NEBRASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

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Title 137 - Nebraska Environmental Trust Board

Chapter 7 - PROJECT RANKING SYSTEMS

001 Pursuant to this Chapter and the factors set forth herein, the Executive Director shall prepare Project Ranking Systems to be used to rank all applications which are eligible. The Project Ranking Systems shall be approved by an affirmative vote of the Board after public hearing. Similarly, any subsequent amendments to a Project Ranking System shall be approved by an affirmative vote of the Board after public hearing.

002 The Project Ranking Systems adopted by the Board shall be used by the Grants Committee for ranking of projects as described in Chapter 8.

003 Ranking Factors. The Project Ranking Systems shall assign a numeric value to each criterion and combine these values into a total score for each application. Each Ranking System shall include, but is not limited to, criteria to evaluate each application to the extent that the project will accomplish the following:

003.01 Conform with the funding categories established pursuant to Chapter 2 of these rules.

003.02 Produce a commitment of funds from other funding sources.

003.03 Provide in-kind match to requested grant funds.

003.04 Result in a public-private partnership.

003.05 Help the Board attain a geographic mix of projects over time. This does not mean that a strict geographic mix will be sought during each funding cycle but that points may be awarded to projects in specific areas if it becomes apparent that the area is receiving funding for proportionately fewer projects than other areas of the state.

003.06 Be cost effective. Cost effective shall include, as applicable, a comparison of the cost of the project to its expected monetary and non-monetary benefits and whether there is another reasonably available means of accomplishing the same purpose or purposes more economically.

003.07 Have economic impacts.

003.08 Produce direct environmental impacts.

003.09 Produce environmental benefits to the general public, especially benefits which are long term in nature.

003.10 Provide a plan for evaluating the results of the expenditure of grant funds.

004 Projects which are funded as multi-year projects may be exempted from the ranking process by the Board for the duration of the project or for up to the next two annual rankings following the ranking in which the initial commitment to the project is made provided that annual evaluations of progress toward project goals are submitted and accepted by the Executive Director. No commitment may exceed three years without formal action by the board to renew the grant or contract.