

580 – Fiscal Year 2022 Semi-Annual HUB Report Supplemental Letter

The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) is dedicated to supporting the Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) program by actively seeking HUB participation in all procurement opportunities. As a result of our *good faith efforts*, the TWDB continues to seek and obtain HUB vendor participation through our procurement opportunities.

Plans to increase HUB participation throughout fiscal year 2022, include but are not limited to the following activities:

- Participate in economic opportunity forums and business networking sessions.
- Increase outreach efforts to educate HUB vendors on procurement opportunities.

In addition to participating in the activities above, and in a renewed push to increase HUB participation in TWDB procurement efforts, the agency recently posted a newly created position to recruit an Assistant HUB Coordinator and Vendor Outreach Specialist. This position—along with the existing the Purchasing Manager vacancy—once filled, will expand upon the agency’s commitment and support of the State HUB Program in the following ways:

- Provide internal business area staff training on the HUB program and best practices.
- Increase current agency outreach efforts to vendors to promote the HUB program.
- Increase efforts to meet HUB goals in the appropriate procurement categories.
- Improve upon the timeliness and accuracy of HUB supplemental data reporting.¹
- Assist interested HUB vendors with the state’s HUB certification process.
- Attend pre-bid meetings to ensure potential responders understand and comply with applicable HUB subcontracting plan requirements.

TWDB also administers three financing programs for the development of water infrastructure that require program participants to promote HUB or Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) participation during the construction phase of the project. The programs are the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF), the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF), and the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas (SWIFT). The entities that participate in these programs report HUB or DBE participation to TWDB annually. That data is then reported to the appropriate oversight agency. Specifically, the two SRF programs’ DBE participation is reported to the Environmental Protection Agency and the SWIFT HUB participation is reported to the SWIFT Advisory Committee. Because these HUB metrics are reported once a year and several months after fiscal year end, it is not available to include in this report.

The TWDB fully supports and is committed to increasing the potential for HUB participation in all TWDB expenditure categories. We will continue current efforts that have proven successful and explore new opportunities wherever possible. Please feel free to contact me at (512) 936-6090 or cameron.turner@twdb.texas.gov for additional information or clarification.

Cameron Turner, Director, Procurement and Contract Services

¹ Due to significant turnover within the TWDB Procurement & Contract Services Division over the past two years, staff discovered that the supplemental HUB data for Fiscal Year 2021 was not reported in a timely fashion and is thus not accounted for in the published online data for the previous year.

Our Mission

Leading the state’s efforts in ensuring a secure water future for Texas and its citizens

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