Clean Water
State Revolving Fund

LENDING TO PRIVATELY OWNED WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS THAT IMPLEMENT A NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM CCMP

STATE PROGRAM: Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control

ASSISTANCE RECIPIENT: Allen Harim Foods LLC

ASSISTANCE AMOUNT: $8M

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Delaware CWSRF program, known as the Delaware Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund, provides assistance to privately-owned water quality improvement projects that implement a Section 320 CCMP. It makes funds available to private individuals, companies (profit and non-profit) and other entities to fund privately-owned water quality improvement projects that are within Delaware's "estuary zones," and that are consistent with the CCMPs established for those estuaries. In Delaware, consistency with the CCMP is determined by Environmental Finance staff as part of the application technical review.

In 2016, for the first time in its history, the Delaware Water Pollution Control Revolving Loan Fund provided a direct loan to a privately-owned wastewater treatment system. Over $8 million in CWSRF loan funds were awarded to Allen Harim Foods, LLC for the Harbeson Poultry Processing Plant in southern Delaware. The facility currently discharges into Beaver Dam Creek, which is in a Section 320 estuary of national significance (the Delaware Estuary) thus opening eligibility for CWSRF assistance to this private enterprise for activities to implement the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary's CCMP.

The loan was offered at 2% interest for 20 years.

As one of the largest producers of chicken products in the world, Allen Harim's operations are sophisticated and complex, generating significant wastewater flows as well as nutrient loads from nitrogen and phosphorus. The upgrade and expansion project funded by the CWSRF included an upgrade to the biological nutrient removal process to achieve nutrient removal from effluent, and a sideline wastewater treatment facility that will help to facilitate plans for future water reuse at the facility.

To read more about this case study, please visit https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2019-04/documents/cwsrf_section_320_estuaries.pdf.