

DELTA REGIONAL AUTHORITY

SCORE SHEET CRITERIA EXPLANATIONS

PART I. (All Projects)

1. **LEGISLATION** - The Delta Regional Authority Act of 2000, "the Act", provides that in order for an entity to be eligible for funding by the Delta Regional Authority (Authority) it must be a State, public or nonprofit entity. If your organization is not one of the above recognized entities, it is not eligible, and an application should not be submitted.
2. **REGIONAL PLAN** - The Act requires that the Authority shall develop a comprehensive and coordinated plan for the economic development of the priorities along with Five Year Regional Outcome Targets, Short Term Goals, Mid-Term Goals and Long Term Goals. Your project must address one or more of the Targets or Goals set out in the Plan. A copy of the Plan can be obtained from the Authority's web site, www.dra.gov or by writing the Authority at 236 Sharkey Ave, Suite 400, Clarksdale, MS 38614.
3. **STATE PLAN** – The Act requires that each State submit a Development Plan from the area of the region represented, and it shall reflect the goals, objectives, and priorities identified in the Regional Development Plan. A copy of the State's Plan can be obtained from applicant's State Economic Development office.
4. **PRIORITY CONSIDERATIONS** – The Act established a priority ranking of the requests for assistance by the Authority. Submitted projects must identify with one or more of the listed priorities. The Authority will give the project or program the maximum extent practicable. See PART I – 9, 10 & 12.
5. **PROJECT FOCUS** – Under the Act the Authority shall give consideration to the items listed in this section as priority to receive Authority funding. The submitted project must identify with one of more of the priority areas.
6. **DRA (AUTHORITY) INITIATIVE** – The Authority will from time to time publicly announce DRA initiatives, but none will be announced this fiscal year, 2002. Therefore no points will be awarded in this category.
7. **GOVERNOR'S INITIATIVE** – This item recognizes that each participating State's Governor may have identified specific areas either subject or geographical, that are a priority for their Administration.
8. **PROJECT LOCATION** - Projects must be located in a designated DRA county/parish or a pocket-of-poverty (area within a recognized DRA county/parish.) A list of DRA's distressed counties/parishes can be obtained from DRA's website, www.dra.gov/DRA Overview, State Governor's office or Local Development District or Planning Development offices.
9. **OUTPUTS** - (Tabulation, calculation of activity or effort expressed in a quantitative and qualitative manner.) Identified as a **PRIORITY CONSIDERATION - # 4**. Project must include identified output calculation plans with actual documented activities throughout the duration of project.
10. **OUTCOMES** – (Results produced.) Project must identify plans to measure the to accomplish one or more of DRA's identified Regional Goals with demonstrated long-term impact.
11. **REASONABLENESS of COSTS** – Cost shall be compared to similar federal funded projects to ensure adequate and cost effective funding to complete the project, as well as to adhere to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) policies and procedures.
12. **PROJECT IMPACT** – Identified as a **PRIORITY CONSIDERATION - # 4** requiring a project to demonstrate results on regional, multi county/parish and/or local levels to accomplish Regional Goals. Each point indicates the Authority's consideration on the level of impact a project has on economic development.
13. **FUNDING SCHEDULE** – The Authority identifies under the Act the need to fund projects, which will have adequate funding to complete projects. It is encouraged that projects have all necessary funding secured to receive the maximum points needed for DRA's approval.

PART II-A COMMITTED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS
(Business location/Expansion/Formation)

1. COMPANY COMMITMENT – A key element in economic development is a secured commitment from businesses.
2. COMPANY FINANCIAL AND MANAGEMENT CAPACITY – Identifiable long-term plan for financial security and day-to-day operations benefits to all stakeholders involved.
3. DRA COST PER DIRECT PERMANENT JOB – Identified in category OUTPUTS – PART I-9 identifying tabulation, calculation of activity and/or effort expressed in a quantitative and qualitative manner. Project demonstrating the ability to allocate funds to the maximum usage will gain higher points.
4. RATIO (%) OF DRA FUNDING TO FED / STATE / LOCAL / OTHER MATCH – The less funding support from DRA to one project gives the Authority an opportunity to expand its efforts.
5. PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REPORT – Required for Construction project.
6. COMPANY IS A BASIC INDUSTRY – A basic industry company is one that will generate outside funds to be reinvested in the community, indicates the capability of demonstrating a greater economic impact therefore, improving the overall quality of life.
7. MARKET LOCATION - The ability to generate a national and international market demonstrates a greater economic impact.

PART II-B SPECULATIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

1. COMPETING FACILITIES OR ASSET – Under the Act the importance of the project or class of projects success may be limited in relation to other projects or classes of projects that may be in competition for the same funds.
2. AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR MARKETING – The Act authorizes the Authority to enter into and perform such cooperative agreements as may be necessary in carrying out its functions with any department , agency, or instrumentality of the United States. To set force this authorizations, the Authority shall require documentation to support qualifications.
3. TIMING OF IMPACT – Identifying extent of need with supporting data will determine the degree of the project’s points.
4. PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REPORT – Construction projects only. Requirements are outlined in applicant’s application packet.
5. SUPPORTING FACILITIES OR ASSET REQUIRED – Self-explanatory.

PART II-C COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

1. MAGNITUDE OF PROBLEM – (Use for Water/Sewer Only) – Category identified as one of the greatest needs of distressed counties and each point have been attached to the list of expected improvements to accomplish the Regional goals in basic public infrastructure.
2. MAGNITUDE OF PROBLEM – (Use for other Projects) identifies the improvements of Basic Public Infrastructure, which is under the Act as a PROJECT FOCUS – PART I-5.
3. COST PER PERSON SERVED – Output measured reported in PART I-9 should identify cost per person served, illustrating the degree of funding usage as required in the application packet.
4. LOCAL PRIORITY – Indicates to the Authority the committed support of the local agencies. Supporting letters are required as part of the application packets.
5. PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REPORT – Required for all construction projects.
6. DOCUMENTATION OF PROBLEM – Solidifies the severity of need with the latest data, statistical and research, as well as supporting letters from the community and agencies. Requirements are requested in the application packet.

PART II-D OPERATIONAL PROJECTS

1. **MAGNITUDE OF PROBLEM** – Identifies the improvements of Basic Public Infrastructure, which is under the Act as a **PRIORITY FOCUS – PART I-5.**
2. **LOCAL PRIORITY** – Indicates to DRA the support of local agencies is in support of the project. Supporting letters are required as part of the application packets.
3. **MEETS ACCEPTABLE STANDARDS FOR PROJECT/SITUATION** – Need and Problem matched by solution.
4. **DOCUMENTATION OF PROBLEM** – Solidifies the severity of need with latest data, statistical and research, as well as supporting letters from the community and agencies. Requirements are requested in the application packet
5. **GRANTEE** – The responsible agency recognized as a Federal, State, public or non-profit entity which has an agreement (MOA) with DRA to administer the project funds and/or monitors or carry out the day to day activities according to the Federal regulations set forth by the Act and OMB.
6. **EXPERIENCE OF OPERATING AGENCY** – Long-term experience for operating agencies indicates the longevity and solid foundation, which are among DRA's essential elements for projects to ensure a continuing economic impact.
7. **LENGTH OF SUPPORT** – DRA's need to share its funds with 240 counties in the Region to address the four areas identified in the **PROJECT FOCUS – PART I – 5** may be limited if a project require support for two years or more year. DRA encourages utilizing its funds as matching monies.
8. **FINANCIAL PLANS AFTER DRA FUNDING** – The success of accomplishing DRA's Regional goals depends on the sustainability of a projects continued success.

If there are further questions, please contact the Delta Regional Authority, Program Review Office at 1-888-468-6372 or (662)-624-8600.