Destructive Technology Test on PFAS Concentrate

Request for Proposals (RFP)

This document describes the Destructive Technology on Per- and Poly-fluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Concentrate RFP, including information on who may apply for concentrate, activities eligible for concentrate, and other information that will help applicants submit an application. The rolling application form, sample grant agreement, and other relevant documents are on the <u>PFAS Destructive</u> <u>Technologies RFP website</u>.

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1. Overview

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) has been testing the effectiveness of PFAS removal in groundwater and surface water at Tablyn Park in Lake Elmo utilizing a foam fractionation system as a part of the Feasibility Study required under the 2018 3M Settlement with the state of Minnesota. The result of the PFAS removal is a concentrated form of PFAS-containing water (concentrate), generally ranging from the 100's to 1,000's parts per billion (μ g/L) PFOA/PFOS constituents.

This RFP is intended to provide a mechanism for interested parties to acquire PFAS concentrate for PFAS destructive technology testing purposes. Up to 250 gallons of PFAS concentrate is available for approved applicants. Approved applicants will communicate and coordinate obtaining the concentrate from MPCA's authorized representative.

This RFP will remain open, and applications will be accepted on a rolling, first come, first serve basis until all available PFAS concentrate has been dispersed or 4:00 p.m. Central Time on July 31, 2025, whichever occurs first.

2. Eligible and ineligible applicants and projects

Eligible applicants and projects

Destruction technology applicants and test projects will be screened by the MPCA for eligibility. Applicants and test projects must demonstrate existing PFAS destruction technology expertise and capabilities per the questions/requirements outlined in the application, including:

- PFAS Destruction Technology and Test Description
- PFAS Waste Disposal Requirements
- PFAS Destruction Deliverables

Ineligible applicants and projects

Applicants or test projects not meeting the requirements above may be screened out as ineligible for concentrate receipt.

Entities that are currently suspended or debarred by the State of Minnesota and/or the federal government are ineligible applicants.

3. Project costs

The recipient is responsible for all costs associated with the project including but not limited to: shipping and handling, testing, disposal and reporting. Permitting for the testing is the responsibility of the recipient, not the MPCA.

4. Application submission instructions

All applicants must submit the grant application form.

Applications must be received electronically by the MPCA no later than 4:00 p.m. Central Time on July 31, 2025. The email properties header will reflect the date and time submissions are received.

Application submissions received after the deadline will be ineligible. Email applications to grants.pca@state.mn.us with the subject line: "PFAS Destructive Technologies Test Proposal" The MPCA is not responsible for any errors or delays caused by technology-related issues.

The MPCA may follow-up with applicants to confirm and/or request additional information necessary to evaluate eligibility.

This application does not obligate the State to award a grant, and the State reserves the right to amend, modify, or cancel this solicitation if it is considered to be in its best interest. The MPCA reserves the right to refuse distribution of the PFAS concentrate for any reason, including limited quantities of concentrate.

5. Application questions

We are obligated to be transparent in all aspects of our grant work. To meet our obligation, all questions must be submitted in the same manner and answers are only provided on the <u>PFAS Destructive</u> <u>Technologies RFP website</u>.

It is the applicant's responsibility to check the <u>PFAS Destructive Technologies RFP website</u> for the most recent updates about an open RFP, including questions and answers and addendums.

Applicants who have any questions regarding this RFP must email questions to <u>grants.pca@state.mn.us</u>, subject line: "PFAS Destruction RFP Question." Answers to questions will be posted frequently on the <u>PFAS Destructive Technologies RFP website</u>.

6. Application review process

Applications received by the RFP deadline will be reviewed by MPCA staff based upon the Application Assessment score sheet in Exhibit A. Applicants must meet all requirements to be considered for

funding. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis as they are received and awarded on a first come, first served basis.

All applicants will be notified of their award status by MPCA staff within approximately 30 days of application submission. Applicants selected for PFAS concentrate will be contacted concerning the next steps in the process, including execution of the grant agreement.

7. Recipient responsibilities

Grant agreement

Each recipient must enter into a grant agreement and will sign the grant agreement using DocuSign. The agreement will address the conditions of the award, including implementation of the project. Once the agreement is signed, the recipient is expected to read and comply with all conditions of the agreement.

Prior to distribution of PFAS concentrate, recipients will be required to submit a Certificate of Insurance as outlined in the sample grant agreement.

A sample State of Minnesota Grant Agreement can be found on the <u>PFAS Destructive Technologies RFP</u> <u>website</u> for your reference. Much of the language reflected in the agreement is required by statute.

Reporting requirements

Final Report. Within eight weeks following receipt of final laboratory results, recipient shall submit a Final Report of the destructive test to the MPCA. The Final Report shall summarize the destructive test procedure, destruction efficiencies for all PFAS parameters, other analyses necessary to demonstrate destruction effectiveness or efficiency (e.g. water quality parameters) and potential reaction byproduct formation. If the destructive test is terminated prior to the scheduled completion, the Final Report shall also discuss the conclusions that led to the termination of the test and results achieved on all tasks completed.

Public data

Per Minn. Stat. § 13.599

- Names and addresses of grant applicants and amount requested will be public data once proposal responses are opened.
- All remaining data in proposal responses (except trade secret data as defined and classified in §13.37) will be public data after the evaluation process is completed. For the purposes of this grant, data will be considered public when all the grant contract agreements have been fully executed.

All data created or maintained by [State agency] as part of the evaluation process (except trade secret data as defined and classified in §13.37) will be public data after the evaluation process is completed. For the purposes of this grant, Data will be considered public when all the grant contract agreements have been fully executed.

Conflict of interest

State grant policy requires that steps and procedures are in place to prevent individual and organizational conflicts of interest, both in reference to applicants and reviewers per <u>Minn. Stat.§16B.98</u> <u>Subd. 2-3</u> and <u>08-01 Conflict of Interest in State Grant-Making Policy.</u> Organizational conflicts of interest occur when:

- A grantee or applicant is unable or potentially unable to render impartial assistance or advice to the Department due to competing duties or loyalties.
- A grantee's or applicant's objectivity in carrying out the grant is or might be otherwise impaired due to competing duties or loyalties.

In cases where a conflict of interest is in question or disclosed, the applicants or grantees will be notified and actions may be pursued, including but not limited to, revising the grant work plan or grantee duties to mitigate the risk, requesting the grant applicant to submit an organizational conflict of interest mitigation plan, disqualification from eligibility for the grant award, amending the grant, or termination of the grant contract agreement.

Affirmative action and non-discrimination requirements for all grantees

- A. The grantee agrees not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, status in regard to public assistance, membership or activity in a local commission, disability, sexual orientation, or age in regard to any position for which the employee or applicant for employment is qualified. <u>Minn. Stat. § 363A.02</u>. The grantee agrees to take affirmative steps to employ, advance in employment, upgrade, train, and recruit minority persons, women, and persons with disabilities.
- B. The grantee must not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of physical or mental disability in regard to any position for which the employee or applicant for employment is qualified. The grantee agrees to take affirmative action to employ, advance in employment, and otherwise treat qualified disabled persons without discrimination based upon their physical or mental disability in all employment practices such as the following: employment, upgrading, demotion or transfer, recruitment, advertising, layoff or termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and selection for training, including apprenticeship. Minn. R. pt. <u>5000.3500</u>
- C. The grantee agrees to comply with the rules and relevant orders of the Minnesota Department of Human Rights issued pursuant to the Minnesota Human Rights Act.

Exhibit A: Application assessment sheet

Applicants must meet the following to be considered for PFAS concentrate:

Requirements	Meets / Does not meet
PFAS destruction technology and test procedure:	
Demonstrates appropriate PFAS destruction technology and test project procedures.	
PFAS waste disposal:	
Demonstrates appropriate, complete chain-of-custody procedures for all stages of	
PFAS concentrate handling and possession from receipt through the point of disposal.	
Able to meet the insurance requirements.	
Able to meet the reporting requirements.	