AUDIT REPORT OF THE NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PROGRAM

JULY 1, 2013 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2014

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Issued on April 21, 2015

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BACKGROUND

The Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality - Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program (Program) was established pursuant to Title VI of the Federal Clean Water Act, as amended by the Water Quality Act of 1987. Created by LB 766 (1988), the Wastewater Treatment Facilities Construction Assistance Act is set out at Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 81-15,147 to 81-15,157 (Reissue 2014). The Federal Water Quality Act and State statutes established the Program to provide loans, at reduced interest rates, to finance the construction of publicly and privately owned water pollution control facilities, non-point source pollution control projects, and estuary management plans. Instead of making grants to communities that pay for a portion of the building of wastewater treatment facilities, the Program provides for low interest loans to finance the entire cost of qualified projects. The Program provides a flexible financing source, which can be used for a variety of projects. Loans made by the Program must be repaid within 20 years, and all repayments, including interest and principal, must be used for the purposes of the Program. The Program was capitalized by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by a series of annual grants starting in 1989. States are required to provide an additional 20% of the Federal capitalization grant as matching funds in order to receive a Federal grant. As of June 30, 2014, the EPA had awarded \$188 million in capitalization grants to the State. Of the \$188 million awarded, approximately \$20 million was funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The \$168 million not funded by ARRA required the State to contribute approximately \$33.6 million in matching funds. The State provided appropriations to contribute \$955,000 of the funds to meet the State's matching requirement. Additional matching funds have been obtained through the issuance of revenue bonds.

The Program is administered by the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (Agency). The Agency's primary activities with regard to the Program include the making of loans for water pollution control facilities and the management and coordination of the Program. The Nebraska Environmental Quality Council approves the rules and regulations of the Agency and the Program's Intended Use Plan.

EXIT CONFERENCE

An exit conference was held March 31, 2015, with the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program (Program) to discuss the results of our examination. Those in attendance for the Program were:

NAME	AGENCY	TITLE
Martie Guthrie	DEQ	Budget Officer
Mary Sue Semerena	DHHS	Environmental Health Administrator II
Chin Chew	DHHS	Environmental Engineer Section Supervisor
Kris Young	DEQ	Accountant III
Dawn Martin	DEQ	State Revolving Fund (SRF) Assistant Coordinator
Marty Link	DEQ	Environmental Quality Associate Program Director –
		Water Quality Division
Kevin Stoner	DEQ	State Revolving Fund (SRF) Supervisor
Dennis Burling	DEQ	Information Technology (IT) Manager
Mary Brady	DEQ	State Revolving Fund (SRF) – Federal Aid Administrator II
Pat Rice	DEQ	Assistant Director
John R. Danforth	DEQ	Environmental Assistant Coordinator
Jim Macy	DEQ	Director
Tom Lamberson	DEQ	Deputy Director
Felix Davidson	Governor's Office	Chief Operating Officer
Jim Novotny	DEQ	Accountant III
Steve McNulty	DHHS	Environmental Engineer II
Garet Buller	DHHS	Internal Audit Administrator
Curtis Youngman	DAS	State Accounting
Mark Herman	DEQ	Federal Aid Administrator II

Agencies

DAS – Department of Administrative Services

DEQ – Department of Environmental Quality

DHHS – Department of Health and Human Services



NEBRASKA AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Charlie Janssen State Auditor

Charlie.Janssen@nebraska.gov PO Box 98917 State Capitol, Suite 2303 Lincoln, Nebraska 68509 402-471-2111, FAX 402-471-3301 www.auditors.nebraska.gov

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PROGRAM

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality Lincoln, Nebraska

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the business-type activities of the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program's basic financial statements, as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor

considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective balance sheet of the business-type activities of the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program, as of June 30, 2014, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 1, the financial statements of the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program are intended to present the balance sheet, the changes in financial position and cash flows of only that portion of the business-type activities of the State that is attributable to the transactions of the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program. They do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the balance sheet of the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality as of June 30, 2014, the changes in its financial position, or its cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis, on pages 6 through 9, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, which considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express such opinion or assurance.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards* and Regulatory Requirements

Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated April 10, 2015, on our consideration of the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, grant agreements, and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Regulatory Requirements

In accordance with the June 30, 2013 Compliance Supplement—U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Part IV as it pertains to Capitalization Grants for Clean Water State Revolving Fund Programs, we have also issued our report dated April 10, 2015, on our consideration of the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program's internal control over compliance and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, and grants.

Lincoln, Nebraska April 10, 2015 Don Dunlap, CPA Assistant Deputy Auditor

Don Dunlage

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

This section of the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (Agency) – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program's (Program) financial report presents a narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Program for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014. This analysis has been prepared by management of the Agency and is intended to be read in conjunction with the Program's financial statements and related footnotes, which follow this section.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Program's basic financial statements. The Program's basic financial statements include: 1) Balance Sheet; 2) Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position; 3) Statement of Cash Flows; and 4) Notes to the Financial Statements.

The Balance Sheet presents information on all of the Program's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net position. The Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position presents information showing how the Program's net position changed during the fiscal year.

The Statement of Cash Flows presents the Program's flows of cash by defined categories. The primary purpose of the Statement of Cash Flows is to provide information about the Program's cash receipts and payments during the year.

The Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of the financial statements and provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the financial statements.

ANALYSIS OF BALANCES AND TRANSACTIONS OF ENTERPRISE FUND

Changes in Net Position

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014, the net position of the Program increased by 3.7%. Revenues decreased by 4.9%, and operating expenses decreased by 28.6%.

NET POSITION									
	2014	2013	% Change						
Current Assets	\$ 112,431,399	\$ 111,725,697	0.6%						
Noncurrent Assets	139,641,547	132,103,392	5.7%						
Total Assets	252,072,946	243,829,089	3.4%						
Current Liabilities	214,449	869,843	-75.3%						
Noncurrent Liabilities	87,884	102,827	-14.5%						
Total Liabilities	302,333	972,670	-68.9%						
Net Position:									
Net Investment in Capital Assets	21,148	-	100.0%						
Unrestricted	251,749,465	242,856,419	3.7%						
Total Net Position	\$ 251,770,613	\$ 242,856,419	3.7%						

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

(Continued)

CHANGES IN NET POSITION

	2014	2013	% Change
Loan Fees Administration	\$ 1,076,543	\$ 1,062,491	1.3%
Interest	5,304,981	5,646,586	-6.0%
Fines, Forfeits & Penalties	745	425	75.3%
Debt Service Refund	3,053	2,188	39.5%
Total Operating Revenue	6,385,322	6,711,690	-4.9%
Administration	960,483	852,900	12.6%
Grant Expense	329,496	884,449	-62.7%
Loan Forgiveness	1,048,806	1,536,611	-31.7%
Total Operating Expenses	2,338,785	3,273,960	-28.6%
Operating Income	4,046,537	3,437,730	17.7%
Capital Contributions Federal Grants	4,902,830	6,514,427	-24.7%
Interest Expense on Bonds Payable	(7,300)	(12,089)	-39.6%
Cost of Bond Issuance	(27,873)		100.0%
Net Nonoperating Revenue (Expenses)	4,867,657	6,502,338	-25.1%
Change in Net Position	8,914,194	9,940,068	-10.3%
Beginning Net Position July 1	242,856,419	232,916,351	4.3%
Ending Net Position June 30	\$ 251,770,613	\$ 242,856,419	3.7%

Operating expenses decreased due to fewer small town grants being awarded than in previous years. These grants are awarded every year; however, they are not paid to a community until it has allowable expenditures. There was an unusually higher amount of reimbursement requests during fiscal year 2013 than in fiscal year 2014. Revenues decreased as loan payoffs reduced the amount of interest collected on outstanding balances.

Federal funds disbursed will vary each year depending on the size of each draw, the timing of each draw, the number of communities applying for loans, and the number of loans successfully processed. Changes are inherent in the Program and are expected when draws are based on community requests.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

(Continued)

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Nebraska's economy has been affected by the current national economic decline in recent years; however, net State General Fund revenue collections have been above projections. The State has continued to take steps to avert major economic impacts both statewide and within communities. The small rural makeup of the State remains a challenge for communities in funding major capital projects. Declining population bases make it difficult to draw the amount of user fees needed to fund infrastructure requirements.

DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Short-Term Debt

During the fiscal year, the Program had debt activity that was short-term in nature, resulting from a bond issue. The issue was for \$1,360,000, which was repaid and retired within the same fiscal year.

LINKED DEPOSIT PROGRAM

The Agency is in the process of implementing a linked deposit program for nonpoint source pollution control projects through revisions of Title 131. The Clean Water State Revolving Fund will partner with eligible lending institutions, which will disburse loans to borrowers for these projects through a linked deposit loan program. Under this program, the State agrees to place funds into low-yielding deposits, and the lending institution agrees to provide loans to borrowers at similarly reduced interest rates below common market rates. Title 131 revisions are planned to be presented to the Environmental Quality Council in November 2015 for approval. Once revisions are completed and approved, marketing and communication of the program will begin.

LOANS AND GRANTS TRACKING SYSTEM SOFTWARE (LGTS)

LGTS is a comprehensive software application developed by Northbridge Environmental that is designed for Nebraska's State Revolving Fund (SRF) managers and staff to track and manage all aspects of their Clean and Drinking Water SRF programs from project loan application to final repayment, as well as tracking all capital contributions, set-aside spending, and bond issuance and repayment.

The software was developed to address the data management needs for all of the steps in the SRF management process including priority list development, facility location and identification, engineering review and milestone tracking, inspections, contacts, contract approvals and change orders, detailed payment request processing, project spending forecasts, encumbrances, funding draws and transfers, disbursements, amortization schedule creation and management, billing, repayment processing, fund deposits, and tracking of repaid funds by their original source. The software also contains a general ledger that each state can customize to match existing accounting systems and create trial balances, financial statements, and related financial schedules.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

(Concluded)

LGTS has built-in, role-based security that requires users to log in each time they open the program. This security system is based on defined roles that all users are playing in the program. Security roles limit users to performing certain functions.

Historical data is extracted from spreadsheets or other data systems to load LGTS with data, test the validity of the data, and ensure that LGTS can be used effectively. This task is handled by a combination of staff efforts to assemble existing data sources and outside help to ensure that the data is used properly. This process usually yields a dual benefit of having a system with clean data and provides a quality assurance check of the many transactions that have occurred years ago and often by a number of staff members.

Nebraska's State Revolving Fund programs have begun implementation of the LGTS system. During fiscal year 2014, planning of the implementation phases, business rules, and hardware/software installations occurred. Beginning in fiscal year 2015, the system will be used, concurrently with existing systems, to create a basis for reliability and consistency. Once dependable, reconciled results have been established, the existing internal system will be discontinued, and LGTS will become the sole system for use within the SRF program, alongside the State Accounting system.

Contract costs for the purchase and implementation of the LGTS system have been handled through the existing Northbridge contract with Federal EPA procurement. Therefore, expenditures are withheld as an "in-kind" deduction to the total annual CWSRF grant, which is awarded to the program each year. Federal EPA staff negotiate, monitor, and manage the Northbridge contract for LGTS.

BALANCE SHEET

JUNE 30, 2014

	Enterprise Fund		
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS:			
Interest on Fund Balance - State Operating Investment Pool (Note	9)	
Cash in State Treasury (Note 2)	\$	102,325,136	
Administration Fees Receivable		175	
Loan Interest Receivable		524	
Fines Receivable		312	
Due from Federal Government		140,389	
Interest Receivable		174,039	
Loans Receivable (Note 3)		9,790,824	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		112,431,399	
NON-CURRENT ASSETS:			
Loans Receivable (Note 3)		139,620,399	
Capital Assets, Net		21,148	
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		139,641,547	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	252,072,946	
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES:			
Accounts Payable & Accrued Liabilities	\$	36,141	
Due to Grant Recipients (Note 1)		171,693	
Compensated Absences (Note 6)		6,615	
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		214,449	
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES:		07.004	
Compensated Absences (Note 6) TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		87,884	
		87,884	
TOTAL LIABILITIES		302,333	
NET POSITION			
Net Investment in Capital Assets		21,148	
Unrestricted		251,749,465	
TOTAL NET POSITION		251,770,613	
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION	\$	252,072,946	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION

For the Year Ended June 30, 2014

	Ent	erprise Fund
OPERATING REVENUES:		
Loan Fees Administration (Note 8)	\$	1,076,543
Interest on Loans	4	3,404,029
Interest on Fund Balance - State Operating Investment Pool (Note 9)		1,900,952
Fines, Forfeits, and Penalties		745
Debt Service Refund		3,053
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES		6,385,322
OPERATING EXPENSES:		
Administrative Costs from Fees (Note 10)		761,959
4% Administrative Costs from Grants (Note 10)		198,524
Small Town Grants (Note 10)		301,576
Facility Planning Grants (Note 10)		27,920
Loan Forgiveness (Note 10)		1,048,806
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES		2,338,785
OPERATING INCOME		4,046,537
NONOPERATING REVENUE (EXPENSE)		
Capital Contributions - Federal Grants (Note 7)		4,888,124
Capital Contributions - Federal Grants - Capital Assets		14,706
Interest Expense on Bonds Payable		(7,300)
Cost of Bond Issuance		(27,873)
NET NONOPERATING REVENUE (EXPENSE)		4,867,657
CHANGE IN NET POSITION		8,914,194
TOTAL NET POSITION, BEGINNING OF YEAR		242,856,419
TOTAL NET POSITION, END OF YEAR	\$	251,770,613

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the Year Ended June 30, 2014

	En	terprise Fund
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Receipts From Customers	\$	13,509,264
Interest on Investments		1,896,402
Payments for Administration		(962,813)
Interest on Fund Balance - State Operating Investment Pool (Note 9)		(561,346)
Payments for Facility Planning Grants		(27,920)
Payments for Loan Forgiveness		(1,457,043)
Payments to Borrowers		(17,370,801)
Debt Service Refund		3,053
NET CASH USED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES		(4,971,204)
CASH FLOWS FROM NON-CAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Funds Received From the Environmental Protection Agency		5,279,646
Receipts From Bond Issue		1,360,000
Bond Principal Payments		(1,360,000)
Bond Interest Payments		(7,300)
Payment for Bond Issuance Costs		(27,873)
NET CASH FROM NON-CAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES		5,244,473
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Capital Contributions		14,706
Purchase of Capital Assets		(21,148)
NET CASH USED BY CAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES		(6,442)
Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents		266,827
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR		102,058,309
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR	\$	102,325,136
RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME		
TO NET CASH USED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Operating Income	\$	4,046,537
ADJUSTMENTS TO RECONCILE OPERATING INCOME	Ψ	1,010,237
TO NET CASH USED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
(Increase)/Decrease in Loans Receivable		(8,341,843)
(Increase)/Decrease in Interest Receivable		(4,550)
(Increase)/Decrease in Administration Fees Receivable		(175)
(Increase)/Decrease in Loan Interest Receivable		(524)
(Increase)/Decrease in Fines Receivable		(312)
Increase/(Decrease) in Compensated Absences		(16,068)
Increase/(Decrease) in Accounts Payable & Accrued Liabilities		13,738
Increase/(Decrease) in Due to Grant Recipients		(668,007)
NET CASH USED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	\$	(4,971,204)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2014

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying basic financial statements of the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (Agency) – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program (Program) have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP), as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles.

The basic financial statements have been prepared primarily from accounts maintained by the State Accounting Administrator of the Department of Administrative Services (DAS).

B. Reporting Entity

The Program is established under and governed by the Clean Water Act of the Federal Government and by laws of the State of Nebraska. The Agency is a State agency established under and governed by the laws of the State of Nebraska. As such, the Agency is exempt from State and Federal income taxes. The Program's management has also considered all potential component units for which it is financially accountable and other organizations that are fiscally dependent on the Program or whose relationship with the Program is so significant that exclusion would be misleading or incomplete. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. These criteria include appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body, and (1) the ability of the Agency to impose its will on that organization or (2) the potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on, the Agency. The Agency is also considered financially accountable if an organization is fiscally dependent on, and there is potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on, the Agency, regardless of whether the organization has (1) a separately elected governing board, (2) a governing board appointed by a higher level of government, or (3) a jointly appointed board.

These financial statements present the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program. No component units were identified. The Program is part of the primary government for the State of Nebraska's reporting entity.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

1. <u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies</u> (Continued)

C. Fund Structure

The Program's accounts are maintained in accordance with the principles of fund accounting to ensure compliance with limitations and restrictions placed on the use of resources available to it. Under fund accounting, individual funds are established for the purpose of carrying on activities or attaining objectives in accordance with specific regulations, restrictions, or limitations. Each individual fund is a self-balancing set of accounts recording cash and other financial resources, together with liabilities and residual equities or balances, and changes therein. The Program includes the following funds, as identified in the Wastewater Treatment Facilities Construction Assistance Act:

- Clean Water Facilities Funds General Fund 10000; Federal Funds 48412 and 48413; and Bond Funds 68470, 68471, 68472, and 68473.
- Administration Funds Cash Funds 28460, 28461, and 28462.

These funds are used to account for revenues and expenses for loans and administrative expenses of the Program.

The activity of these State of Nebraska funds has been combined and reported as an enterprise fund, which under governmental GAAP is a proprietary fund type. This fund type reflects transactions used to account for those operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to a private business. The accounting for the Program's transactions in this manner is a requirement of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), as the Program and the Agency have decided that the determination of the revenues earned, expenses incurred, and/or net income is necessary to demonstrate the success of the Program and to assure the EPA the Program will be available in perpetuity, as intended.

This fund classification differs from the classification used in the State of Nebraska's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). The CAFR classifies the Cash funds, Federal funds, and Bond funds as special revenue funds, as they meet the definition of special revenue funds under GASB Statement 54. In that statement, special revenue funds are defined as funds used to account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specific purposes.

D. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus and basis of accounting. An enterprise fund is accounted for on a flow of economic resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, all assets

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

1. <u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies</u> (Continued)

and all liabilities associated with the operation of the fund are included on the balance sheet. Enterprise fund operating statements present increases (i.e., revenues) and decreases (i.e., expenses) in total net position.

Enterprise funds utilize the accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recorded when earned, and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred.

E. Cash and Cash Equivalents

In addition to bank accounts and petty cash, this classification includes all short-term investments, such as certificates of deposit, repurchase agreements, and U.S. treasury bills. These short-term investments may have original maturities (remaining time to maturity at acquisition) greater than three months; however, cash is available and is considered cash and cash equivalents for reporting purposes. These investments are stated at cost, which at June 30, 2014, approximates market. Banks pledge collateral, as required by law, to guarantee State funds held in time and demand deposits.

Cash and cash equivalents are under the control of the State Treasurer or other administrative bodies, as determined by law. All cash deposited with the State Treasurer is initially maintained in a pooled cash account. On a daily basis, the State Treasurer invests cash not needed for current operations with the State's Investment Council, which maintains an operating investment pool for such investments. Interest earned on these investments is allocated to funds based on their percentage of the investment pool.

F. Loans Receivable

The State operates the Program as a direct loan program, whereby loans are made to communities. Loan funds are disbursed to the local agencies as they expend funds for the purposes of the loan. Interest is calculated from the date the funds are advanced. After the final disbursement has been made, the amortization schedule identified in the loan agreement is adjusted for the actual amounts disbursed and for accrued interest during the project period. The interest rates on loans range from 1.50% to 4.3%, and the terms could be 5 to 20 years.

The Program loans are funded from Federal capitalization grants, State match funding, and the Clean Water State Revolving Fund. The grants are funded, on average, 83.33% from Federal funds and 16.67% from State match funds. Reimbursements to communities are paid 100% from State matching funds until they have been exhausted, and then from Federal capitalization grant funds or Clean Water State Revolving Funds. The Clean Water State Revolving Fund is financed through principal repayments plus interest earnings available to finance new projects, allowing the funds to "revolve" over time.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

1. <u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies</u> (Continued)

The current loans receivable amount was determined using the amount of principal payment due to the Program at June 30, 2014, which is collectible in fiscal year 2015. Loans receivable that were paid in full, prior to their due date, as of August 31, 2014, were included in the current loans receivable balance as opposed to the long-term receivable balance.

No provisions were made for uncollectible accounts, as all loans were current, and management believed all loans would be repaid according to the loan terms.

G. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at fiscal year-end and revenues and expenditures during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

H. Compensated Absences

All permanent employees working for the Program earn sick and annual leave and are allowed to accumulate compensatory leave rather than be paid overtime. Temporary and intermittent employees are not eligible for paid leave. The liability has been calculated using the vesting method, in which leave amounts, for both employees currently eligible to receive termination payments and other employees expected to become eligible in the future to receive such payments upon termination, are included.

Program employees accrue vested annual leave at a variable rate based on years of service. Generally, accrued annual leave cannot exceed 35 days at the end of a calendar year. Employees accrue sick leave at a variable rate based on years of service. In general, accrued sick leave cannot exceed 180 days. There is no maximum limit on the accumulation of sick leave days for employees under certain labor contracts. Sick leave is not vested except upon death or upon reaching the retirement eligibility age of 55 – or a younger age, if the employee meets all criteria necessary to retire under the primary retirement plan covering his/her State employment, at which time the State is liable for 25% of the employee's accumulated sick leave. Employees under certain labor contracts can only be paid a maximum of 60 days.

The Program's financial statements recognize the expense and accrued liability when vacation and compensatory leave is earned or when sick leave is expected to be paid as termination payments.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

1. <u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies</u> (Continued)

I. Due to Grant Recipients

The Program awards Facility Planning Grants and Small Town Grants to communities with populations below 10,000 demonstrating serious financial hardship. Municipalities with wastewater treatment facility projects that have made application for grants and whose needs are identified on the Project Priority Planning List on the annual Intended Use Plan and who also meet the population and financial hardship guidelines are given priority for receiving grants.

The Program may choose to provide additional subsidization for municipalities in the form of loan forgiveness, up to a maximum of \$100,000 per project. The Program's power and authority to distribute the additional subsidization is an existing authority under the State Environmental Protection Act at Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-1504(4) (Reissue 2014) and the Wastewater Treatment Facilities Construction Assistance Act at Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-15,150 (Reissue 2014). To qualify for loan forgiveness, a community must be considered disadvantaged in regards to meeting affordability criteria and have a population equal to or fewer than 10,000 people. The loan recipient will not be required to repay the portion of the loan principal that has been designated as loan forgiveness under the terms and conditions of the loan contract. Loan forgiveness is considered a grant for purposes of the financial statements, since repayment is not required.

For Facility Planning Grants, Small Town Grants, and Loan Forgiveness Awards, once the municipality submits proof of payment to its vendors, it is reimbursed for its project costs by the Program. The Program's financial statements recognized the expense and accrued liability to the Program when the municipality incurred the project expense, which may not have been in the same fiscal year as when costs were reimbursed by the Program.

J. Operating Revenues and Expenses

Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with the Program's principal ongoing operations. The primary operating revenues of the Program are the loan fees administration and interest on loans, since making loans is the primary purpose of the Program. The principal operating expenses of the Program are administration expenses, small town grants, and loan forgiveness.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

1. <u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies</u> (Concluded)

K. Capital Assets

The Clean Water SRF program has only one Capital Asset, the Loans and Grants Tracking System (LGTS) software, which is recorded at cost. The Agency began the development phase of the LGTS software during fiscal year ended June 30, 2014, and is anticipating this phase to be completed during fiscal year ended June 30, 2016. The LGTS software is considered an Intangible Capital Asset and the Agency follows the capitalization policy set forth by the State of Nebraska for Intangible Capital Assets, which requires capitalization of such assets when the cost of such asset is in excess of \$100,000 and has an expected useful life of greater than one year. The LGTS software has an estimated useful life of seven years. Depreciation/amortization will begin upon completion of the development phase and the software being put into production and will be computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful life of the asset.

2. Cash in State Treasury

Cash in State Treasury, as reported on the balance sheet, is under the control of the Nebraska State Treasurer or other administrative bodies, as determined by law. Investment of all available cash is made by the State Investment Officer on a daily basis, based on total bank balances. These funds are held in the State of Nebraska Operating Investment Pool (OIP), an internal investment pool. Additional information on the deposits and investments portfolio, including investment policies, risks, and types of investments, can be found in the State of Nebraska's CAFR for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014. All interest revenue is allocated to the General Fund except allocations required by law to be made to other funds. All funds of the Program were designated for investment during fiscal year 2014. Amounts are allocated on a monthly basis based on average balances of all invested funds.

3. <u>Loans Receivable</u>

As of June 30, 2014, the Program had 144 outstanding community loans that totaled \$149,411,223. The outstanding balances of the 10 communities with the largest loan balances, which represent 52.5% of the total loans, were as follows:

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

3. <u>Loans Receivable</u> (Concluded)

Community	Outs	standing Balance
Lincoln	\$	19,092,560
Omaha		12,562,808
North Platte		10,936,672
Gosper County SID #1		8,113,764
South Sioux City		5,388,528
Broken Bow		4,856,645
Nebraska City		4,684,222
Lexington		4,600,833
Wayne		4,444,802
Sidney		3,812,555
TOTAL	\$	78,493,389

4. <u>Capital Assets</u>

The Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) capital assets activity for the year ended June 30, 2014, was:

	Beginnii Balance	0	In	creases	Decre	eases	nding dance
Software Development In-Progress							
Loans and Grants Tracking System (LGTS)	\$	_	\$	21,148	\$		\$ 21,148

5. **Bonds Payable**

The EPA requires the Program to provide 20% matching funds for each capitalization grant under § 602(b)(2) of the Federal Clean Water Act. During the fiscal year, the Program issued Series 2013 short-term revenue bonds to meet this requirement. Bond Series 2013 was retired during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014. Bonds Payable activity for fiscal year 2014 was:

]	Beginning					Ending	
		Balance	Additions		Re	etirements	Balance	
Bonds Payable	\$	-	\$	1,360,000	\$	1,360,000	\$	-

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

6. Noncurrent Liabilities

Changes in noncurrent liabilities for the year ended June 30, 2014, were as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance	Amounts Due Within One Year
Compensated					
Absences	\$110,567	\$ -	\$16,068	\$94,499	\$6,615

7. <u>Capital Contributions</u>

Included in the net position is the total amount of capitalization grants drawn from the EPA by the Agency. The following summarizes the capitalization grants awarded and drawn, as well as the remaining balance as of June 30, 2014. The year column relates directly to the grant amount column and represents the fiscal year the grant funds were appropriated by Congress. The amount drawn column is as of June 30, 2014, and may have been drawn over multiple years.

Federal Fiscal					
Year Available	Gra	ant Amount	Am	ount Drawn	Balance
1989	\$	4,773,100	\$	4,773,100	\$ -
1990		4,964,560		4,964,560	-
1991		10,821,580		10,821,580	-
1992		9,938,500		9,938,500	-
1993		9,830,300		9,830,300	-
1994		6,061,600		6,061,600	-
1995		6,263,600		6,263,600	-
1996		10,319,661		10,319,661	-
1997		3,119,900		3,119,900	-
1998		7,019,996		7,019,996	-
1999		6,857,600		6,857,600	-
2000		6,834,000		6,834,000	-
2001		6,797,400		6,797,400	-
2002		6,855,000		6,855,000	-
2003		7,069,900		7,069,900	-
2004		6,747,100		6,747,100	-
2005		5,467,300		5,467,300	-
2006		4,424,300		4,424,300	-
2007		5,429,600		5,429,600	-
2008		3,415,700		3,415,700	-

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

7. <u>Capital Contributions</u> (Continued)

Federal Fiscal Year Available	Grant Amount	Amount Drawn	Balance
2009 - ARRA	\$ 20,045,000	\$ 20,045,000	\$ -
2009	3,415,700	3,415,700	-
2010	10,422,000	9,841,352	580,648
2011	7,529,000	7,107,585	421,415
2012	7,075,582	2,832,334	4,243,248
2013	6,663,899	880,684	5,783,215
TOTAL	\$ 188,161,878	\$ 177,133,352	\$ 11,028,526

The 2014 grant was awarded on July 2, 2014, after the end of State fiscal year 2014. The award was for \$8,572,800, which consisted of \$7,144,000 in Federal dollars and \$1,428,800 in State match dollars.

Not included in the above Grant totals are the amounts set aside as in-kind contributions for the Loans Grant Tracking System (LGTS) software development. The 2012 grant had \$107,476, and the 2013 grant had \$153,043 set aside as in-kind amounts for the use by the EPA for the cost of the development of the new LGTS software. The amount expended/drawn down for the LGTS software for fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, was \$14,706.

The following is a summary of changes in the total contributed capital:

Contributed Capital July 1, 2013	\$ 172,925,622
Contributed During the Year – Funds from EPA	4,888,124
Contributed Capital June 30, 2014	\$ 177,813,746

Also included in the contributed capital is a total of all general funds received by the Program from the Nebraska State Legislature. These assets were to be used as match for the Program for the initial capitalization grant received by the State. The State contributed \$300,000 and \$655,000 in the fiscal years ended June 30, 1989 and 1990, respectively. Included in the Funds from the EPA amount is the reversal of the increase in Due From Federal Government from the prior year of \$116,916, and the decrease in Due From Federal Government from the current year of \$391,522.

Nebraska was awarded \$20,045,000 in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds for wastewater treatment facility improvements. The ARRA funds supplemented the Program and did not require a 20% State match. The \$20 million in ARRA funds was blended with Nebraska's existing Program loan funds. The communities that received ARRA funding were offered a package that included: a 50%

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

7. <u>Capital Contributions</u> (Concluded)

portion low-interest loan from existing State Program funding; a 25% portion no-interest loan of ARRA funds; and a 25% portion loan forgiveness of ARRA funds. ARRA required the State to use at least 50% of the ARRA funds supplied by this grant to provide additional subsidization, which the State elected to do in the form of loan forgiveness. ARRA spending was completed during fiscal year ended 2012.

8. <u>Loan Fees Administration</u>

An annual fee of up to 1% is charged against the outstanding principal on loans to meet the long-term administrative costs of the Program. The fee is collected semi-annually, billed when invoices for principal and interest payments are due and waived for the first year of the loan. This fee is not included in the loan principal. The Director of the Program may waive this fee during construction, except on projects that only receive interim financing during construction.

9. <u>Interest on Fund Balance – State Operating Investment Pool</u>

The reported amount represents the earnings the Program received from idle funds invested by the Nebraska State Treasurer with the State's Investment Council. Interest is credited on approximately the twenty-fifth day of each subsequent month.

10. Operating Expenses

The Operating Expenses of the Program are classified, for financial reporting purposes, into five categories:

Administrative Costs from Fees

To meet the long-term administrative needs of the program, an annual fee of up to 1% is charged against the outstanding principal on loans. This fee is deposited into a separate account and is used for administrative costs of the Program and other eligible water quality related purposes. The fee on a loan made from leveraged bond proceeds may be set to reflect the cost of issuing bonds and management of the leveraged loan portfolio.

4% Administrative Costs from Grants

The maximum amount allowable for administering and managing the Program is 4% of the cumulative amount of capitalization grant awards received. When the administrative expense of the Program exceeds 4%, the excess must be paid from sources outside of the Program.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

10. Operating Expenses (Concluded)

Small Town Grants

Per Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-15,151(2) (Reissue 2014) and Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-15,153(9) (Reissue 2014), Small Town Grants are made available to communities that have populations of 10,000 inhabitants or less and demonstrate serious financial hardship. The maximum amount to be awarded in Small Town Grants is set at 65% of the revenue from administrative fees collected in the prior fiscal year. The total amount of grants that can be signed into loan contracts for State fiscal year 2014 was capped at \$850,000. In the 2014 Intended Use Plan (IUP), the Agency set the upper limit of grant to each community at \$250,000 per project, concurrent with a Program loan. Projects are prioritized based on the type of project and Median Household Income of the community.

Small Town Grants are funded with loan administration fees collected while a community is repaying its loan.

Facility Planning Grants

Facility planning grants may be provided to municipalities that have populations of 10,000 or fewer inhabitants and demonstrate serious financial hardship. Municipalities with wastewater treatment facility project needs that are identified on the project priority list, have not received a grant in the past five years, and also qualify for a Small Town Grant can receive up to 90% of project costs up to a maximum of \$20,000 per project. These grants are funded through the Administrative Cash Fund.

Loan Forgiveness

The State may choose to provide additional subsidization in the form of loan forgiveness up to a maximum of \$100,000 per project to qualifying disadvantaged communities that meet the affordability criteria found in the 2014 IUP. Awarding loan forgiveness is dependent on the availability of funding from Federal capitalization grants and the total amount of funds the Program decides to allocate for forgiveness from each grant. The Program will reserve at least \$320,210 (4.7% of the Capitalization Grant) for forgiveness, but up to \$480,322 (7.0%) can be used for additional subsidization. The Program's authority to distribute the additional subsidization is an existing authority under the State Environmental Protection Act at Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-1504(4) (Reissue 2014) and the Wastewater Treatment Facilities Construction Assistance Act at Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-15,150 (Reissue 2014). Together, these statutes allow the Program to accept and expend Federal grants for designated projects. Loan forgiveness discharges the community from repaying that portion of the principal amount of its loan under the terms and conditions of the loan contract.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

11. State Employees Retirement Plan (Plan)

The single-employer Plan became effective by statute on January 1, 1964. The Public Employees Retirement Board was created in 1971 to administer the Plan. The Plan consists of a defined contribution option and a cash balance benefit. The cash balance benefit is a type of defined benefit plan. Each member employed and participating in the retirement system prior to January 1, 2003, elected either to continue participation in the defined contribution option or to begin participation in the cash balance benefit. The defined contribution option is closed to new entrants. All new members of the Plan on and after January 1, 2003, become members of the cash balance benefit. The benefits and funding policy of the Plan are established and can only be amended by the Nebraska Legislature.

All permanent full-time employees are required to begin participation in the retirement system upon employment. All permanent part-time employees who have attained the age of 18 years, may exercise the option to begin participation in the retirement system.

Contribution. Per statute, each member contributes 4.8% of his or her compensation. The Agency matches the member's contribution at a rate of 156%. The employee's and employer's contributions are kept in separate accounts.

The employee's account is fully vested. The employer's account is fully vested after a total of three years of participation in the system, including credit for participation in another Nebraska governmental plan prior to actual contribution to the Plan.

Defined Contribution Option. Upon attainment of age 55, regardless of service, the retirement allowance shall be equal to the sum of the employee and employer account. Members have several forms of payment available, including withdrawals, deferrals, annuities, or a combination of these.

Cash Balance Benefit. Upon attainment of age 55, regardless of service, the retirement allowance shall be equal to the accumulated employee and employer cash balance accounts, including interest credits, annuitized for payment in the normal form. The normal form of payment is a single-life annuity with five-year certain, payable monthly. Members will have the option to convert their member cash balance account to a monthly annuity with built-in cost-of-living adjustments of 2.5% annually. Also available are additional forms of payment allowed under the Plan, which are actuarially equivalent to the normal form, including the option of lump-sum or partial lump-sum.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014, employees contributed \$25,168, and the Agency contributed \$39,263. A separate plan report is issued and can be obtained from the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement System. This report contains full pension-related disclosures.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

11. <u>State Employees Retirement Plan (Plan)</u> (Concluded)

The State of Nebraska Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) also includes pension-related disclosures. The CAFR report is available from the Nebraska Department of Administrative Services – Accounting Division or on the Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts' website at www.auditors.nebraska.gov.

12. Contingencies and Commitments

Risk Management. The Agency is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft of, damage to, or destruction of assets, errors or omissions, injuries to employees, and natural disasters. The Agency, as part of the primary government for the State, participates in the State's risk management program. DAS is responsible for maintaining the insurance and self-insurance programs for the State. The State typically self-insures for general liability, employee health care, employee indemnification, and workers' compensation. The State has chosen to purchase insurance for:

- A. Motor vehicle liability, which is insured for the first \$5,000,000 of exposure per accident with a self-insured retention of \$300,000 per accident, except for accidents involving vehicular pursuit, which have a \$1,000,000 self-insured retention per accident. Insurance is also purchased, with various limits and deductibles, for physical damage and uninsured and underinsured motorists. State agencies have the option to purchase coverage for physical damage to vehicles.
- B. Life insurance for eligible employees.
- C. Crime coverage, with a limit of \$31,000,000 for each loss, and a \$25,000 self-insured retention per incident subject to specific conditions, limits, and exclusions.
- D. Real and personal property on a blanket basis for losses up to \$250,000,000, with a self-insured retention of \$200,000 per loss occurrence. Newly acquired properties are covered up to \$5,000,000 for 120 days or until the value of the property is reported to the insurance company. The perils of flood, earthquake, and acts of terrorism have various coverage, sub-limits, and self insurance. State agencies have the option to purchase building contents and inland marine coverage.

Details of the various insurance coverages are available from DAS - Risk Management Division.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Concluded)

12. <u>Contingencies and Commitments</u> (Concluded)

No settlements exceeded commercial insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years. Health care insurance is funded in the Insurance Trust Funds through a combination of employee and State contributions. Workers' compensation is funded in the Workers' Compensation Internal Service Fund through assessments on each agency based on total agency payroll and past experience. Tort claims, theft of, damage to, or destruction of assets, errors or omissions, and natural disasters would be funded through the State General Fund or by individual agency assessments, as directed by the Legislature, unless covered by purchased insurance. No amounts for estimated claims have been reported in the Program's financial statements.

Litigation. The potential amount of liability involved in litigation pending against the Agency, if any, could not be determined at this time. However, it is the Agency's opinion that final settlement of those matters should not have an adverse effect on the Agency's ability to administer current programs. Any judgment against the Agency would have to be processed through the State Claims Board and be approved by the Legislature.



NEBRASKA AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Charlie Janssen State Auditor

Charlie.Janssen@nebraska.gov
PO Box 98917
State Capitol, Suite 2303
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509
402-471-2111, FAX 402-471-3301
www.auditors.nebraska.gov

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PROGRAM
REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND
ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE
WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality Lincoln, Nebraska

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the business-type activities of the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated April 10, 2015.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable

possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Lincoln, Nebraska April 10, 2015 Don Dunlap, CPA
Assistant Deputy Auditor



NEBRASKA AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Charlie Janssen State Auditor

Charlie.Janssen@nebraska.gov
PO Box 98917
State Capitol, Suite 2303
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509
402-471-2111, FAX 402-471-3301
www.auditors.nebraska.gov

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PROGRAM
REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE
WITH REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO THE NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY – CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND
PROGRAM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OMB CIRCULAR A-133 COMPLIANCE
SUPPLEMENT

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality Lincoln, Nebraska

Report on Compliance for the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program

We have audited the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program's compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *OMB Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program for the year ended June 30, 2014.

Management's Responsibility

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above. We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with the following: auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and OMB Circular A-133,

Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations. Those standards and OMB Circular A-133 require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion on compliance for the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination of the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program's compliance.

Opinion on the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program

In our opinion, the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program for the year ended June 30, 2014.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

Management of the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our audit of compliance, we considered the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program's internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an opinion on compliance for the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program's internal control over compliance.

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a Federal program on a timely basis. A material weakness in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a Federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected,

on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a Federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

The purpose of this report on compliance and internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of OMB Circular A-133. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Lincoln, Nebraska April 10, 2015 Don Dunlap, CPA Assistant Deputy Auditor

Don Dunlage