

Question	Answer	Category
Is any aspect of this grant subject to CEQA requirements - should the BGR be filing a programmatic CEQA notice of exemption or has CDFA completed this?	On-farm projects are required to obtain all necessary permits during the projects implementation. CDFA has not completed a programmatic CEQA exemption.	Requirements
Are there any considerations or requirements related to prevailing wage that we must pass on to the grant beneficiaries in their On Farm Project contracts?	<p>The Grant Administration sets rules for our awardees (the BGRs) as far as contracting goes. BGRs are expected to follow their own written policies for contracting, which may include whether or not they are required to pay prevailing wage. If the BGR doesn't have a written policy for contracting, then the Grant Administration regulations outline a process for obtaining quotes, which the BGR should follow:</p> <p>https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/Regulations/General/FinalGrantAdminRegs-Text.pdf</p>	Requirements
What is the lead time for receipt of the advance payment	Up to 45 days	Payment
Can advance payments be used for the On Farm Project contracts only?	The advanced payment is to cover the expenses for the grant and this includes the on-farm expenses and the administrative and technical assistance expenses. Keep in mind that these funds need to be used within 90 days of receiving them.	Payment
Can we do monthly invoices and quarterly reports?	CDFA prefers that you invoice quarterly along with the quarterly report, which acts as supporting documentation for the invoice. This being said, we do allow for monthly invoices. Your quarterly report will need to summarize the inputs/expenses from the whole quarter.	Reporting
Are water mutuals that are owned by farmers/ranchers eligible for SWEEP funding?	<p>This question boils down to ownership. SWEEP is not intended to support irrigation districts but is intended to support farmers/ranchers. The question is, is the land that is part of this water mutual under ownership/partnership by the local farmers and ranchers? You have indicated that it is. Will all of the owners be in agreement for a single project? If the land is controlled by the farmer/ranchers and they are in agreement, we see no reason that the water mutuals are ineligible for funding from the BGP.</p> <p>For our direct to farmer solicitation we would not fund water mutuals, specifically because we operate with one grant for one awardee.</p>	Eligibility
Wanting to confirm – applicants should not apply for both the block grant and for the direct to farmer grant, they need to choose one or the other. If they apply to both, they will be disqualified. Is this correct?	It is discouraged for folks to apply for the BGP and the Direct to farmers program for the same APN. It is ok for them to apply for a different parcel. To be clear, its not unallowable for them to apply for both on the same APN, it just will cause logistical issues on the back end which we are trying to discourage	Eligibility
What if an applicant wants to switch from a diesel irrigation system to propane? How would we measure this within the tools?	This is allowable for them to convert and we have seen this in the past. In order to measure a years worth of diesel use, generally folks will keep fuel logs for when they fill up the tank. Pump efficiency tests can be more challenging with diesel pumps. We have included a resource document in the shared folder system that explains how these types of pump tests can be done.	Requirements
What if there is a project or CPS that has nothing to do with changing/ upgrading pumps. Would a pump test be needed for projects that do not upgrade the pump? Can we show that a project may be able to demonstrate water savings and GHG reductions with other scientific backed data and supporting documentation?	Pump test are needed for all projects that involve pumping in the pre project. This is because the pumps status (OPE) impacts the outputs of the overall pumping efficiency and therefore GHG emissions. If you have a bad pump, it requires more energy to use it and this factor is included in the calculation. We have allowed for newly installed pumps (less than a year) to use the manufactures pump specs, but only in rare exceptions	Requirements
Would funding large water holding tanks for winery waste water to later be used for irrigation back into the vineyard be considered for the grant?	We have no issue with things like this but it itself does not result in water savings based on the tools. So you would need some kind of tool based water savings method as well. I would also consider the budget and the reasonableness of the expense as compared to other items that are part of the programs quantification methodology, but that is more of a judgement. We have no issue with the idea.	Eligibility

An applicant has gotten a pricing quote for irrigation replacement that spreads out over 10 years. Is it accurate to state that the quote should only be for the 18 months post the contract being signed – in other words, if the applicant project is approved, can the expenses being requested for reimbursement only be allocated through the 18 month period from the time the contract is awarded, for example June 1, 2023-October 31, 2024? Or, can they get reimbursed after the 18th month period?

Projects can only be reimbursed during the grant term. BGP individual on farm project grant terms are limited to 18 months. No expenses can be reimbursed before or after the projects term.

Payment