



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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# **Indiana Finance Authority Expands North Central Indiana Regional Water Study**

*Multi-agency advisory committee formed to guide study efforts.*

INDIANAPOLIS (March 26, 2024) – The Indiana Finance Authority has expanded its North Central Indiana Water Study, which was originally planned to examine water demand and supply availability across a 13-county region including Benton, Cass, Carroll, Clinton, Fountain, Howard, Montgomery, Parke, Tippecanoe, Tipton, Vermillion, Warren and White counties. The study has now been expanded to also include those counties that touch the headwaters of the Wabash River.

“The study was originally planned to give the state a thorough understanding of demand and supply availability across the 13 counties over the next 50 years,” said Jim McGoff, IFA chief operating officer and director of environmental programs. “Adding in the Wabash headwaters, a considerable span of geography just north of the original study area, will produce a more comprehensive report of the current and future water availability and use.”

The additional counties include Allen, Boone, Blackford, Delaware, Grant, Huntington, Jay, Madison, Miami, Noble, Randolph, Vigo, Wabash, Wells and Whitley.

The IFA has retained Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. and Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. to complete the study. Each will leverage study processes comparable to other studies implemented throughout Indiana and conduct organized outreach with utilities, economic-development interests, as well as state and local elected officials.

The IFA has also established an advisory committee made up of representatives from IFA, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Indiana Department of Environmental Management, U.S. Geological Survey, White River Alliance, Purdue University and Indiana University to oversee the work of the consulting firms. The committee will provide input to achieve the key goal of the study’s intentions, to forecast water availability to meet future demand in the study region.

The IFA has been working for sometime to study all regions of the state to provide a better idea of the water resources and demand that is unique to each region of Indiana. Since 2017, the IFA has completed three regional water studies, with the report on the I-74 corridor, south and east of Indianapolis, being the most recent. [The North Central Indiana region is the next logical area for IFA to study](#). The IFA believes these studies, once combined, will better enable future statewide water resource planning.

IFA also serves a state resource for questions related to water studies and other respective topics, such as [federal WIFIA funds](#) to support Indiana's water-related needs, [water-loss audits](#), [State Revolving Fund](#) financing for local drinking and waste-water projects, and overseeing [regional water studies](#). IFA also serves on the Indiana Chamber of Commerce's Water Study Advisory Counsel and the Indiana Water Summit Working Group.

The IFA anticipates receiving preliminary data from the North Central Indiana Regional Water Study in late spring or summer 2024, and final results are anticipated in fall 2024.

For a map of the study areas, [click here](#).

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#### **ABOUT THE INDIANA FINANCE AUTHORITY**

The Indiana Finance Authority oversees State-related debt issuance and provides efficient and effective financing solutions to facilitate state, local government and business investment in Indiana. The IFA is authorized to issue revenue bonds payable from lease rentals under lease agreements with various state agencies and to finance or refinance the cost of acquiring, building and equipping structures for state use including state office buildings, garages, highways, bridges, airport facilities, correctional facilities, state hospitals and recreational facilities related to State parks. The IFA also manages the Wastewater and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan Programs and the Indiana Brownfields Program.