



## State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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Subjects: 1) Additional DERF Funding Allows Payment of Backlog  
2) Retaining DERF Eligibility When Hiring Consultants

Dear DERF Applicant:

*Additional DERF Funding.* This letter is to let you know that the Governor's proposal to transfer \$6.2 million to the Dry Cleaner Environmental Response Fund (DERF) was recently signed into law as part of the state budget bill. This change, which is based on the work of the Governor's Dry Cleaner Council, the Wisconsin Fabricare Institute and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), will allow DNR to pay the current backlog of DERF reimbursements. Checks for reimbursement claims with approved audits are being processed and will begin to be mailed within ten days. You can find the list of pending reimbursements at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/rr/financial/dryclean/pending-claims.pdf>. This transfer of funds will also allow us to reimburse incoming requests more promptly following audits in the coming months. If you have any questions about your claim, you may contact Jillian Steffes at 608-266-1967 or [Jillian.Steffes@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:Jillian.Steffes@Wisconsin.gov).

*Retaining DERF Eligibility When Hiring Consultants.* It has come to our attention that some DERF applicants are hiring consultants without following the consultant selection process set out in DNR rules. **Failure to follow the consultant selection process will make your cleanup costs ineligible for DERF reimbursement**, so it is very important that you follow this process. Eligible applicants must select a consultant using the bidding process set out in s. NR 169.23, Wis. Admin. Code, which includes receiving three to six sealed bids from consultants for the proposed cleanup work. You cannot enter into a contract with your selected consultant until DNR has approved the consultant's workplan and cost proposal. If you decide you need or want to change consultants at some point during the contracted work, you must repeat this bidding process to select a new consultant and receive approval for the proposed work and costs from the DNR. In addition, there may be contract provisions with the initial consultant that control how and when you can change consultants.

The bidding process is an important cost control in management of DERF. The DNR will not approve increases in contract costs or per hour costs due solely to a change in consultants. You can find more information on consultant selection at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/rr/archives/pubs/RR502.pdf>; and on the DERF quality based selection process at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/rr/archives/pubs/RR752.pdf>.

If you have any questions about this letter or any DERF requirements, please feel free to contact me at 608-266-0941 or at [Theresa.Evanson@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Theresa.Evanson@wisconsin.gov).

Sincerely,

Theresa A. Evanson, Hydrogeologist  
Bureau for Remediation & Redevelopment