Mineland Reclamation

Mineland Reclamation grants provide funding to assist with highly visible development and restoration of mining impacted land.

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Eligible Applicants: Cities, townships, nonprofits, counties, tribal governments and governmental entities created pursuant to Minnesota Statutes located within the agency’s service area. Multi-organization collaboration is encouraged.

Eligible Projects: Projects that reclaim or repurpose former mining impacted lands not otherwise provided by state law or that sustain current and future mining. Examples include stockpile reclamation and vegetative enhancements, master planning, recreational and mine pit development and improvements.

Ineligible Projects: Projects that must be undertaken to comply with federal, state or local laws, rules or ordinances.

Funding
- Funded at $350,000 for FY2023.
- 1:1 match per project required.
- In-kind materials and equipment rental may constitute up to 25% of the local match. Pre-approval of the in-kind match is required. In-kind materials and equipment rental must be provided by an approved vendor or entity.
- Architectural and engineering fees may be eligible up to 15% of the total site development costs.
- In order to be eligible for program funding, project must begin within six months of a grant award.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
- The Department of Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation works to improve economic opportunities in support of diversity, equity and inclusion in our service area.
- Diverse populations served by this program include economically distressed communities, tribal nations, Black, indigenous and people of color (BIPOC), veterans, low to moderate income neighborhoods and disabled individuals.
- Additional points are awarded to projects that serve a diverse population as listed above or utilize state certified Targeted Group (TG), Economically Disadvantaged (ED) area or Veteran-Owned (VO) vendors.

Evaluation Criteria (100 points)
Grants are awarded to the highest scored application using the following criteria. All evaluation criteria must be addressed in the project narrative.

1. Impact. (30 points)
- Project impacts a large amount of people and/or a large visible area.
- Leverage.
• Potential for new development.

2. **Community benefit and partnership. (30 points)**
   • Identify project partners and community and regional support.
   • If the project aligns with the community’s comprehensive plan, highlight and update that portion of the plan.
   • The project involves mining impacted land aimed at future community, recreational, tourism, historical, residential or commercial use or an aesthetic enhancement to the environment.

3. **Project readiness and timeliness. (25 points)**
   • Operation, maintenance and risk management plan is in place.
   • Applicant and partner funding are secured.
   • Authorization from land owner is in place.

4. **Diversity, equity and inclusion. (10 points)**
   • Project incorporates a state certified targeted group, economically disadvantaged area or veteran owned vendor.
   • Project serves an underserved community/population.
   • Diverse populations that include:
     o BIPOC.
     o Tribal nations.
     o LGBTQI communities.
     o Disability status.
     o Veterans.
     o Geographic.

5. **Job creation and retention. (5 points)**
   • Describe how the project supports job creation or retention, if any that will result from this project. (Minnesota Statute 298.22 subd. 13)

Application Checklist
• Project narrative.
  o Narrative must address evaluation criteria.
  o Describe how the project exceeds State of Minnesota Mineland Reclamation Statutes 93.44-93.51 and Rules 6130.

• For non-government, IRS Form W-9 – Request for Taxpayer ID Number and Certification.

• For non-government, financial documents.
  o IRS 990 Form: For organizations with an annual revenue below $750,000, the most recent IRS 990 form must be uploaded.
  o Certified Financial Audit: For organizations with an annual revenue of over $750,000, the most recent certified financial audit must be uploaded.

• Funding sources.
  o List funding sources and contribution amounts.

• Certified cost estimates and engineering/architectural plans, any service contract and/or materials must follow the state contracting and bidding requirements below.
### Non-Governmental Entity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contract or Cost of Material or Service</th>
<th>Quotes/Cost Estimates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under $10,000</td>
<td>One – provide explanation of costs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,000 - $24,999</td>
<td>Two – upload with application or provide verbal quote detail in project narrative.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25,000 - $99,999</td>
<td>Three – upload with application or provide verbal quote detail in project narrative.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100,000 or more</td>
<td>Must undergo formal notice and bidding process.</td>
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</tbody>
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### Municipality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contract or Cost of Material or Service</th>
<th>Quotes/Cost Estimates *Per Minnesota Statute 471.345</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under $25,000</td>
<td>Two – quotation or open market.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25,000 - $175,000</td>
<td>Two – may use competitive bidding process or direct negotiation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over $175,000</td>
<td>Sealed bids shall be solicited by public notice in the manner and subject to the requirements of the law governing contracts by the particular municipality or class thereof.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Statement of concept project approval** - from the appropriate regulatory agency if project involves active mine area or other lands covered by a permit (attach if applicable). A letter of support should accompany the application if minerals are controlled by a fee holder or by an entity that is not a partner in the project.
- **Resolution authorizing applicant to apply for and accept funds.**
- **Pre-project photographs.**
- **Other documentation to support the application.**

### Application and Award Process

- **Application process.**
  - Applications must be submitted through the FLUXX grants portal.
  - A short pre-application is required to determine eligibility of project.
  - A full application will be available in FLUXX once eligibility is determined.

- **Application deadline.**
  - Applications are accepted July 1, 2022 through May 31, 2023 on a rolling basis subject to the availability of program funds.
  - Notify grant program administrator of any changes to application after final submission.

- **Application review.**
  - Initial review is completed by the grant program administrator for eligibility and application requirements.
  - Eligible applications are subject to a competitive review process. They are evaluated and scored based on the evaluation criteria by a minimum of three reviewers.
  - Grant program administrators do not score applications for their respective program.
  - Applications must meet the minimum required score in order to be recommended for funding.
Grant program administrator finalizes recommendations based on the completed evaluations, past performance of grantee and availability of program funds.

**Application award.**
- Grants are awarded to the most competitive applications.
- The agency reserves the right to award all or partial funding per application.
- Applicants will be notified by email within 30 days following application review.
- Grant award is subject to the Commissioner’s final approval and must meet objectives, priorities and policies established by the Commissioner.

**Grant Outcome Expectations**
- Upon receiving a grant award that is over $175,000, it must be publicly bid. The contractor is required to be licensed and insured.
- The agency reserves the right to require signage/logo acknowledging financial assistance from the Department of Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation. Details are outlined in the grant agreement.
- Awarded projects must meet the Minnesota Prevailing Wage Statutes and the agency’s board policy as stated in the grant agreement.
- Spending for project expenses within the agency’s service area is encouraged.

**Reporting Requirements**
- A progress report is required if grant period is to exceed 12 months and annually thereafter.
- A monitoring report will be conducted by the program administrator if the grant is over $50,000.
- A site visit may be conducted by the program administrator.
- A final report is required before final payment.
- A close out acknowledgement form may be required if there is a grant balance remaining.

**Public Information**
- All application information submitted is presumed to be public information pursuant to the Minnesota Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statute Chapter 13.