

*Fiscal Year 2027*

**Cooperative Funding Initiative Applications**

# Heartland Region





Project Name	Project Number	District Funding Requested
PRWC Southeast Wellfield Implementation	Q184	\$110,940,000
PRWC Regional Transmission Southeast Phase 1	Q216	\$76,013,000
Brackish - Polk Regional Water Cooperative West Polk Wellfield	Q308	\$107,052,000
Overall Total		\$294,005,000



# SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

## FY 2027 Cooperative Funding Initiative Application Form

**Project Name:** PRWC Southeast Wellfield Implementation

**Project Number:** Q184

**Cooperator:** Polk Regional Water Cooperative

**Contact Person:** Kathleen Gierok

**Department:** Polk Regional Water Cooperative

**Address:** 601 S. Lake Destiny Drive, Suite 290 **Phone #:** 4077102840

**City State Zip:** Maitland, FL 32751

**Ext:**

**Email:** kathleen.gierok@wright-pierce.com

**Project Type:**

Water Supply

**Strategic Initiatives:**

Alternative Water Supply

**Project Description/Benefit/Cost**

**Description:**

The member governments in the Polk Regional Water Cooperative (PRWC) are facing an estimated water deficit of 9.8 million gallons per day (MGD) by the year 2030 and an estimated 23.0 MGD deficit in 2045. For the past eight years, the PRWC has been actively developing alternative water supply sources to augment its traditional water supply source, the upper Floridan aquifer. The PRWC developed a preliminary planning-level document prioritizing five "nominated" alternative water supply projects including the Southeast lower Floridan aquifer (LFA) Wellfield (SE), West Polk LFA Wellfield (WP), Peace Creek (PC), Peace River and Land Use Transitions (PR), and Alafia River (AR) projects through cooperative funding agreements N447 and N448. Of these projects, the PRWC has developed design documents for the four candidate projects: the SE, WP, PC, and PR projects. These efforts were completed through the Phase 1 Combined Projects Implementation Agreement, which was cooperatively funded with the SWFWMD as follows: 1. Southeast Wellfield (N905) - included conceptual and preliminary design 2. West Polk Lower Floridan Aquifer (N882) - included conceptual and preliminary design 3. Peace Creek Integrated Water Supply Plan (N928) - included preliminary design and integrated water supply plan 4. Peace River and Land Use Transitions (Q133) - included conceptual planning and water supply availability. PRWC has ratified Implementation Agreements for the Southeast Wellfield Project and the West Polk Lower Floridan Wellfield, which include design and construction based on the preliminary design performed in Phase 1. The PRWC has identified the final design and construction phasing for the West Polk Lower Floridan Wellfield Project and completed design for the Southeast Wellfield project with construction currently ongoing. The PRWC is requesting continued funding assistance in support of the development of the two projects. The SE WPF will be located in the southeast portion of Polk County, located east of Lake Wales. The PRWC has obtained a Water Use Permit (WUP 53-00293-W) from the SWFWMD for a groundwater withdrawal of 37.5 MGD. This permit would support a master planned finished water capacity of 30 MGD. This funding application includes the development of a water production facility with a capacity of 15.0 MGD to be expanded in three phases with an initial phased capacity of 7.5 MGD. The PRWC has completed the design for the SE project, which includes a 7.5 MGD reverse osmosis water production facility (WPF) and transmission system (funded separately) to PRWC member utilities with a buildout capacity of 12.5

# SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

## FY 2027 Cooperative Funding Initiative Application Form

MGD. This project was approved for final design and construction CFI funding starting in FY 2022. Additional funding requested under this application would build upon the previous funding efforts (Q184). This project is currently under construction. This funding request includes the completion of the construction of the Southeast Wellfield WPF, wellfield and raw water transmission main to the WPF, and concentrate disposal well(s) for FY 2027. The project will provide alternative water supply for participating members of the PRWC, which will be delivered by a regional finished water transmission system as a companion project (Q216).

### **Benefit:**

Water obtained from this alternative supply project will be used by PRWC project partners to reduce stress on the upper Floridan aquifer (UFA). The project will improve surface waters and wetlands currently impacted by withdrawals from the UFA. The project was also identified within the CFWI 2020 regional water supply plan as a potential future water supply solution.

### **Cost:**

The projected costs for the SE Wellfield (WPF) Implementation project are outlined below. These costs represent design, engineering, administration, CMAR services, construction, construction engineering, post-construction services, future planning and future phase costs. Costs for the first phase of the project include the initial phase expansion to 7.5 MGD. Costs for the remaining phases of the project through buildout have been apportioned as "Future Costs". These costs represent the total eligible costs to be cooperatively funded by the District. This excludes land, legal fees/financial services, and exploratory Test Production Well #3 costs. It is anticipated that the District would provide funding for 50% of the costs presented below. As this project moves forward, subsequent CFI applications will be provided through the same funding agreement.

It is noted that as a result of the current market and the time it takes to implement a large project of this nature, overall costs for this project have increased. Currently the estimated eligible project costs are \$270 M as compared to the initial board-approved Phase 1 amount of \$185,296,667. The PRWC will absorb the cost escalation in addition to its 50% responsibility for the co-funded amount. PRWC's shares are secured under the member's implementation agreement. FDEP grant shares have also been accounted for in the funding table.

Phase 1 Costs - \$185,296,667

Future Costs - \$43,333,333

Total - \$228,630,000

### **Describe your complementary efforts in developing, implementing and enforcing water conservation, water quality and flood protection ordinances.**

The PRWC and its members are considering a mix of activities to achieve compliance with the guidelines set forth by the CFWI. The members provide information on their individual water conservation programs through their individual water use permitting. The PRWC has previously partnered with SWFWMD and IFAS to develop a demand management plan to provide water conservation strategies throughout Polk County. The PRWC continues to work with its members on ways for the members to individually and collectively implement effective water conservation strategies and programs. This mix of activities being considered include but are not limited to conservation efforts to be achieved by rates, Water Star, and incentive programs along with more holistic approaches to save water.



# SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

## FY 2027 Cooperative Funding Initiative Application Form

The PRWC Board of Directors has adopted a Conservation Project Agreement to develop a PRWC conservation program. Staff are in the process of advertising for a conservation specialist that will work directly for the PRWC with funds paid by its members to implement the strategies set forth in the Demand Management Plan (DMP).

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Prior Funding</b>	<b>FY2026</b>	<b>FY2027</b>	<b>Future Funding</b>	<b>Total Funding</b>
Applicant Share	29,334,987	14,500,000	14,500,000	52,605,013	110,940,000
District Share	29,334,987	14,500,000	14,500,000	52,605,013	110,940,000
FDEP	6,750,000	0	0	0	6,750,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>65,419,974</b>	<b>29,000,000</b>	<b>29,000,000</b>	<b>105,210,026</b>	<b>228,630,000</b>

### Matching Fund Reduction

Check here if requesting a reduction in matching funds requirement pursuant to s.288.06561, F.S.

### Timelines

Design/Permitting	8/26/2024
Bidding	10/03/2024
Construction Completion	12/31/2028
Project Buildout	9/30/2040
Implementation Budget	

# SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

## FY 2027 Cooperative Funding Initiative Application Form

**Project Name:** PRWC Regional Transmission Southeast

**Project Number:** Q216

**Cooperator:** Polk Regional Water Cooperative

**Contact Person:** Kathleen Gierok

**Department:** Polk Regional Water Cooperative

**Address:** 601 S. Lake Destiny Drive, Suite 290 **Phone #:** 4077102840

**City State Zip:** Maitland, FL 32751

**Ext:**

**Email:** kathleen.gierok@wright-pierce.com

**Project Type:**

Water Supply

**Strategic Initiatives:**

Alternative Water Supply

**Project Description/Benefit/Cost**

**Description:**

The member governments in the Polk Regional Water Cooperative (PRWC) are facing an estimated water d

**Benefit:**

Water obtained from this alternative supply project will be used by PRWC project partners to reduce stress on the upper Floridan aquifer (UFA). The project will improve surface waters and wetlands currently impacted by withdrawals from the UFA. The project was also identified within the CFWI 2020 regional water supply plan as a potential future water supply solution.

**Cost:**

The projected costs for the PRWC Regional Transmission Southeast project are outlined below. These costs represent design, engineering, administration, CMAR services, construction, construction engineering, post-construction services. Costs for the project will be incurred as one phase; the transmission system design does not require future expansion. These costs represent the total eligible costs to be cooperatively funded by the District. This excludes land and legal fees/financial services. It is anticipated that the District would provide funding for 50% of the costs presented below. As this project moves forward, subsequent CFI applications will be provided through the same funding agreement.

It is noted that as a result of the current market and the time it takes to implement a large project of this nature, overall costs for this project have increased. Currently the estimated eligible project costs are \$230 M as compared to the initial board-approved project amount of \$156,976,000. The PRWC will absorb the cost escalation in addition to its 50% responsibility for the co-funded amount. PRWC's shares are secured under the member's implementation agreement. FDEP grant shares have also been accounted for in the funding table.



# SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

## FY 2027 Cooperative Funding Initiative Application Form

Describe your complementary efforts in developing, implementing and enforcing water conservation, water quality and flood protection ordinances.

The PRWC and its members are considering a mix of activities to achieve compliance with the guidelines set forth by the CFWI. The members provide information on their individual water conservation programs through their individual water use permitting. The PRWC has previously partnered with SWFWMD and IFAS to develop a demand management plan to provide water conservation strategies throughout Polk County. The PRWC continues to work with its members on ways for the members to individually and collectively implement effective water conservation strategies and programs. This mix of activities being considered include but are not limited to conservation efforts to be achieved by rates, Water Star, and incentive programs along with more holistic approaches to save water.

The PRWC Board of Directors has adopted a Conservation Project Agreement to develop a PRWC conservation program. Staff are in the process of advertising for a conservation specialist that will work directly for the PRWC with funds paid by its members to implement the strategies set forth in the Demand Management Plan (DMP).

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Prior Funding</b>	<b>FY2026</b>	<b>FY2027</b>	<b>Future Funding</b>	<b>Total Funding</b>
Applicant Share	33,754,362	30,194,667	9,270,437	16,479,647	89,699,113
District Share	33,754,362	27,811,312	9,270,437	5,176,889	76,013,000
FDEP	8,388,487	0	0	0	8,388,487
<b>Total</b>	<b>75,897,211</b>	<b>58,005,979</b>	<b>18,540,874</b>	<b>21,656,536</b>	<b>174,100,600</b>

### Matching Fund Reduction

Check here if requesting a reduction in matching funds requirement pursuant to s.288.06561, F.S.

### Timelines

Design/Permitting	4/26/2024
Bidding	9/22/2025
Construction Completion	12/31/2028

# SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

## FY 2027 Cooperative Funding Initiative Application Form

**Project Name:** Brackish - Polk Regional Water Cooperative West Polk Wellfield  
**Project Number:** Q308 **Cooperator:** Polk Regional Water Cooperative  
**Contact Person:** Kathleen Gierok **Department:** Polk Regional Water Cooperative  
**Address:** 601 S. Lake Destiny Drive, Suite 290 **Phone #:** 4077102840  
**City State Zip:** Maitland, FL 32751 **Ext:**  
**Email:** kathleen.gierok@wright-pierce.com

**Project Type:**

Water Supply

**Strategic Initiatives:**

Alternative Water Supply

**Project Description/Benefit/Cost**

**Description:**

The member governments in the Polk Regional Water Cooperative (PRWC) are facing an estimated water deficit of 9.8 million gallons per day (MGD) by the year 2030 and an estimated 23.0 MGD deficit in 2045. For the past eight years, the PRWC has been actively developing alternative water supply sources to augment its traditional water supply source, the upper Floridan aquifer. The PRWC developed a preliminary planning-level document prioritizing five "nominated" alternative water supply projects including the Southeast lower Floridan aquifer (LFA) Wellfield (SE), West Polk LFA Wellfield (WP), Peace Creek (PC), Peace River and Land Use Transitions (PR), and Alafia River (AR) projects through cooperative funding agreements N447 and N448. Of these projects, the PRWC has developed design documents for the four candidate projects: the SE, WP, PC, and PR projects. These efforts were completed through the Phase 1 Combined Projects Implementation Agreement, which was cooperatively funded with the SWFWMD as follows: 1. Southeast Wellfield (N905) - included conceptual and preliminary design 2. West Polk Lower Floridan Aquifer (N882) - included conceptual and preliminary design 3. Peace Creek Integrated Water Supply Plan (N928) - included preliminary design and integrated water supply plan 4. Peace River and Land Use Transitions (Q133) - included conceptual planning and water supply availability. PRWC has ratified Implementation Agreements for the Southeast Wellfield Project and the West Polk Lower Floridan Wellfield, which include design and construction based on the preliminary design performed in Phase 1. The PRWC has identified the final design and construction phasing for the West Polk Lower Floridan Wellfield Project and completed design for the Southeast Wellfield project with construction currently ongoing. The PRWC is requesting continued funding assistance in support of the development of the two projects. The WP WPF will be located west of Lake Parker in northwest Polk County. The PRWC has submitted a Water Use Permit application to the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) for a groundwater withdrawal of 20 MGD for the project. This permit would support a finished water supply of 10 MGD initially, with an ultimate water supply production of 15 MGD. The 10 MGD water production facility is planned to be expanded in three phases, beginning with the 2.5 MGD initial phase, and a master planned potential expansion of 15 MGD. The PRWC has completed the conceptual design and preliminary design for the WP project. The preliminary design for this project was approved for CFI funding for

# SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

## FY 2027 Cooperative Funding Initiative Application Form

FY 2021. The WP preliminary design includes a 2.5 MGD reverse osmosis water production facility and transmission system to PRWC member utilities with a buildout capacity of 10 MGD. The WP WPF will send treated water to Lakeland's TB Williams Water Treatment Plant for chemical post-treatment and finished water distribution. Therefore, the majority of PRWC members participating in the WP project will receive water to their systems through Lakeland's existing distribution system. This allows the transmission main facilities for this project to be significantly reduced, with only minor piping additions needed. Additional funding requested under this application would build upon the previous funding efforts (N882), starting with the final design of the WP project. The project includes construction of a water production facility (WPF), wellfield and raw water transmission main to the WTP, concentrate disposal well(s), and finished water transmission mains.

### **Benefit:**

Water obtained from this alternative supply project will be used by PRWC project partners to reduce stress on the upper Floridan aquifer (UFA). The project will improve surface waters and wetlands currently impacted by withdrawals from the UFA. The project was also identified within the CFWI 2020 regional water supply plan as a potential future water supply solution.

### **Cost:**

The projected costs for the final design and construction of the PRWC West Polk Wellfield project are outlined below. These costs represent design, engineering, administration, CMAR services, construction, construction engineering, post-construction services, future planning and future phase costs. Costs for the first phase of the project have been separated. Costs for the remaining phases of the project through buildout have been apportioned as "Future Costs". These costs represent the total eligible costs to be cooperatively funded by the District. This excludes land, legal fees/financial services, and exploratory Test Production Well #2 costs. It is anticipated that the District would provide funding for 50% of the costs presented below. As this project moves forward, subsequent CFI applications will be provided through the same funding agreement. It is noted that as a result of the current market and the time it takes to implement a large project of this nature, overall costs for this project are projected to increase or escalate. The PRWC will absorb the cost escalation in addition to its 50% responsibility for the co-funded amount. The PRWC is pursuing other grant funding opportunities to offset these cost increases in accordance with District policy for the CFI program. PRWC's shares are secured under the member's implementation agreement. FDEP grant shares have also been accounted for in the funding table.

Phase 1 Costs - \$118,880,000

Future Costs - \$95,224,000

Total - \$214,104,000

### **Describe your complementary efforts in developing, implementing and enforcing water conservation, water quality and flood protection ordinances.**

The PRWC and its members are considering a mix of activities to achieve compliance with the guidelines set forth by the CFWI. The members provide information on their individual water conservation programs through their individual water use permitting. The PRWC has previously partnered with SWFWMD and IFAS to develop a demand management plan to provide water conservation strategies throughout Polk County. The PRWC continues to work with its members on ways for the members to individually and collectively implement effective water conservation strategies and programs. This mix of activities being considered

# SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

## FY 2027 Cooperative Funding Initiative Application Form

include but are not limited to conservation efforts to be achieved by rates, Water Star, and incentive programs along with more holistic approaches to save water.

The PRWC Board of Directors has adopted a Conservation Project Agreement to develop a PRWC conservation program. Staff are in the process of advertising for a conservation specialist that will work directly for the PRWC with funds paid by its members to implement the strategies set forth in the Demand Management Plan (DMP).

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Prior Funding</b>	<b>FY2026</b>	<b>FY2027</b>	<b>Future Funding</b>	<b>Total Funding</b>
Applicant Share	44,757,402	15,546,775	10,000,000	49,723,515	120,027,692
District Share	13,015,498	10,000,000	10,000,000	74,036,502	107,052,000
FDEP	1,064,308	0	0	0	1,064,308
<b>Total</b>	<b>58,837,208</b>	<b>25,546,775</b>	<b>20,000,000</b>	<b>123,760,017</b>	<b>228,144,000</b>

### Matching Fund Reduction

Check here if requesting a reduction in matching funds requirement pursuant to s.288.06561, F.S.

### Timelines

Planning	4/01/2026
Bidding	9/04/2028
Design/Permitting	1/01/2029
Construction	1/31/2032

*The Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) does not discriminate on the basis of disability. This nondiscrimination policy involves every aspect of the District's functions, including access to and participation in the District's programs, services and activities. Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation, or who would like information as to the existence and location of accessible services, activities, and facilities, as provided for in the Americans with Disabilities Act, should contact the Human Resources Office Chief, at 2379 Broad St., Brooksville, FL 34604-6899; telephone (352) 796-7211 or 1-800-423-1476 (FL only), ext. 4747; or email [ADACoordinator@WaterMatters.org](mailto:ADACoordinator@WaterMatters.org). If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1-800-955-8771 (TDD) or 1-800-9558770 (Voice). If requested, appropriate auxiliary aids and services will be provided at any public meeting, forum, or event of the District. In the event of a complaint, please follow the grievance procedure located at [WaterMatters.org/ADA](http://WaterMatters.org/ADA)*