

SUBCHAPTER II—TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY  
WATER WORKS

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Securities Act of 1933, referred to in par. (2)(A), is title I of act May 27, 1933, ch. 38, 48 Stat. 74, which is classified generally to subchapter I (§77a et seq.) of chapter 2A of Title 15, Commerce and Trade. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 77a of Title 15 and Tables.

SHORT TITLE

This subchapter known as the “Twenty-First Century Water Works Act”, see Short Title note set out under section 2401 of this title.

**§ 2421. Definitions**

In this subchapter:

**(1) Indian tribe**

The term “Indian tribe” has the meaning given the term in section 5304 of title 25.

**(2) Lender**

The term “lender” means—

(A) a non-Federal qualified institutional buyer (as defined in section 230.144A(a) of title 17, Code of Federal Regulation<sup>1</sup> (or any successor regulation), known as Rule 144A(a) of the Securities and Exchange Commission and issued under the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77a et seq.); or

(B) a clean renewable energy bond lender (as defined in section 54(j)(2) of title 26 (as in effect on December 22, 2006)).

**(3) Loan guarantee**

The term “loan guarantee” has the meaning given the term “loan guarantee” in section 661a of title 2.

**(4) Non-Federal borrower**

The term “non-Federal borrower” means—

(A) a State (including a department, agency, or political subdivision of a State); or

(B) a conservancy district, irrigation district, canal company, water users’ association, Indian tribe, an agency created by interstate compact, or any other entity that has the capacity to contract with the United States under Federal reclamation law.

**(5) Obligation**

The term “obligation” means a loan or other debt obligation that is guaranteed under this section.

**(6) Project**

The term “project” means—

(A) a rural water supply project (as defined in section 2401(9) of this title);

(B) an extraordinary operation and maintenance activity for, or the rehabilitation or replacement of, a facility—

(i) that is authorized by Federal reclamation law and constructed by the United States under such law; or

(ii) in connection with which there is a repayment or water service contract executed by the United States under Federal reclamation law; or

(C) an improvement to water infrastructure directly associated with a reclamation project that, based on a determination of the Secretary—

- (i) improves water management; and
- (ii) fulfills other Federal goals.

**(7) Secretary**

The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(Pub. L. 109–451, title II, §202, Dec. 22, 2006, 120 Stat. 3356.)

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be “Regulations”.

**§ 2422. Project eligibility**

**(a) Eligibility criteria**

**(1) In general**

The Secretary shall develop and publish in the Federal Register criteria for determining the eligibility of a project for financial assistance under section 2423 of this title.

**(2) Inclusions**

Eligibility criteria shall include—

(A) submission of an application by the lender to the Secretary;

(B) demonstration of the creditworthiness of the project, including a determination by the Secretary that any financing for the project has appropriate security features to ensure repayment;

(C) demonstration by the non-Federal borrower, to the satisfaction of the Secretary, of the ability of the non-Federal borrower to repay the project financing from user fees or other dedicated revenue sources;

(D) demonstration by the non-Federal borrower, to the satisfaction of the Secretary, of the ability of the non-Federal borrower to pay all operations, maintenance, and replacement costs of the project facilities; and

(E) such other criteria as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

**(b) Waiver**

The Secretary may waive any of the criteria in subsection (a)(2) that the Secretary determines to be duplicative or rendered unnecessary because of an action already taken by the United States.

**(c) Projects previously authorized**

A project that was authorized for construction under Federal reclamation laws prior to December 22, 2006, shall be eligible for assistance under this subchapter, subject to the criteria established by the Secretary under subsection (a).

**(d) Criteria for rural water supply projects**

A rural water supply project that is determined to be feasible under section 2405 of this title is eligible for a loan guarantee under section 2423 of this title.

(Pub. L. 109–451, title II, §203, Dec. 22, 2006, 120 Stat. 3357.)

**§ 2423. Loan guarantees**

**(a) Authority**

Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Secretary may make available to lenders for a project meeting the eligibility criteria established in section 2422 of this title loan guaran-