



RT ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC.

Your Solution-Oriented Environmental Services Firm

FEDERAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM ANNOUNCED -
RT ATTENDS GOVERNOR'S OFFICE MEETING IN PENNSYLVANIA

January 14, 2009

RT On the Move

An initial announcement was recently made on the level of funding that is expected to be provided to provide an Infrastructure Job Stimulus Program, and, environmental projects will play a major role. The Pennsylvania Utility Contractors Association (PUCA) has already held a meeting with the Pennsylvania Governor's Office, to help assure that environmental permitting delays do not keep Pennsylvania from obtaining its fair share of infrastructure monies, as projects must be "shovel ready" to receive funding. Additionally, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has announced a "Call for Projects", with applications for Infrastructure Trust project required to be in by March 2, 2009.

FEDERAL PROGRAM

According to draft legislation released in the second week of January, funding is proposed as follows:

- Highways and Bridges: \$30.25 billion
- Transit: \$12 billion
- Rail: \$5 billion
- Aviation: \$5.25 billion
- Environmental Infrastructure: \$14.275 billion
Including Clean Water State Revolving Fund (\$12 billion), Alternative Water Source projects (\$500 million), Nonpoint Source Management Program (\$1 billion), National Estuary Program (\$100 million), and Great Lakes Contaminated Sediment Remediation (\$400 million), Brownfields (\$275 million).
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: \$7 billion
- Federal Buildings: \$10 billion
- Maritime Administration: \$55 million
- The proposal **requires these funds to be invested in ready-to-go projects.** Priority shall be given to projects that can award contracts within 90 days of enactment.
- The proposal **creates green collar jobs and invests in projects that decrease**

our dependence on foreign oil and address global climate change. For Federal building renovation funds, priority shall be given to projects that include energy and water conservation elements, including installing photovoltaic roofs and geothermal technology. In addition, the proposal provides significant investment in public transit, Amtrak, and intercity and high-speed rail projects to provide alternatives to traveling by car, and assist transit and rail providers in converting to alternative fuel vehicles.

- The proposal **requires the steel, iron, and manufactured goods for these projects to be manufactured in the United States.**

- The proposal **requires state, cities, public transit agencies, and other recipients of formula funds to certify State and local maintenance of effort and equitable distribution of funding.** This is to ensure that State, cities, public transit agencies, and other recipients continue their current investment levels and distribute funds equitably throughout the State and metropolitan areas. Recipients must submit a plan of projects for projects to be awarded contracts within 90 days, one year, and two years.

READY-TO-GO INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS

- While certain infrastructure projects may require years of engineering and environmental analysis, followed by a lengthy contract award process, a subset of projects - such as projects involving rehabilitation and repair of existing infrastructure - can move much more quickly, with work beginning within 90 days.

- The proposal requires Rebuild America funds to be invested in ready-to-go projects. Priority will be given to projects that can award bids within 90 days. For instance, State Departments of Transportation ("DOTs") have a tremendous backlog of highways resurfacing needs. State DOTs often have open-ended contracts in place for resurfacing projects, which means that work could begin immediately upon receipt of additional funds. Similarly, many State DOTs have bridge deck overlay projects, in which the top two or three inches of concrete on the surface of the bridge (e.g. the deck) is replaced, which are ready-to-go.

- Within seven days of the date of enactment, the U.S. Department of Transportation and Environmental Protection Agency will distribute formula funds to States, cities, and public transit agencies. State DOTs can immediately put out bids (typically for a period of 30 days) for ready-to-go projects. After receipt of the bids and contract award, work can begin on the project within an additional 30 days. **In this way, the Rebuild America proposal can "put shovels in the ground" within 90 days of enactment.**

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PENNSYLVANIA

In Pennsylvania, the meeting at the Governor's Office was very fruitful. Ms. Joann Denworth, who has long and in-depth experience in environmental permitting welcomed comments from RT Environmental Services, Inc. by Mr. Justin Lauterbach on behalf of PUCA, that potential infrastructure projects could be coordinated similar to the way Pennsylvania DEP coordinates permitting for Brownfields projects, under the Brownfields Action Team. See the PUCA InfoFAX below for more information.

RT will be announcing a seminar with PUCA shortly for Pennsylvania projects, to help contractors and owners make sure that they are really "shovel ready", minimizing the

risk of being passed over, when funds become available.

NEW JERSEY

In New Jersey, the Department of Environmental Protection's long established Environmental Infrastructure Trust is promptly gearing up for a special round of applications, which are normally entertained, only once per year. RT is already working with a key redeveloper for the next phase of a large redevelopment project in Camden County, as well as one in Burlington County. The reason for the very quick deadlines for project permitting, is that the Federal Government wants work to be actually underway, with citizens gainfully employed, by July.

We at RT are very excited, and prepared to ramp up for infrastructure projects for our clients. Now is the time to:

- Check to see that all permits are in-place, or will be in-place very quickly.
- Make sure that permitting requirements have not changed since the project was designed.
- Make sure that all right-of-way approvals, ownership issues, easements and/or certifications for the project are in-place.

Large scale infrastructure funding from the federal government affords many opportunities, and federal programs of this magnitude haven't occurred, for more than a generation. Make no mistake - the funds will become available, and will do so relatively quickly, so you need to get your project "shovel ready" right now. If we may assist you, please call Mr. Gary Brown in our King of Prussia Office at 800-725-0593, Extension 34, or Mr. Justin Lauterbach at (856) 467-2276 or (724) 259-7005. RT will be opening a Southwest Pennsylvania/Pittsburgh Region Office shortly, to better service the large number of infrastructure projects expected to be implemented throughout the Commonwealth. We also anticipate expansion of our New Jersey Office, by late spring, to help service the next phase of our current redevelopment projects, as well as have staff to assist with new infrastructure projects as well.

Link to:

[PUCA meets with Governor's Policy Office about DEP Permit Delays](#)

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PUCA InfoFAX

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- ◆ Revenue Department Releases December Collections
- ◆ 2009 Interest Rate

2009

Mark Your Calendar District Meetings & Events

Jan. 14 - Southeast District Meeting
Jan. 20 - S. Central District Meeting
Jan. 21 - Northwest District Meeting
Jan. 22 - Southwest District Meeting
Feb. 12 - Southeast District Meeting
Feb. 17 - S. Central District Meeting
Feb. 18 - Southwest District Meeting
Mar. 12 - Southeast District Meeting
Mar. 16 - PUCA Board Meeting
Mar. 17 - Legislative Walk Event
Mar. 24 - S. Central District Meeting
Mar. 25 - Northwest District Meeting
Mar. 26 - Southwest District Meeting
Apr. 2 - Southeast District Meeting
Apr. 21 - N. Central District Meeting
Apr. 22 - Northwest District Meeting
Apr. 23 - Southeast District Meeting

Golf Outings

May 17 & 18 - East Golf Outing
June 22 - West Golf Outing

Find the PUCA Calendar of Events
online at

<http://www.puca.org/calendar.cfm>

NUCA Events

www.nuca.com

Mar. 3-5 - EXPO 09 Big Show
Phoenix, AZ

May 18-20 - Washington Summit
Hotel Monaco, Arlington VA

PUCA meets with Governor's Policy Office about DEP Permit Delays

Today, PUCA met with the Governor's policy office to discuss delays of DEP permits on water and sewer infrastructure projects. Ralph Mase, PUCA President; Bruce Hottle, Eagle Concrete Products; Justin Lauterbach, RT Environmental; Brenda Reigle, Executive Director; and Mark Singel, PUCA Lobbyist attended the meeting.

The items discussed were:

- 1) This year's expected funding stream of \$1.8 Billion with Federal funds requiring projects go to construction and utilize the funds within 30 to 180 days of receipt of funds;
- 2) Examples and the result of PUCA members' projects that are delayed: delay costs, lost wages, lost state taxes, and environmental issues;
- 3) Reasons for DEP permit delays – lack of manpower, lack of coordination, re-submittals for technical items, personality conflicts, or lengthy timelines for review & public comments;
- 4) New Jersey (NJ) announced today that any NJ project that needs permits should be submitted promptly so projects will be ready for construction should the Federal Economic Stimulus Bill pass. (This information was only learned just before our meeting began. Thanks to Gary Brown of RT Environmental for this timely news!)

After reciting our concerns, the Governor's Policy office asked what PUCA felt should be done to expedite

the permit process. At this point, Justin Lauterbach of RT Environmental suggested using a coordination process currently used by PENNDOT and the Brownfield Action Team. Justin outlined the coordination process that is successfully working for PENNDOT and Brownfield projects.

Bruce Hottle also recommended DEP consider accepting the work product of Professional Engineers as long as it meets a DEP checklist of permit requirements. PUCA and RT Environmental offered to hold joint seminars statewide for the construction industry to explain how to submit projects using the new coordination process; should it be implemented. This would reduce the number of phone calls DEP would receive about the new coordination process as well as prepare the construction/engineering industry for timely submittals.

Overall PUCA's ideas were received well and it seemed promising that something will be done to alleviate the delays in the DEP permitting process.

Next, several PUCA members visited with the Governor's Chief of Staff to discuss our meeting with the Policy Office. We reiterated our position and again, it was received well. The Governor's Chief of Staff assured us that permit delays would not be acceptable under Governor Rendell should the Federal Stimulus funds become available. Today's meetings appear to have been productive. We will continue to monitor the issue over the next several weeks. ■

Remember to Post YOUR OSHA 300A FORM for 2008

The OSHA 300A Form
must be posted
February 1, 2009 thru
April 30, 2009