Section 531: Environmental Infrastructure in Southern and Eastern Kentucky

Section 531 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996

What the Corps of Engineers Can Do:

We can provide design and construction assistance for water related environmental infrastructure projects in Eastern and Southern Kentucky. The law allows the Corps to provide Federal assistance for the design and construction of water-related environmental infrastructure, water resource protection and development, and environmental restoration. These projects must address wastewater, water supply and surface water resource and related problems.

Areas eligible for assistance include Kentucky's 5th Congressional District. Local sponsors may include cities, counties, or public service districts who are able to finance the project and provide for operation and maintenance of the project upon completion. Localities not enforcing sanitary waste ordinances are unable to apply for projects.

Charges for Assistance:

Projects are undertaken on a cost-shared basis. All projects are cost-shared 75 percent Federal and 25 percent from non-Federal funds. The application review and selection process is conducted by the Corps of Engineers, Kentucky Division of Water, and the PRIDE (Personal Responsibility in a Desired Environment) Board.

Because the Section 531 Program is intended to supplement or augment other Federal and State programs, projects that do the following receive priority: demonstrate innovative approaches to problems, address rural areas not likely to be addressed in the near future by other traditional funding sources, and are eligible for other funding programs but still need a small amount of financial assistance to be implemented.

Responsibility of Project Sponsor:

A Project Partnership Agreement must be executed with the sponsor. The sponsor normally agrees to the following:

- Provide without cost to the United States all Lands, Easements, Rightsof-way, Relocations, and Disposal areas (LERRDs) necessary for construction and maintenance of the project.
- Maintain and operate the project after completion without cost to the United States.
- Assume responsibility for all costs in excess of the Federal cost limitation of \$5,000,000.
- If the value of the sponsor's land contribution above does not equal or exceed 35 percent of the project cost, provide cash or work-in-kind contributions to make the sponsor's total contribution equal to 35 percent.

How to Request Assistance:

Send an application to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers office in Huntington, West Virginia. The mailing address is: 502 8th Street, Huntington, WV 25701. Applications should include a completed "Fact Sheet" and documentation that addresses the evaluation criteria available at www. kypride.org or by calling the Corps office at (304) 399-5824. For more information contact the PRIDE office at 606-677-6150 or call the Louisville District Outreach Coordinator at (502) 315-6883.

Cost Sharing

- Federal 75%
- Non-Federal 25%
- Federal Cost Share limited to \$5 million

