



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF WATER

December 8, 2022

**MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT:** Guidelines for Implementing the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Signage Term and Condition for the State Revolving Fund Programs

**FROM:** Raffael Stein, Director  
Water Infrastructure Division

Anita Maria Thompkins, Director  
Drinking Water Infrastructure Development Division

**TO:** Water Division Directors  
Regions I-X

The United States Chief Financial Officers (CFO) Council recently issued a Controller Alert titled, [\*“Enhancing Transparency Through the Use of the Building a Better America Emblem on Construction Signs.”\*](#) The Controller Alert informs federal agencies of the availability of the *Building A Better America* emblem and provides strategies for emblem use to increase the transparency of projects funded in whole or in part by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), also referred to as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). In response to this Controller Alert, EPA’s Office of Grants and Debarment developed a term and condition that EPA must include in all fiscal year FY 2022 – 2026 Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) BIL capitalization grant awards. Regions must amend already-awarded BIL capitalization grants to include the new term and condition and include it in new BIL capitalization grants going forward.

For applicable projects (see next paragraph), the BIL signage term and condition will substitute for the existing SRF signage term and condition that implements the June 2015 policy, [\*“Guidelines for Enhancing Public Awareness of SRF Assistance Agreements.”\*](#) In other words, only the BIL-specific signage term and condition will apply to the applicable projects. The existing June 2015 SRF signage term and condition will continue to apply to equivalency projects funded with non-BIL (i.e., base) SRF capitalization grants. Although the 2015 signage requirement does not apply to BIL-funded SRF projects, we recommend that states encourage all borrowers/projects to notify the public of the benefits of the projects and the role of the SRF, using one of the options included in the June 2015 policy memorandum.

The BIL signage term and condition requires a physical sign displaying the official *Building a Better America* emblem and EPA logo be placed at construction sites for BIL-funded projects. For the Clean Water and Drinking Water SRF programs, this requirement applies only to the following projects:

- Construction projects identified as “equivalency projects” for BIL general supplemental capitalization grants;
- Construction projects that receive additional subsidization (grants or forgivable loans) made available by BIL general supplemental capitalization grants;
- All construction projects funded with BIL emerging contaminants capitalization grants;
- All construction projects funded with BIL lead service line replacement capitalization grants.

States must ensure that assistance recipients for which this requirement is applicable are aware of the requirement and the signage specifications. States must include this requirement in applicable assistance agreements. Additional details and specifications are included in the attached term and condition.

The sign must be placed at construction sites in an easily visible location that can be directly linked to the work taking place and must be maintained in good condition throughout the construction period. In cases where the construction site covers a large area (e.g., lead service line replacement or septic tank repair/replacement projects), a sign should be placed in an easily visible location near where the work is being performed (e.g., entrance to the neighborhood, along a main road through town, etc.). Signage costs are considered an allowable SRF expense, provided the costs associated with the signage are reasonable. Additionally, to increase public awareness of projects serving communities where English is not the predominant language, assistance recipients are encouraged to translate the language on signs (excluding the official Building a Better America emblem or EPA logo or seal) into the appropriate non-English language(s). The costs of such translation are allowable SRF expenses, provided the costs are reasonable.

Inquiries may be directed to Josh Amaris at [Amaris.Josh@epa.gov](mailto:Amaris.Josh@epa.gov) and Nick Chamberlain at [Chamberlain.Nick@epa.gov](mailto:Chamberlain.Nick@epa.gov).

Attachment

Cc: Region I-X Branch Chiefs  
Region I-X SRF Coordinators  
Michael Deane  
Kiri Anderer

## Attachment A

### Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) Signage Required Term and Condition

**This Term & Condition applies to construction projects funded in whole or in part by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) for the following programs: Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF), Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF), Brownfields, Superfund, Emerging Contaminants, Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI), and Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR).**

#### 1. Signage Requirements

a. Building A Better America Emblem: The recipient will ensure that a sign is placed at construction sites supported under this award displaying the official Building A Better America emblem and must identify the project as a “project funded by President Biden’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.” Construction is defined at 40 CFR 33.103 as “erection, alteration, or repair (including dredging, excavating, and painting) of buildings, structures, or other improvements to real property, and activities in response to a release or a threat of a release of a hazardous substance into the environment, or activities to prevent the introduction of a hazardous substance into a water supply.” The sign must be placed at construction sites in an easily visible location that can be directly linked to the work taking place and must be maintained in good condition throughout the construction period.

The recipient will ensure compliance with the guidelines and design specifications for using the official Building A Better America emblem and corresponding logomark available at:

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Building-A-Better-America-Brand-Guide.pdf>

b. EPA Logo: The recipient will ensure that signage displays the EPA logo along with the official Building A Better America emblem. The EPA logo must not be displayed in a manner that implies that EPA itself is conducting the project. Instead, the EPA logo must be accompanied with a statement indicating that the recipient received financial assistance from EPA for the project.

The recipient will ensure compliance with the sign specifications provided by the EPA Office of Public Affairs (OPA) available at: <https://www.epa.gov/grants/epa-logo-seal-specifications-signage-produced-epa-assistance-agreement-recipients>. As provided in the sign specifications from OPA, the EPA logo is the preferred identifier for assistance agreement projects and use of the EPA seal requires prior approval from the EPA. To obtain the appropriate EPA logo or seal graphic file, the recipient should send a request directly to OPA and include the EPA Project Officer in the communication. Instructions for contacting OPA is available on the [Using the EPA Seal and Logo page](#).

c. Procuring Signs: Consistent with section 6002 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. 6962, and 2 CFR 200.323, recipients are encouraged to use recycled or recovered materials when procuring signs. Signage costs are considered an allowable cost under this assistance agreement provided that the costs associated with signage are reasonable. Additionally, to increase public awareness of projects serving communities where English is not the predominant language, recipients are encouraged to translate the language on signs (excluding the official Building A Better America emblem or EPA logo or seal) into the appropriate non-English language(s). The costs of such translation are allowable, provided the costs are reasonable.

#### 2. Public or Media Events

EPA encourages the recipient to notify the EPA Project Officer listed in this award document of public or media events publicizing the accomplishment of significant events related to construction projects as a result of this agreement and provide the opportunity for attendance and participation by federal representatives with at least ten (10) working days' notice.