



For Immediate Release

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**Contact: Jim McGoff, Director of Environmental Programs, (317) 234-2916 or
Cortney Stover, Media Relations Coordinator, (317) 234-3803**

Grants available to small systems for arsenic removal

INDIANAPOLIS – Small Indiana communities have been provided with additional resources to fund needed upgrades to their drinking water systems.

The Indiana Finance Authority, created by Governor Mitch Daniels, has established the **Arsenic Remediation Grant Program** to assist the State's small water systems in complying with the new arsenic levels recently required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA). The U.S. EPA lowered the arsenic maximum contaminant level from 50 to 10 parts per billion to protect the public against the potential effects of long-term, chronic exposure to arsenic that may exist in the State's drinking water. Arsenic has been linked to various types of cancer.

“Indiana's drinking water systems do their best to stay in compliance with all State and federal requirements. However, new rules can sometimes cause a financial burden for our smaller systems, and that is why this incentive has been targeted specifically for those systems,” said Ryan Kitchell, Public Finance Director. “We are pleased to provide relief to these small communities so that they can provide the safest water possible to their residents without having to increase user rates.”

Eligible entities for the grant funds include municipalities, political subdivisions, privately-owned Community Water Systems and non-profit Nontransient Noncommunity Water Systems. The program is managed by the staff of the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan Program. Systems applying for the Arsenic Grant Program must

serve less than 10,000 residents. Eligible projects for the grant funds include construction of treatment facilities, system consolidation, system restructuring and/or the associated planning and design costs.

Governor Daniels created the Indiana Finance Authority in 2005 to more effectively manage the State's finances under one agency. In addition to this new program, the Authority manages the State Revolving Fund Loan Programs and Brownfields Program along with other financial programs. For more information on the Authority, visit www.in.gov/ifa.

Entities can apply for the Arsenic Remediation Grant Program or find more information by visiting www.srf.in.gov or contacting Sarah Reymann, Program Administrator, at (317) 232-8663, sreymann@ifa.in.gov.

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