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Sent: Thursday, November 29, 2012 10:45 AM
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Cc: Benzie, Richard (DEQ)
Subject: Capacity Development/Technical Assistance

All-

I am in the process of drafting the FY 2012 Capacity Development Program (CDP) Report to EPA. As field staff, you are the primary contacts of the CDP to help water systems acquire and maintain their technical, managerial, and financial (TMF) capacity. I am looking for a few examples where you have provided technical assistance to communities that have increased their TMF capacity. Below are examples used in last year's report, but please share anything that may be different or was unique in your experiences over the last year.

To increase reliability, gain efficiencies, and improve water quality, field staff serves as consultants to encourage regionalization, foster consolidation, and create partnerships among water systems. For example:

- The city of Holland has started a project to include an emergency interconnect with the city of Wyoming. The interconnect is being constructed by the city of Holland, but half the costs will be recovered through a payback agreement with the city of Wyoming. Both communities are benefiting from this partnership. Holland will receive five million gallons per day in increased capacity, and Wyoming would benefit from greater flexibility in supplying water under varying conditions.
- The city of St. Louis is anticipating applying for future United States Department of Agriculture – Rural Development (USDA-RD) funding to complete a regionalization project. This project is expected to include new wells to augment the capacity of the city of Alma water treatment plant and two interconnections from the city of Alma to the city of St. Louis. Currently, the two communities are working to form a regional water authority.
- The city of Flint and Genesee County have continued to move forward in their search for an alternative source rather than relying solely on purchased water from Detroit, as mentioned in last year's edition of this report. Together with a few Lapeer County communities, they have created the Karegnondi Water Authority (KWA) to collaborate on their effort. The RMD field staff will meet with the KWA and their consultants in January 2012 to discuss the specific communities involved, funding, project timeline, and the review and issuance of construction permits.

Please provide any examples you may have by December 7th. Thanks

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