the Section 306C Water and Waste Disposal (WWD) Loan and Grant application.

2 APPLICABILITY

Agency officials must consider the priority items met by each application and the degree to which those priorities are met. The priority items are listed in the Project Selection Criteria Worksheet included as Exhibit A of this Bulletin. The application and supporting information submitted with the application will be used to determine applicant eligibility.

3 REVIEW

All applications will be processed and scored in the area office and then reviewed for funding priority at the State Office. The priorities listed in 7 CFR 1777 and included in Exhibit A of this Bulletin will be used to rate applications and in selecting projects for funding. The completed Project Selection Criteria Worksheet, as provided in Exhibit A, will be placed in the case file for future reference. The State Program Official can recommend discretionary points by providing a written justification which is attached to this worksheet and included in the case file. The RUS Administrator may assign up to 35 additional points that will be considered in the total points for items such as geographic distribution of funds, severity of health risks, etc.

Section 306C WWD Loans and Grants

Project Selection Criteria

State Program Official's Project Score \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Per Capita Income of County \_\_\_\_\_ Percent of National Average \_\_\_\_\_

Unemployment Rate of Residents \_\_\_\_\_ Percent of National Average \_\_\_\_\_

Statewide Median Household Income \_\_\_\_\_

Median Household Income of Population Served \_\_\_\_\_

Congressional District No. \_\_\_\_\_

Loan Request \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Grant Request \$ \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Priorities</u>	<u>Points</u>
A. Population: The proposed project will serve an area with a rural population:	
1. Not in excess of 1,500	30
2. More than 1,500 and not in excess of 3,000	20
3. More than 3,000 and not in excess of 5,500	10
B. Income: The median household income of population to be served by the proposed project is:	
1. Not in excess of 50 percent of the statewide nonmetropolitan median household income	40
2. More than 50 percent and not in excess of 60 percent of the statewide nonmetropolitan median household income	20

3. More than 60 percent and not in excess of 70 percent of the statewide nonmetropolitan median household income 10
- C. Joint financing: The amount of joint financing committed to the proposed project is:
1. Twenty percent or more private, local, or State funds except Federal funds channeled through a State agency 10
  2. Five to 19 percent private, local, or State funds except Federal funds channeled through a State agency 5
- D. Colonia: The proposed project will provide water and/or waste disposal services to the residents of a colonia 50
- E. Access and Health Risks for colonias:
1. A colonia that lacks access to **both** water and waste disposal facilities, resulting in a significant health risk 50
  2. A colonia that lacks access to either water **or** waste disposal facilities, resulting in a significant health risk 40
  3. A colonia that has access to water and waste disposal Facilities, but is facing a significant health risk 15

F. Discretionary: In certain cases, the State Program Official may assign up to 15 points for items such as natural disaster, improve compatibility/coordination between the Agency's and other agencies' selection systems, to assist those projects that are the most cost effective, high unemployment rate, severity of health risks, etc. A written justification must be prepared and attached to this worksheet each time the State Program Official assigns these points. Enter number of discretionary points, if any, assigned by the State Program Official \_\_\_\_\_

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Date \_\_\_\_\_ State Program Official \_\_\_\_\_

Additional points assigned by RUS Administrator \_\_\_\_\_

Instructions: In sections A through E of this worksheet, circle the points for those priorities that are met by the proposed project and enter the total project score on page one. The State Program Official can recommend discretionary points by providing a written justification which is attached to this worksheet and included in the case file. . The RUS Administrator may assign up to 35 additional points that will be considered in the total points for items such as geographic distribution of funds, severity of health risks, etc. Written justification for Administrator points will also be included in the case file