



North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality
Division of Water Infrastructure
Application for Funding



(Last updated: February 2022)

1. General Information

Applicant Name Town of Ranlo	County Gaston	DUNS Number 957039050
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Project Name New Water Interconnect	Federal Tax ID # 56-0812725	PWSID # (if applicable) NC0136034
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Applicant Type	Total Project Cost	Funding Amount Requested
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Municipality <input type="checkbox"/> Sanitary District <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit Water Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Water and Sewer District <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify: _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Water and Sewer Authority	\$1,796,000	1,796,000

Funding Type(s) Requested

<input type="checkbox"/> Asset Inventory and Assessment (AIA) Grant <input type="checkbox"/> Merger/Regionalization Feasibility (MRF) Grant <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Construction Planning Grant (without construction) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Construction Project ↳ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drinking Water ↳ <input type="checkbox"/> Wastewater ↳ <input type="checkbox"/> CWSRF Green Project: stream restoration, stormwater BMP, reclaim water
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Acceptance of Funding Offer (for Construction Projects only)

These questions will be used to identify the best funding fit. Funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) is available as grants, and principal forgiveness is available from the State Revolving Funds.

1. I am willing to accept funding that includes federal conditions. Yes No
2. I will only accept a funding offer (loan and/or grant) if a minimum of \$0 is offered as a grant or principal forgiveness. *Enter \$0 if you are willing to accept a loan offer with no grant or principal forgiveness.*
3. Because of the potential hardship related to a State Revolving Fund and/or State Reserve Program loan, this application seeks to replace the \$ _____ loan awarded to the Insert Project Name (Insert project number) with grant funding. *Note: loans that have already received disbursements are not eligible.*

2. System Parameters

Residential Sewer Connections	Residential Water Connections
1,556	1,612
Non-Residential Sewer Connections	Non-Residential Water Connections
85	47
Monthly Sewer Bill per 5,000 gallons	Monthly Water Bill per 5,000 gallons
\$45.95	\$45.95

Percentage of Utility Bills Collected and Rate Increase Percentages

Year	Percentage of Utility Bills Collected	Rate Increase Percentage
FY2021	98.68%	23.48%
FY2020	98.68%	15.60%
FY2019	98.74%	0%
FY2018	98.68%	0%
FY2017	98.68%	0%

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3. Applicant Contact Information

Authorized Representative Name: Jonathan Blanton

Authorized Representative Title: Town Manager

Mailing Address Line 1: 1624 Spencer Mountain Road

Mailing Address Line 2:

City: Gastonia

State: NC

Zip Code: 28054

Physical Address Line 1: 1624 Spencer Mountain Road

Physical Address Line 2:

Physical Address City: Gastonia

Physical Address State: NC

Physical Address Zip Code: 28054

Phone Number: 704-824-3461

E-Mail Address: jblanton@townofranlo.org

4. Application Preparer Contact Information

Firm Name: The Wooten Company

Contact Name: A. Slade Harvin, PE

Mailing Address Line 1: 1430-B Old Lenoir Road NW

Mailing Address Line 2:

City: Hickory

State: NC

Zip Code: 28601

Physical Address Line 1: 1430-B Old Lenoir Road NW

Physical Address Line 2:

Physical Address City: Hickory

Physical Address State: NC

Physical Address Zip Code: 28601

Phone Number: 828-322-5533

E-Mail Address: sharvin@thewootencompany.com

5. Engineer Contact Information

Is the engineering firm different from the application preparer? Yes No

Engineering Firm Name:

Contact Name:

Mailing Address 1:

Mailing Address 2:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Physical Address Line 1:

Physical Address Line 2:

Physical Address City:

Physical Address State:

Physical Address Zip Code:

Phone Number:

E-Mail Address:

6. Project Description (see Instructions)

The Town of Ranlo purchases all of its water from Two Rivers Utilities that are supplied by surface water they pull from Mountain Island Lake located in northeastern Gaston County. The existing connection is with the City of Gastonia, which meters and bills the Town for Water. The Town of Ranlo has over 27 miles of water distribution lines ranging in size from 2-inch to 12-inch.

The Town of Ranlo's public water supply system includes approximately 27 miles of 2-inch to 12-inch diameter water line. The Town of Ranlo purchased their water distribution system from the City of Lowell in 1974, making much of the line work within the Town limits, at a minimum, 46 years old and operating beyond the intended service life. Due to the age and poor condition of lines, the Town is inundated with low pressure, maintenance issues and the lack of fire protection.

The Town proposes to provide a secondary water supply source with connection to Gastonia's water distribution system. The connection would provide the Town of Ranlo with a redundant water source. The Town of Ranlo does not have any elevated tanks or other storage for providing water to its customers. The new interconnect would be located across the Town which will help to reduce water age and improve water quality and also provide additional fire protection. The City of Gastonia is aware of the project and supports the Town's efforts in obtaining funding for this project. An email from the City of Gastonia supports the interconnection and is included within the Appendix.

The new interconnect will provide redundancy for the Town due to there only being a single connection point for obtaining water. If there is a problem at the existing connection, the Town would be without water until the issue could be resolved. The project includes approximately 3,640 linear feet of 12-inch waterline; 6 valves; 7 hydrants; a metering vault and associated appurtenances.

This project will provide a second water source connection for the Town, while also helping reduce water loss, improve system pressure and flow within the Town. The result will be an overall improvement to the water distribution system which will have a direct and positive impact on the quality of life to the residents of Ranlo. The Town of Ranlo relies on a single connection for the Town's water supply and the Town's water pressure. Due to the distribution system's age, a second interconnect will help provided needed redundancy to the Town's water distribution system.

Estimated number of new connections served by project (if applicable):	N/A
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For Construction Projects and Pre-Construction Planning Grants only:

The proposed project is a result of an Asset Inventory and Assessment Grant previously awarded by the Division?

The proposed project is a result of a Merger / Regionalization Feasibility Grant previously awarded by the Division?

None of the above.

7. Additional Information for Consideration

The majority of the lines in the Town's water distribution system are at the very least 50+ years old as documented in the 1964 purchase agreement from the Gaston Water Company to sell the water lines to the Town of Ranlo that was within the Town's municipal limits. Supporting documentation can be found in Tab 3 of this application.

As of April 23, 2021, the Town of Ranlo was included on the compiled 2021 Unit Assistance List (UAL) based on June 30, 2020 audited financial data. The financial condition of the Town's water and sewer fund is concerning to the LGC. Supporting documentation follows the Authorizing Resolution.

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8a. Project Budget (for Construction Projects and Pre-Construction Planning Grants only)

	Division Funding Requested	Other Secured Funding Source(s)	Total Cost Amount
<u>Construction Costs</u>			
Mobilization ~3% (1 LS)	\$39,000		\$39,000
Traffic Control (1 LS)	\$15,000		\$15,000
Erosion Control/Seeding Along Waterline (1 LS)	\$12,000		\$12,000
12" Class 50 DIP Waterline (800 LF) @\$150	\$120,000		\$120,000
12" PVC C-900 Waterline (2,840 LF) @\$100	\$284,000		\$284,000
12" Gate Valve w/Box (6 EA) @\$7,500	\$45,000		\$45,000
Fire Hydrant Assembly (7 EA) @\$6,000	\$42,000		\$42,000
Replacement of Services from Main to Meter (6 EA) @\$5,200	\$31,200		\$31,200
Roadway/Driveway Repairs (1,700 SY) @\$85	\$144,500		\$144,500
Replacement of Sidewalks (2,000 SF) @\$80	\$160,000		\$160,000
Metering Station and Vault (1 LS) @\$100,000	\$100,000		\$100,000
Connection to Existing 12" Waterline (2 EA) @\$12,000	\$24,000		\$24,000
Roadway Crossing Encroachment by Dry Bore (800 LF) @\$350	\$280,000		\$280,000
<i>Contingency (10% of construction costs):</i>	\$129,700		\$129,700
<i>Construction Subtotal:</i>	<i>\$1,426,400</i>		<i>\$1,426,400</i>
<u>Engineering Costs</u>			
Survey Services	\$47,500		\$47,500
Engineering Design	\$121,400		\$121,400
Permitting	\$500		\$500
Bidding Services	\$3,500		\$3,500
Construction Administration (4 mos./Full-Time)	\$16,000		\$16,000
Construction Observation (4 mos./Part-Time)	\$102,400		\$102,400
<i>Engineering Subtotal:</i>	<i>\$312,600</i>		<i>\$312,600</i>
<u>Administration Costs</u>			
Owner Administrative Costs	\$12,000		\$12,000
Interlocal Agreement Services	\$20,000		\$20,000
Preliminary Engineering Report Preparation	\$15,000		\$15,000
Legal Costs	\$10,000		\$10,000
Project Funding Administration (if applicable)			
<i>Administration Subtotal:</i>	<i>\$57,000</i>		<i>\$57,000</i>
TOTAL PROJECT COST:	\$1,796,000		\$1,796,000



Certification by Authorized Representative

The attached statements and exhibits are hereby made part of this application, and the undersigned representative of the Applicant certifies that the information in this application and the attached statements and exhibits are true, correct, and complete to the best of his/her knowledge and belief. By initialing each item and signature at the end of this application, he/she further certifies that:

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1. as Authorized Representative, he/she has been authorized to file this application by formal action of the governing body;
2. the governing body agrees to provide for proper short-term and long-term maintenance and operation of the approved project after its completion;
3. the Applicant has substantially complied with or will comply with all federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations and ordinances as applicable to this project;
4. the Applicant will adopt and place into effect on or before the completion of the project a schedule of fees and charges which will provide for the adequate and proper operation, maintenance, and administration and repayment of all principal and interest on loans (if applicable) of the project;
5. the Applicant has followed proper accounting and fiscal reporting procedures, as evidenced by the Applicant's most recent audit report, and that the Applicant is in substantial compliance with provision of the general fiscal control laws of the State;
6. the Project Budget for construction projects and pre-construction planning grants provided in this application form (if applicable) includes all funding requested from all sources of funding proposed for this project;
7. the (Town or County), North Carolina is organized and chartered under the laws of North Carolina, or the special purpose unit of local government is incorporated under the laws of North Carolina. All officials and employees are aware of, and in full compliance with NCGS 14-234, "Public officers or employees benefiting from public contracts; exceptions." (For units of local government only. All others should initial "N/A");
8. the Applicant acknowledges that all loans, and Viable Utility Reserve grants, are subject to approval by the Local Government Commission;
9. the Applicant acknowledges that, in accordance with G.S. 120-157.2, for local government debt to be issued greater than \$1,000,000, the local government must report to Committee Chairs, Committee Assistant, and the Fiscal Research Division of the General Assembly at least 45 days prior to presentation before the Local Government Commission (For units of local government only. All others should initial "N/A"); and
10. if the Applicant receives a grant with American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds, the Applicant acknowledges and accepts the following conditions:
 - a) all ARPA project funds must be reimbursed by December 31, 2026;
 - b) project funds will not be used to pay existing debt or as a match for other federal funds;
 - c) if the project is also funded with other federal funds, the federal requirements of the other funds will apply to the ARPA funds; and
 - d) for projects receiving ten million dollars or more in ARPA funding: recipients must certify or provide plans and reports meeting federal requirements on reporting on prevailing wage rates, project labor agreements, and related information as specified in the U.S. Treasury's [Compliance and Reporting Guidance for the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds](#) (pages 21-22).

Completeness Checklist

In addition to this application, the following items must be included for a complete application package. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Please initial that each item is included in this submittal.

Handwritten initials in blue ink: JB, JB, JB, JB, JB, JB, N/A, JB

- Resolution by Governing Body of Applicant with Certification by Recording Officer*
- Water & Sewer Financial Information Form*
- Fund Transfer Certification*
- Applicable Priority Rating System Form* with supporting narratives and documentation
- Affordability Calculator* or handwritten affordability calculations
- Current rate sheets in effect on application deadline (for both water and sewer if the utility provides both water and sewer, or for water or sewer depending on the utility service)
- PE Seal on project budget (construction projects and pre-construction planning grants only. All others initial "N/A")
- Supporting documentation/maps for construction projects that connect residences in disadvantaged, underserved areas to water/wastewater utility (if applicable. If not applicable, initial "N/A")

* Forms and templates are available separately on the [Division's website](#).

**** For each application, please provide copies that are bound (e.g., report cover with fasteners, plastic report combs, spiral or 3-ring binders). No paper clips, staples or binder clasps. ****

Submittal Information

- Send one (1) **original hard copy** and one (1) **electronic copy** of the Application.

Send complete Application package to:

Mailing Address[†] (US Postal Service only)

Division of Water Infrastructure
1633 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1633

Physical Address (FedEx, UPS)[‡]

Division of Water Infrastructure – 8th Floor, Archdale Building
512 North Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27604
919.707.9160

[†]Please allow two weeks for delivery if mailing via the US Postal Service.

[‡]For all courier services, please use the physical address, as having a courier deliver to the mailing address will delay package delivery.

Application Signature

Please note: original signatures are required for each application.

Handwritten signature in blue ink: Jonathan Blanton

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

Jonathan Blanton

TYPED NAME

Town Manager

TYPED TITLE

Handwritten date in blue ink: 04-28/2022

DATE