

Section 7001 of WRRDA 2014, Non-federal Proposals for Study and Project Authorities

DATE: 10 MARCH 2023

- Identifies completed feasibility reports, new feasibility studies and proposed project modifications for potential congressional authorization
- The report includes Sec. 7001 proposals for authorization from non-Federal interests for proposed feasibility studies and proposed modifications that require Congressional authorization for the Corps of Engineers to proceed
- Annual report submitted by the Secretary of the Army to the Congress

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: NC & VA

PURPOSE: Section 7001 of Water Resources Reform & Development Act (WRRDA) of 2014, as amended, requires that the Secretary of the Army annually submit to the Congress a report that identifies, for potential congressional authorization, completed feasibility reports, proposed feasibility studies submitted by non-Federal interests, proposed modifications to authorized water resources development projects or feasibility studies, and proposed modifications to environmental infrastructure program authorities that meet all the following criteria:

- Are related to the missions and authorities of the Corps of Engineers (Corps); involve a proposed or existing Corps' water resources project or effort whose primary purpose is flood and storm damage reduction, commercial navigation, or aquatic ecosystem restoration, municipal or agricultural water supply. Proposals for recreation or hydropower are eligible for inclusion if undertaken in conjunction with a flood or coastal storm damage reduction, commercial navigation, aquatic ecosystem restoration, or municipal or agricultural water supply project or effort.
- Require specific congressional authorization.
- Have not been congressionally authorized.
- Have not been included in the main table of a previous annual report.
- If authorized could be carried out by the Corps of Engineers.

The annual Report to Congress on Future Water Resources Development is to be based, in part, upon annual requests for proposals for authorization from non-Federal interests.

Section 7001 requires that the Secretary certify that the proposals included in the annual report meet the five criteria established by Congress, listed above. Any proposals that do not meet the criteria will be included in the report's appendix. Inclusion in the annual Report to Congress does not provide authorization or appropriation for a study or project.

PREPARING AND SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL: The next proposal period is anticipated to open in late April or early May 2023 for 120 days. Please check the following webpage for specific dates:

PROJECT INFORMATION – Report to Congress on Future Water Resources Development – Continued

https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Project-Planning/WRRDA-7001-Proposals/

All non-federal interests are invited to submit proposals for new or modifications to Corps water resources development study or project authorities. The following information will be requested:

- 1. Contact information for the individual/agency submitting the proposal.
- 2. Study project / location; you'll have the option to upload a map of the study / project area.
- 3. The name of the non-Federal interest planning to act as the sponsor, or all non-Federal interests in the case of a modification to an environmental infrastructure program authority, including any non-Federal interest that has contributed to or is expected to contribute toward the non-Federal share of the proposed feasibility study or modification.
- 4. A letter or statement of support from each associated non-Federal interest.
- 5. State if this proposal is for a feasibility study, a modification to a USACE water resources development feasibility study authority, a modification to a USACE water resources project authority, or a modification to a USACE environmental infrastructure program authority.
- 6. If the proposal is for a modification, the name of the authorized study, project, or environmental infrastructure program must be specified.
- 7. If the proposal is for a modification to an environmental infrastructure program authority, a brief description of the assistance provided to date and total Federal cost of assistance provided to date must be provided.
- 8. State the specific project purpose(s) of the proposed study or modification and demonstrate the proposal is related to USACE missions and authorities and why additional or new authorization is needed.
- 9. Provide an estimate, to the extent practicable, of the total cost, and the Federal and non-Federal share of those costs, of the proposed study and, separately, an estimate of the cost of construction or modification.
- 10. Describe, to the extent applicable and practicable, an estimate of the anticipated monetary and non-monetary benefits of the proposal with regard to benefits to the protection of human life and property and improvement to transportation, the national, regional, or local economy, the environment, or the national security interests of the United States.
- 11. State whether the proposal is expected to benefit disadvantaged communities, to include a description of the disadvantaged community(ies) and the potential benefits which may accrue as a result of the proposal. Army is working to modernize the USACE Civil Works program to incorporate environmental justice considerations into every aspect of the program in an effort to maximize benefits to disadvantaged communities to the furthest extent practicable within agency authorities.
- 12. State if the non-Federal interest has the financial ability to provide for the required cost share.

OTHER INFORMATION: Previous Reports to Congress on Future Water Resources Development are located at this address:

https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Project-Planning/Legislative-Links/wrrda2014/wrrda2014 proposals/

A list of Frequently Asked Questions about Section 7001 proposals can be found at this address: https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Project-Planning/WRRDA-7001-Proposals/