

## **DWRLF Announces New Program to Aid Water Systems under Administrative Orders**

***RATES INCLUDE 30% PRINCIPAL FORGIVENESS***

**Baton Rouge, La.** – State officials with Louisiana’s Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund (DWRLF) program announced that water systems with compliance issues that have resulted in an Administrative Order can qualify for low interest loans and 30 percent principal forgiveness up to \$200,000 on the amount borrowed, and just 2.45 percent interest on the remaining amount of the loan.

“The incentives that are available with this loan program are some of the best financing deals available to public water systems,” said Joel McKenzie, program manager for Louisiana’s DWRLF.

McKenzie said his office helps public water systems comply with state and federal regulations while ensuring safe drinking water for their customers. DWRLF provides low-interest loans and technical assistance.

“Determining how much money may be available for a project is dependent upon many factors, including the federal government’s yearly allotted funds for loans and the progress of projects in the loan system,” said McKenzie, who noted that the program is funded through Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) capitalization grants that are matched with state dollars.

Nearly 1,400 public drinking water systems across Louisiana supply water to customers each day. The Louisiana Department of Health oversees the state’s drinking water utilities to make sure drinking water is delivered to consumers according to all federal and state standards.

McKenzie said public water companies interested in the loan program can visit the Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund page on Facebook or go to our website at [ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/page/431/n/285](http://ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/page/431/n/285) . McKenzie can also be reached directly at 225-342-7499 or email at [Joel.McKenzie@la.gov](mailto:Joel.McKenzie@la.gov) .