

STORM MITIGATION LOAN PROGRAM

STATE PROGRAM: New York Environmental Facilities Corporation

ASSISTANCE RECIPIENT: New York Environmental Facilities Corporation

ASSISTANCE AMOUNT: \$339.7M



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Superstorm Sandy, the deadliest and costliest storm of the 2012 hurricane season, highlighted the vulnerability of heavily populated communities and the need for resiliency strategies for extreme weather events and associated coastal flooding. Storms, flooding, and rapid sea level rise can impact resources and infrastructure in low lying areas including roads, public access points, and sewer and water mains.

In the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy, the U.S. Congress appropriated \$600 million in SRF funds for New York and Page 4 New Jersey to reduce flood damage risk and vulnerability, or to enhance resilience to rapid hydrologic change or a natural disaster at a publicly owned treatment works (POTW). The New York Environmental Facilities Corporation (NYEFC) used their funds to create the Storm Mitigation Loan Program (SMLP) for Clean Water SRF projects. \$339.7 million in CWSRF funds were made available to provide financial assistance in the form of zero-interest loans and grants for storm resilience and mitigation projects. These projects included flood-proofing critical treatment systems, correcting significant problems to reduce the likelihood of sewer backups or flooding of a treatment facility, and upgrading and hardening pump stations to ensure peak flow capacity during a storm event. The SMLP promotes the use of sustainable practices in the design and construction of water quality infrastructure to reduce the risk to water systems from future storms and other natural disasters in the 14 counties affected by Sandy.

Today, the NYEFC continues to work with communities to fund resilience and mitigation projects by offering additional subsidization in the form of grants, as well as low- or no-interest loans. In addition, if there is a project that needs funding over and above what was originally planned, the CWSRF may be able to provide that assistance.

To read more about this case study, please visit https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2021-01/documents/funding_resilient_infrastructure_and_communities_with_the_cwsrf.pdf.