

**RHODE ISLAND GOVERNMENT REGISTER
PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING**

WATER RESOURCES BOARD

Title of Rule: Water Quality Protection Charges

Rule Identifier: 490-RICR-00-00-7

Rulemaking Action: Direct Final Amendment

Important Dates:

Date of Public Notice: 01/15/2019

End of Public Comment: 02/14/2019

Authority for this Rulemaking:

RIGL § 46-15.3

Summary of Rulemaking Action:

The regulation prescribes procedures and requirements for the imposition, collection, remittance and distribution of the water quality protection charge authorized by R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 46-15.3, as amended.

The proposed changes to the existing rule allow for reimbursements to suppliers for eligible land acquired since funding became available

at the Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank (March 1, 2015) but there was no mechanism to distribute the funds to the eligible applicants. In addition, the

requirement to spend the 55% funds first is removed. Specifically;

Part 7.5 (A) 1: The proposed change does not impact the minimum requirements for land acquisition/protection (55%) or

the maximum allowed for other water quality projects (45%). It removes the requirement that land acquisition funds be

spent first.

Part 7.6 (D) : New language would allow for reimbursements of eligible projects.

Part 7.7 (A)(3)(c): Eliminates the requirement for board approval of the appraisal prior to the applicant entering into a

purchase and sale contract. This requirement cannot be met for a reimbursement.

Part 7.7(A)(4)- Adds a new section to require sufficient documentation for reimbursements.

Additional Information and Comments:

If no formal objection is received on or before February 14, 2019, Water Resources Board will file the Amendment without opportunity for public comment..

Objections should be addressed to:

Kathleen Crawley,
Water Resources Board
89 Jefferson Boulevard
Warwick, RI 02888
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Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation:

The proposed rule making does not impact small business.

For full regulatory analysis or supporting documentation see agency contact person above.