

ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE CENTER: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR MUNICIPAL WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Delta Institute is serving as an Environmental Finance Center (EFC) for US EPA Region 5 to provide free and direct Water Technical Assistance in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

Communities need support to access State Revolving Funds (SRFs) to achieve their Clean- and Drinking- Water goals.

Delta and our partners are providing targeted no-cost technical assistance centered around funding for projects that achieve the goals of either the [Clean Water Act](#), which focuses on natural sources of water that benefit the public (i.e., wastewater and stormwater projects), or the [Safe Drinking Water Act](#), which regulates potable water systems.

Our projects fall within three key service areas: drinking water, wastewater, and/or stormwater — all for local governments, states, Tribal governments, and non-governmental organizations. Delta and our partners are engaging with historically underserved communities that have struggled to access federal water infrastructure funding.

Communities interested in receiving technical assistance can access a wide variety of technical assistance options by filling out the Technical Assistance Request form on our website at delta-institute.org/epa-region-5-water-infrastructure/.

This form begins the technical assistance

process, which normally starts with an informational meeting to learn more about your community. Once we understand your needs, we can identify specific services that are both helpful and timely for your community's project planning and implementation.

As a brief overview, our approach to technical assistance includes:

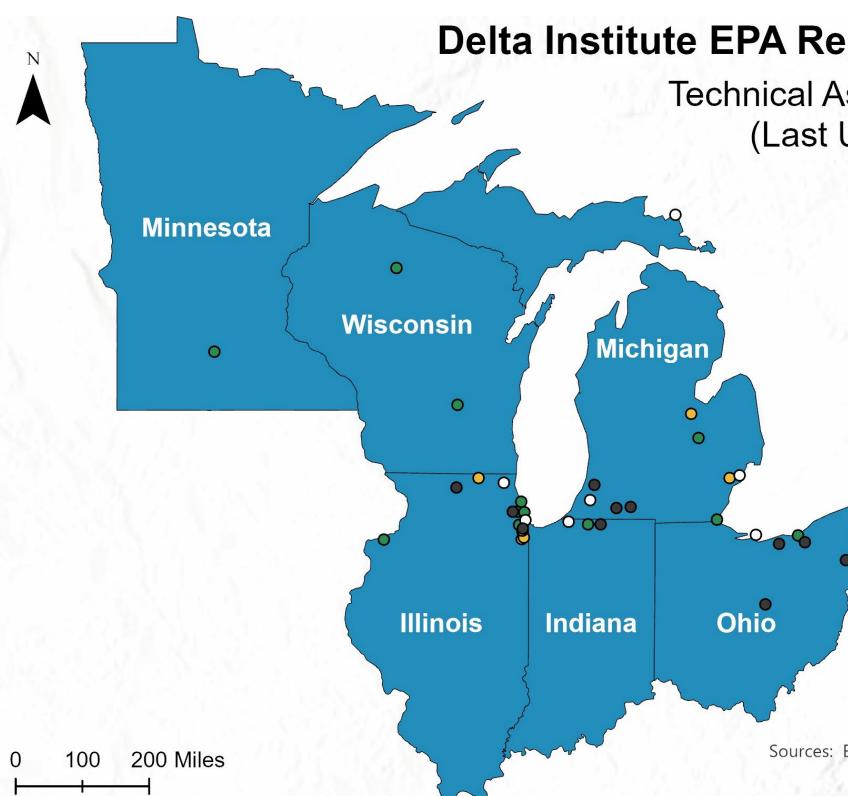
Targeted and focused services centered on the needs of partner communities.

Our technical assistance services directly engage with water utilities and communities, resulting in concrete actions that put communities on the path to successfully access SRF funding and implement needed projects. Delta provides services to partner agencies that include:

Planning and assessment: Water infrastructure project identification, planning, and set-up;

Project development: Ensuring project readiness for SRF application(s);

Partnerships and engagement: Support for engaging with community members and decision makers;



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Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community, Esri, USGS

Funding and financing: Application assistance to secure state-based SRF investment; compliance and risk mitigation guidance;

Program management support: Project maintenance, stewardship, and long-term planning; and more!

Meeting technical assistance recipients where they are in their project work.

Our EFC's approach to technical assistance commences with and is grounded within the water utility, municipality, and community needs, to then progress and work from that starting point.

Our services are informed by the technical, administrative, managerial, and financial realities of our partner communities. This approach directly dovetails with Delta's current and prior municipal- and community-based water infrastructure projects.

Culturally competent services that engage the broader community.

Our EFC provides technical assistance in a culturally competent manner that supports partner communities to build trust. Earnest and consistent efforts will be made to support technical assistance recipients to engage the

broader community, including harder-to-reach communities. This approach directly reflects and coincides with Delta's organizational focus on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Such community engagement efforts are a cornerstone of Delta's water- and community-focused projects.

Our Goals: What We Plan to Accomplish in the Years Ahead

Community Collaboration and Support

Over five years of EFC operations, we plan that more than **200 communities will benefit from our clean water and drinking water technical assistance services**. We anticipate serving at least 50 communities per year from 2025-2028.

Visit the Delta Institute EFC website by scanning this QR code:

