

AGENCY NAME:	Rural Infrastructure Authority		
AGENCY CODE:	P450	SECTION:	054

2022
Accountability Report

SUBMISSION FORM

I have reviewed and approved the data submitted by the agency in the following templates:

- Data Template
 - Reorganization and Compliance
 - FY2022 Strategic Plan Results
 - FY2023 Strategic Plan Development
 - Legal
 - Services
 - Partnerships
 - Report or Review
 - Budget
- Discussion Template
- Organizational Template

I have reviewed and approved the financial report summarizing the agency’s budget and actual expenditures, as entered by the agency into the South Carolina Enterprise Information System.

The information submitted is complete and accurate to the extent of my knowledge.

AGENCY DIRECTOR <i>(SIGN AND DATE):</i> <i>(TYPE/PRINT NAME):</i>	SIGNATURE ON FILE	Signature Received: 9/13/2022 08:58
	Bonnie Ammons	

BOARD/CMSN CHAIR <i>(SIGN AND DATE):</i> <i>(TYPE/PRINT NAME):</i>	SIGNATURE ON FILE	Signature Received: 9/13/2022 08:58
	Harry M. Lightsey III	

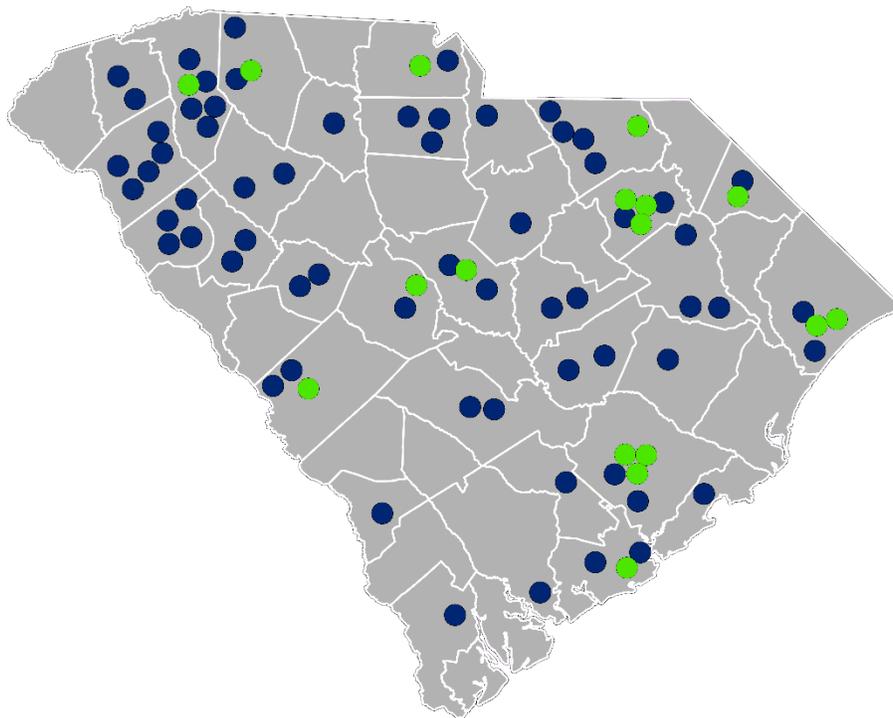
AGENCY NAME:	Rural Infrastructure Authority		
AGENCY CODE:	P450	SECTION:	054

AGENCY’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Infrastructure Finance Programs – Summary of Efforts and Results

The S.C. Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA) makes grant and loan financing available for qualified infrastructure projects (drinking water, sanitary sewer and storm water drainage facilities) statewide. By working in partnership with local communities, these financial investments are designed to address the key objectives of protecting public health, addressing environmental quality standards and preparing communities for economic opportunities. RIA assistance helps close financial gaps for areas in need of reliable infrastructure. In addition, RIA collaborates with stakeholders to identify and coordinate additional resources for infrastructure improvements and to strengthen utility viability in the long term.

This year a total of \$111 million in projects were approved through RIA’s grant and loan financing programs. See *Figure 1*.



FY22 Grant Recipients

FY22 Loan Recipients

Figure 1: FY 22 Projects Funded by Location

Grant Program

Financial assistance is made available to eligible applicants (local governments, special purpose districts and public works commissions) annually through two competitive funding rounds. Funds are distributed through two program categories which align with the agency’s objectives: (1) the Basic Infrastructure program to address regional cooperation, environmental concerns, public health issues

AGENCY NAME:	Rural Infrastructure Authority		
AGENCY CODE:	P450	SECTION:	054

and aging infrastructure needs; and (2) the Economic Infrastructure program to provide reliable infrastructure serving new or existing businesses and expanding system capacity to boost economic opportunities.

Qualified projects are selected by the RIA’s Board of Directors (Board) based on a comparative analysis of need, feasibility and impact and all applicants are notified of the results. Technical assistance is provided to applicants whose projects are not funded.

Summary of Results:

- 64 grants totaling more than \$30 million were approved by Board
- 131,000 residential and business customers will be impacted
- 70% of projects funded were located in rural and distressed areas
- \$67 million from local and other resources will match RIA’s infrastructure investment

Cumulative Impact (FY 2013-2022):

- \$205 million in grants awarded
- Grants awarded in 46 counties and 75% were in rural and distressed areas
- Grants were leveraged by \$544 million in local/other funds for infrastructure improvements
- Economic development projects will help create 11,500 new jobs by new/existing businesses

State Revolving Funds Loan Program

Low-cost loan financing is provided through two federally capitalized State Revolving Funds (SRF) for Drinking Water and Clean Water (sewer). The SRF has been annually capitalized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) since 1989. The program was transferred to RIA in 2015. The state program is administered jointly with the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC). DHEC prioritizes projects, handles the technical aspects of the program and ensures compliance with EPA requirements. The RIA’s Office of Local Government (OLG) manages the financial component including credit reviews, loan agreements, closings and disbursement of funds as well as loan repayments and administration.

The program offers below market interest rates for major water, wastewater and storm water improvement projects throughout the state. This low-cost financing means savings for borrowers and customers.

Due to the pandemic disrupting the economy, there were similar impacts on the demand for loans in the SRF program. When interest rates were at historically low levels, the SRF saw early payoff of loans, as well as hesitancy to borrow for new projects. Accordingly, SRF lowered interest rates to 1.5%. This year, the demand for low-interest loans has increased 59%. While demand still remains below pre-pandemic levels, it is expected to rise in FY23 due to continued increases in market interest rates.

Summary of Results:

- 17 loans closed totaling \$80.5 million
- 13 Principal Forgiveness loans closed totaling \$4.9M
- 35% of loans went to small and medium-sized utilities

AGENCY NAME:	Rural Infrastructure Authority		
AGENCY CODE:	P450	SECTION:	054

- \$59M loan repayments

Cumulative Impacts since 2016:

- 104 loans closed totaling \$748 million
- \$1.07 billion current loan portfolio
- No loan defaults or major audit findings in program history

Factors Impacting Performance and Future Plans

Because financing assistance requests are generated at the local level, performance measures can be impacted by the number, type, and location of requests that are received annually. Similarly, there is limited ability for rural and distressed areas to generate additional funding to leverage grant funds. Being responsive to local needs often means that the agency’s performance targets are subject to unpredictable shifts in local priorities and economic conditions.

Since the agency began operating in 2012, the General Assembly expanded its ability to address infrastructure needs statewide and to provide grant and loan financial assistance. RIA helps to identify affordable infrastructure solutions and works to leverage other resources. This increases the impact and promotes greater affordability and sustainability.

Utility Viability Study

In FY22, RIA completed a statewide study of the challenges facing water and sewer utilities. An advisory committee provided guidance and expertise throughout this project. The committee’s 15 members represented all the state’s major regions; small, medium, and large water systems; municipal and county governments; special purpose districts; rural water districts; a Council of Governments (COG); various professional associations; and other infrastructure funding agencies.

The study identified three key issues: smaller utilities are vulnerable to challenges with long-term viability, smaller utilities often charge higher rates to their customers, utilities of all sizes have infrastructure that is more than 40 years old and in need of replacement. Over the next twenty years, it is estimated that over \$15 billion will be needed to make infrastructure improvements statewide.

RIA held a Water Utility Forum and over 235 participants from across the state provided input on viability issues and proposed strategies to address them. The final report was published on the RIA website in February 2022. The following strategies were identified:

- Develop tools to help utilities identify potential viability concerns
- Provide coordinated assistance to utilities that are most vulnerable
- Leverage funding and technical assistance partnerships to formulate solutions
- Target financial assistance to implement solutions

RIA has already begun implementing these strategies. An Excel-based interactive tool was developed that utilities and other stakeholders can use to assess technical, financial, and managerial characteristics and identify areas where improvement may be needed. RIA has updated its website to include the viability tool and other helpful resources for utilities to access. Additionally, RIA used \$3.5

AGENCY NAME:	Rural Infrastructure Authority		
AGENCY CODE:	P450	SECTION:	054

million for a pilot program to encourage regional utility partnerships. Five regional feasibility studies and five capital improvement projects that will help utilities to implement regional solutions were funded this year.

Transformational new grant programs

The federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) directed \$2.5B to the state for activities designed to address recovery from COVID, including improvements to water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure. Throughout FY22, RIA coordinated with other infrastructure groups to provide relevant information to the Governor’s Accelerate SC Task Force as well as to the ARPA subcommittees of the General Assembly who held numerous public hearings to gather information about the extensive need to invest in infrastructure facilities. In May 2022, \$900 million was allocated to RIA to fund competitive grants and other activities designed to make impact statewide. This large-scale investment has the potential for transformational impact on small and large communities in both rural and urban parts of the state.

RIA used its expertise in grants management to develop the South Carolina Infrastructure Investment Program (SCIIP) to award grants based on the state legislation and federal requirements for ARPA. The program was introduced to utilities and other stakeholders across the state during a webinar in June 2022. The categories of assistance include:

- Community Impact – Funding for priority capital improvement projects to implement solutions that impact large and small/medium utilities.
- Regional Solutions - Funding for projects that result in regional consolidation, new or expanded operating agreements or other partnerships, particularly with smaller systems that have viability concerns.
- Viability Planning - Grants for very small utilities serving 3,300 or fewer people that want to address viability concerns or evaluate regional options as well as to identify capital improvement needs.

Local investments will match federal funds to further leverage this one-time funding. Large utilities that serve 30,000 or more in population will provide a 25% match while small to medium sized utilities and those applying for Regional Solutions will provide a 15% match. Planning grants do not require leverage. Applications will be accepted in September 2022, with awards expected in early 2023.

Next year, RIA’s state grant program funds will be used in support of this one-time federal funding opportunity to allow greater access for small and disadvantaged communities and those in Tier III and IV counties. Accordingly, RIA’s accountability goals and strategies have been realigned.

In addition to ARPA federal funds, Congress also passed the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) which will provide additional SRF funding for loans and principal forgiveness over the next five years. This bill provided additional funds to address lead service lines and emerging contaminants for drinking water. Next year, BIL is expected to provide the state with an additional \$41.5 million for financing.

Risk Assessment and Mitigation Strategies

AGENCY NAME:	Rural Infrastructure Authority		
AGENCY CODE:	P450	SECTION:	054

One of the RIA’s strategies is to serve as a resource for communities, whether the need is for technical or financial assistance. To address this issue, RIA holds numerous workshops for the grant and loan programs and this year 1246 participants received training. In addition, staff worked directly with clients to identify projects and address project-related issues. Demand for this technical assistance and capacity building remains high and RIA will continue its customer assistance efforts.

One of the biggest concerns for all utilities statewide is the deterioration of aging infrastructure systems and the subsequent decreasing capacity of such infrastructure to meet environmental standards. Lack of infrastructure capacity can also have a negative impact on the ability to support and attract economic development. This is a statewide concern that is more acute in rural and disadvantaged communities.

Based on the recent Utility Viability Study, a lack of resources is the primary reason many smaller communities are unable to properly operate and maintain the water and sewer systems that serve residents and businesses. A delay in making the required investments can result in higher costs, business and service disruptions and increased health and environmental risks. Thus, access to reliable and affordable infrastructure serves as an important quality of life concern for protecting public health, improving environmental quality and encouraging economic opportunities. Significant investments will be needed to ensure that there is adequate capacity for future economic growth.

Last year, three key factors were identified to address the impact of limited resources: (1) providing additional funding where feasible to leverage local resources; (2) strengthening partnerships to maximize existing resources and provide additional technical assistance; and (3) encouraging development of plans and studies that will lead to greater sustainability of water and sewer systems, including regional solutions. RIA is addressing two of those factors based on strategies developed as part of the Utility Viability Study this past year. Additionally, the General Assembly is providing substantial resources through the state’s ARPA allocation to leverage local funds in order to make an impact on aging and other critical infrastructure needs statewide.

The \$900 million ARPA allocation comes with federal requirements that pose challenges for program implementation: (1) smaller communities often lack capacity to assess their infrastructure needs or to access resources to address those needs; (2) competing demands for contractors as well as material and supply shortages will increase infrastructure costs; and (3) a federally imposed expenditure deadline of December 31, 2026 will be difficult in light of the previously mentioned challenges as well as the fact that infrastructure takes years to design and build. Failure to meet the federal deadlines for ARPA funds will mean that such funds must be returned to the federal government and critical infrastructure projects would not be completed. This would have a negative impact and delay or postpone improvements that would protect public health, the environment and improve the state’s economic capacity.

To mitigate such challenges, RIA will utilize its state grant resources to help smaller utilities and those in Tier III and IV counties. Further, the ten Councils of Government will provide application and federal compliance assistance especially for those utilities who need help. Applicants for ARPA funding have been asked to develop a contingency plan for delays and cost overruns. However, the General

AGENCY NAME:	Rural Infrastructure Authority		
AGENCY CODE:	P450	SECTION:	054

Assembly may consider additional project funding to help complete projects in a timely manner. Finally, as a long-term strategy to build capacity to address the state’s infrastructure needs, the General Assembly could approve new technical assistance programs to help utilities struggling to operate efficiently as well as offer incentives for regional cooperation among utilities that would help to ensure long-term viability.

Restructuring Recommendations

The S.C. House Legislative Oversight Committee completed its review of the RIA in 2019. Recommendations specified a repeal or clean-up of outdated code language related to the transfer of the OLG to RIA and to revise terminology used for distressed and least developed counties to Tier III and Tier IV as defined in current law. RIA, in conjunction with its Board, will pursue such revisions to the extent that it will impact ongoing operations.

Records Management

The agency does not have a long history and thus has not had an unreasonable accumulation of grant or administrative records to date. An imaging system has been implemented for the loan programs and thus eliminated the need for a purge schedule.

Regulation Review

RIA has not promulgated regulations and in accordance with its enabling legislation is not required to do so. The OLG complies with SC Reg. 61-67.1 promulgated by DHEC in administration of the loan programs.

Agency Organization

The RIA is governed by a Board of Directors (Board) that includes six members who reside in or represent distressed and/or least developed counties. The Secretary of Commerce serves as Chairman. The Board develops an annual strategy for addressing grant infrastructure needs, selects qualified projects for grant funds and reviews performance.

The RIA has an Executive Director and 14 full time staff positions (See Organizational Template). Additional grant staff are planned in order to administer the new federal funding program and ensure technical assistance is provided to applicants and grantees. RIA divisions are organized by grant and loan programs. The OLG operates the financial and loan components of the SRF. The S.C. Water Quality Revolving Fund Authority (State Fiscal Accountability Authority) oversees SRF financial program policies. In order to foster administrative collaboration, RIA contracts with Commerce to provide office space, legal, financial and human resources services. This agreement allows for more efficient use of staff and resources available to the RIA.

AGENCY NAME:

Rural Infrastructure Authority

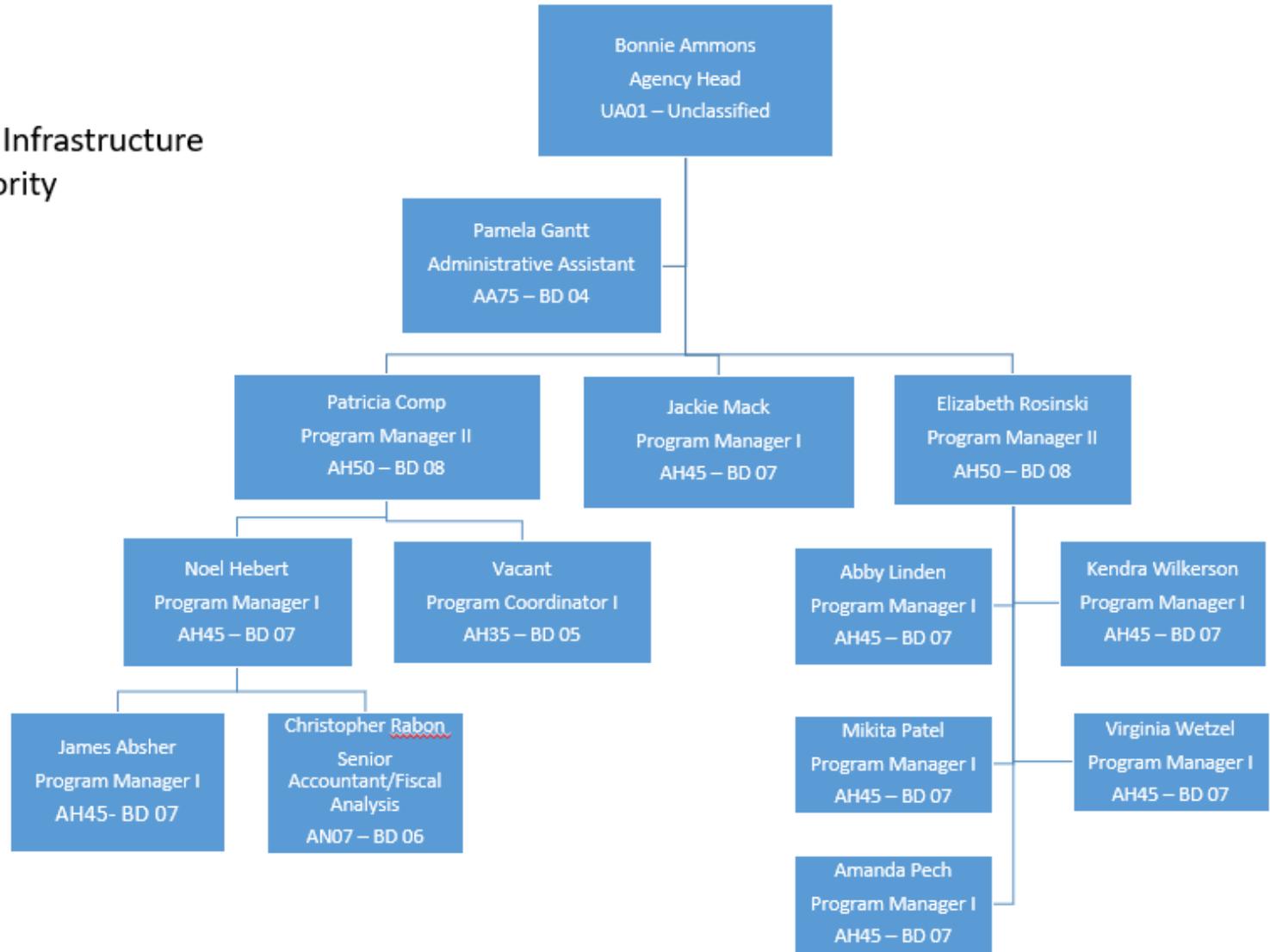
AGENCY CODE:

P450

SECTION:

054

Rural Infrastructure Authority



FY2022

Reorganization and Compliance

as submitted for the Accountability Report by:

P450 - RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE AUTHORITY

Primary Contact

First Name	Last Name	Role/Title	Email Address	Phone
Bonnie	Ammons	Executive Director	bammons@ria.sc.gov	803-737-0226

Secondary Contact

First Name	Last Name	Role/Title	Email Address	Phone
Chris	Huffman	Chief Financial Officer	chuffman@sccommerce.com	803-737-0462

Agency Mission

Adopted in: 2013

The mission of the Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA) is to provide financing for qualified infrastructure projects that will protect public health, address environmental quality standards and lay the groundwork for economic opportunities.

Agency Vision

Adopted in: 2013

Through partnerships and targeted infrastructure investments, improve the quality of life for residents, enhance community sustainability and boost economic opportunities throughout the state.

Recommendations for reorganization requiring legislative change:

None

Agency intentions for other major reorganization to divisions, departments, or programs to allow the agency to operate more effectively and efficiently in the succeeding fiscal year:

None

Significant events related to the agency that occurred in FY2022

Description of Event	Start	End	Agency Measures Impacted	Other Impacts
Act 244 (authorizing the expenditure of federal funds disbursed to the state in the America Rescue Plan Act of 2021) which allocated \$900,000,000 to the SC Rural infrastructure Authority on May 13, 2022.	May	June	Award at least the target value of grants to address health/environmental concerns or upgrade aging infrastructure annually	
Act 244 (authorizing the expenditure of federal funds disbursed to the state in the America Rescue Plan Act of 2021) which allocated \$900,000,000 to the SC Rural infrastructure Authority on May 13, 2022.	May	June	Assist at least the target number of communities through grants addressing health/environmental concerns or upgrading aging infrastructure annually	

Is the agency in compliance with S.C. Code Ann. § 2-1-220, which requires submission of certain reports to the Legislative Services Agency for publication online and the State Library? (See also S.C. Code Ann. § 60-2-20).

Yes

Reason agency is out of compliance: (if applicable)

Is the agency in compliance with various requirements to transfer its records, including electronic ones, to the Department of Archives and History? See the Public Records Act (S.C. Code Ann. § 20-1-10 through 20-1-180) and the South Carolina Uniform Electronic Transactions Act (S.C. Code Ann. § 26-6-10 through 26-10-210).

Yes

Does the law allow the agency to promulgate regulations?

No

Law number(s) which gives the agency the authority to promulgate regulations:

Has the agency promulgated any regulations?

No

Is the agency in compliance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-120 (J), which requires an agency to conduct a formal review of its regulations every five years?

Yes

(End of Reorganization and Compliance Section)

Strategic Plan Results

FY2022

as submitted for the Accountability Report by:

- Goal 1** PROVIDE GRANT ASSISTANCE FOR CONSTRUCTING AND IMPROVING PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE.
- Goal 2** PROVIDE AFFORDABLE LOAN FINANCING TO SUPPORT INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS.
- Goal 3** BUILD STRONG PARTNERSHIPS WITH COMMUNITIES AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS.

P450 - RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE AUTHORITY

Perf. Measure Number	Description	Base	Target	Actual	Value Type	Desired Outcome	Time Applicable	Calculation Method	Data Source	Data Location	Stakeholder Need Satisfied	Primary Stakeholder	State Funded Program Number Responsible	Notes
1.1 Improve quality of life by addressing infrastructure that impacts public health or the environment												State Objective: Public Infrastructure and Economic Development		
1.1.1	Award at least the target value of grants to address health/environmental concerns or upgrade aging infrastructure annually	18490248	17000000	25090687	Dollar Amount	equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Actual value of approved grant requests	RIA grant requests	Customer relations database maintained by RIA staff	Direct benefit to agency customers by improving water and sewer infrastructure	Direct customers: Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions	0100.000000.000, 2600.101000X000, 2600.101500X000	
1.1.2	Assist at least the target number of communities through grants addressing health/environmental concerns or upgrading aging infrastructure annually	38	38	56	Count	equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Actual number of approved grant requests	RIA grant requests	Customer relations database maintained by RIA staff	Direct benefit to agency customers by improving water and sewer infrastructure	Direct customers: Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions	0100.000000.000, 2600.101000X000, 2600.101500X000	
1.2 Create opportunities for economic impact by providing infrastructure capacity to support economic development												State Objective: Public Infrastructure and Economic Development		
1.2.1	Award at least the target value of grants to support economic opportunities annually	7646067	8000000	5605875	Dollar Amount	equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Actual value of approved grant requests	RIA grant requests	Customer relations database maintained by RIA staff	Direct benefit to agency customers by improving water and sewer infrastructure	Direct customers: Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions	0100.000000.000, 2600.101000X000, 2600.101500X000	
1.2.2	Assist at least the target number of communities through grants to support economic opportunities annually	17	17	8	Count	equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Actual number of approved grant requests	RIA grant requests	Customer relations database maintained by RIA staff	Direct benefit to agency customers by improving water and sewer infrastructure	Direct customers: Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions	0100.000000.000, 2600.101000X000, 2600.101500X000	
2.1 Work with DHEC to provide resources for investment in Clean Water infrastructure												State Objective: Public Infrastructure and Economic Development		
2.1.1	Close at least the target value of clean water loans annually	48133358	8000000	53767071	Dollar Amount	equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Value of loans executed	SRF loans closed	Internal files maintained by loan program staff	Direct benefit to agency customers by improving water and sewer infrastructure	Direct customers: Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions	3003.010000.000, 3003.050000X000	
2.1.2	Assist at least the target number of communities through clean water loans closed annually. (Clean Water)	6	6	11	Count	equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Number of entities assisted through loans closed	SRF loans closed	Internal files maintained by loan program staff	Direct benefit to agency customers by improving water and sewer infrastructure	Direct customers: Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions	3003.010000.000, 3003.050000X000	
2.2 Work with DHEC to provide resources for investment in Drinking Water infrastructure												State Objective: Public Infrastructure and Economic Development		
2.2.1	Close at least the target value of drinking water loans annually	2837910	2000000	26805295	Dollar Amount	equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Value of loans executed	SRF loans closed	Internal files maintained by loan program staff	Direct benefit to agency customers by improving water and sewer infrastructure	Direct customers: Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions as well as not-for-profit water and sewer systems	3003.010000.000, 3003.050000X000	

Perf. Measure Number	Description	Base	Target	Actual	Value Type	Desired Outcome	Time Applicable	Calculation Method	Data Source	Data Location	Stakeholder Need Satisfied	Primary Stakeholder	State Funded Program Number Responsible	Notes
2.2.2	Assist at least the target number of communities through drinking water loans closed annually. (Drinking Water)	1	1	6	Count	equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Number of entities assisted through loans closed	SRF loans closed	Internal files maintained by loan program staff	Direct benefit to agency customers by improving water and sewer infrastructure	Direct customers: Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions as well as not-for-profit water and sewer systems	3003.010000.000, 3003.050000X000	
2.3 Effectively manage resources to ensure future low-cost financing opportunities											State Objective: Public Infrastructure and Economic Development			
2.3.1	Obligate at least the target percentage of funds available (utilization rate) in the SRF Clean Water Program	0.95	0.8	0.87	Percent	equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Percentage of executed loans to funds available	EPA database	Internal files maintained by loan program staff	Direct benefit to agency customers through timely obligation of resources	Direct customers: Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions	3003.010000.000, 3003.050000X000	
2.3.2	Obligate at least the target percentage of funds available (utilization rate) in the SRF Drinking Water Program	0.89	0.89	0.78	Percent	equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Percentage of executed loans to funds available	EPA database	Internal files maintained by loan program staff	Direct benefit to agency customers through timely obligation of resources	Direct customers: Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions as well as not-for-profit water and sewer systems	3003.010000.000, 3003.050000X000	
3.1 Provide technical support to communities that need infrastructure funding											State Objective: Public Infrastructure and Economic Development			
3.1.1	Provide grant and loan application training to at least the target number of participants annually.	385	285	1246	Count	equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Number of training participants	RIA data	Internal files maintained by RIA staff	Direct benefit to agency customers by increasing knowledge of agency programs	Direct customers: Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions	0100.000000.000, 3003.010000.000	
3.1.2	Achieve at least the target average rating, on a scale of 1-5, on surveys of training participants	4.74	4.74	4.7	Rank	equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Average of all survey ratings received in the year	RIA data	Internal files maintained by RIA staff	Direct benefit to agency for future planning of training events	Agency staff	0100.000000.000, 3003.010000.000	
3.1.3	Assist applicants and potential applicants with at least the target number of potential projects or project issues annually.	242	242	314	Count	equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Number of issues or projects on which RIA staff provided technical assistance	RIA data	Internal files maintained by RIA staff	Direct benefit to customers through coordination of additional funds for water and sewer improvements and direct benefit to agency for leveraging available state dollars.	Direct customers and agency staff	0100.000000.000, 3003.010000.000	
3.2 Collaborate with other funders to maximize impact											State Objective: Public Infrastructure and Economic Development			
3.2.1	Coordinate on a regular basis with other funders.	8	3	5	Count	equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Number of discussions held	RIA data	Internal files maintained by RIA staff	Direct benefit to customers through coordination of additional funds for water and sewer improvements and direct benefit to agency for leveraging available state dollars	Direct customers and agency staff	0100.000000.000, 3003.010000.000	
3.2.2	Projects receiving RIA grant funding have at least the target amount of other funds committed for every \$1 of RIA grant funds received.	1.49	1.49	2.18	Ratio	equal to or greater than	State fiscal year	Actual value of other committed funds included with approved grant requests, divided by the value of grants awarded	RIA grant requests	Customer relations database maintained by RIA staff	Direct benefit to customers by leveraging additional funds for water and sewer improvements and direct benefits to agency for leveraging available state dollars	Direct customers and agency staff	0100.000000.000, 3003.010000.000	

FY2023

Strategic Plan Development

as submitted for the Accountability Report by:

P450 - RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE AUTHORITY

- Goal 1 Improve or Address infrastructure needs to protect public health and the environment
- Goal 2 Provide infrastructure necessary to support and expand economic opportunities
- Goal 3 Build long term infrastructure capacity and viability

Perf. Measure Number	Description	Base	Target	Value Type	Desired Outcome	Time Applicable	Calculation Method	Data Source	Data Location	Stakeholder Need Satisfied	Primary Stakeholder	State Funded Program Number Responsible	Notes
1.1 Use state grants to address water quality and replace aging infrastructure													
1.1.1	Award at least the target value of state grants to address water quality and replace aging infrastructure	25090687	20,000,000	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Actual value of approved grant requests	RIA grant	Customer relations database maintained by RIA staff	Direct benefit to agency customers by improving water and sewer infrastructure	Direct customers: Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions	0100.000000.000, 2600.101000X000, 2600.101500X000	
1.1.2	Assist at least the target number of communities through state grants to address water quality and replace aging infrastructure	56	40	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Actual number of approved grant requests	RIA grant	Customer relations database maintained by RIA staff	Direct benefit to agency customers by improving water and sewer infrastructure	Direct customers: Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions	0100.000000.000, 2600.101000X000, 2600.101500X000	
1.2 Use federal grants to address water quality and replace aging infrastructure													
1.2.1	Award at least the target value of federal grants to address water quality and replace aging infrastructure	0	683,000,000	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Actual value of approved grant requests	RIA grant	Customer relations database maintained by RIA staff	Direct benefit to agency customers by improving water and sewer infrastructure	Direct customers: Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions	2600.102500X000	
1.2.2	Assist at least the target number of communities through federal grants to address water quality and replace aging infrastructure	0	75	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Actual number of approved grant requests	RIA grant	Customer relations database maintained by RIA staff	Direct benefit to agency customers by improving water and sewer infrastructure	Direct customers: Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions	2600.102500X000	
1.3 Provide affordable loan financing to address water quality and replace aging infrastructure													
1.3.1	Close at least the target value of loans	80572366	120,000,000	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Value of loans executed	SRF loans closed	Internal files	Direct benefit to agency customers by improving water and sewer infrastructure	Direct customers: Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions as well as not-for-profit water and sewer systems (Drinking Water only)	3003.010000.000, 3003.050000X000	
1.3.2	Assist at least the target number of communities through loans closed	17	14	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Number of loans closed	SRF loans closed	Internal files	Direct benefit to agency customers by improving water and sewer infrastructure	Direct customers: Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions as well as not-for-profit water and sewer systems (Drinking Water only)	3003.010000.000, 3003.050000X000	
2.1 Use state grants to increase infrastructure capacity and support job creation													
2.1.1	Award at least the target value of state grants to support economic opportunities	5605875	5,000,000	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Actual value of approved grant requests	RIA grant	Customer relations database maintained by RIA staff	Direct benefit to agency customers by improving water and sewer infrastructure	Direct customers: Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions	0100.000000.000, 2600.101000X000, 2600.101500X000	

Perf. Measure Number	Description	Base	Target	Value Type	Desired Outcome	Time Applicable	Calculation Method	Data Source	Data Location	Stakeholder Need Satisfied	Primary Stakeholder	State Funded Program Number Responsible	Notes	
2.1.2	Assist at least the target number of communities through state grants to support economic opportunities	8	10	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Actual number of approved grant requests	RIA grant	Customer relations database maintained by RIA staff	Direct benefit to agency customers by improving water and sewer infrastructure	Direct customers: Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions	0100.000000.000, 2600.101000X000, 2600.101500X000		
2.2	Use federal grants for strategic investments to enhance economic development						State Objective: Public Infrastructure and Economic Development							
2.2.1	Award at least the target value of federal grants to support economic opportunities	0	10000000	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Actual value of approved grant requests	RIA grant	Customer relations database maintained by RIA staff	Direct benefit to agency customers by improving water and sewer infrastructure	Direct customers: Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions	2600.102500X000		
2.2.2	Assist at least the target number of communities through federal grants to support economic opportunities	0	3	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Actual number of approved grant requests	RIA grant	Customer relations database maintained by RIA staff	Direct benefit to agency customers by improving water and sewer infrastructure	Direct customers: Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions	2600.102500X000		
3.1	Use state grants for utility planning assistance to address long term needs						State Objective: Public Infrastructure and Economic Development							
3.1.1	Award at least the target value of state grants to address long-term planning	352360	1,000,000	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Actual value of approved grant requests	RIA grant	Customer relations database maintained by RIA staff	Direct benefit to agency customers by improving water and sewer infrastructure	Direct customers: Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions	0100.000000.000, 2600.101000X000, 2600.101500X000		
3.1.2	Assist at least the target number of communities through state grants to address long-term planning	5	10	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Actual number of approved grant requests	RIA grant	Customer relations database maintained by RIA staff	Direct benefit to agency customers by improving water and sewer infrastructure	Direct customers: Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions	0100.000000.000, 2600.101000X000, 2600.101500X000		
3.2	Use federal grants to support viability planning for smaller systems						State Objective: Public Infrastructure and Economic Development							
3.2.1	Award at least the target value of federal grants to address long-term viability	0	20000000	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Actual value of approved grant requests	RIA grant	Customer relations database maintained by RIA staff	Direct benefit to agency customers by improving water and sewer infrastructure	Direct customers: Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions	2600.102500X000		
3.2.2	Assist at least the target number of communities through federal grants to address long-term viability	0	20	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Actual number of approved grant requests	RIA grant	Customer relations database maintained by RIA staff	Direct benefit to agency customers by improving water and sewer infrastructure	Direct customers: Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions	2600.102500X000		
3.3	Use federal grants to support regional solutions for long term infrastructure needs						State Objective: Public Infrastructure and Economic Development							
3.3.1	Award at least the target value of federal grants to address regional solutions	0	80000000	Dollar Amount	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Actual value of approved grant requests	RIA grant	Customer relations database maintained by RIA staff	Direct benefit to agency customers by improving water and sewer infrastructure	Direct customers: Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions	2600.102500X000		
3.3.2	Assist at least the target number of communities through federal grants to address regional solutions	0	8	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Actual number of approved grant requests	RIA grant	Customer relations database maintained by RIA staff	Direct benefit to agency customers by improving water and sewer infrastructure	Direct customers: Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions	2600.102500X000		
3.4	Provide training and technical assistance to build capacity to address infrastructure needs						State Objective: Public Infrastructure and Economic Development							

Perf. Measure Number	Description	Base	Target	Value Type	Desired Outcome	Time Applicable	Calculation Method	Data Source	Data Location	Stakeholder Need Satisfied	Primary Stakeholder	State Funded Program Number Responsible	Notes
3.4.1	Assist applicants and potential applicants with at least the target number of potential projects or project issues	1560	750	Count	Equal to or greater than	State Fiscal Year	Number of training participants and individual technical assistance	RIA data	Internal files	Direct benefit to customers by increasing knowledge of agency programs and coordination of additional funds for water and sewer improvements and direct benefit to agency for leveraging available state dollars.	Direct customers and agency staff	0100.000000.000, 3003.010000.000	

FY2022

Budget Data

as submitted for the Accountability Report by:

P450 - RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE AUTHORITY

State Funded Program No.	State Funded Program Title	Description of State Funded Program	(Actual) General	(Actual) Other	(Actual) Federal	(Actual) Total	(Projected) General2	(Projected) Other	(Projected) Federal4	(Projected) Total
0100.000000.000	Administration	To administer the Rural Infrastructure Authority and its grant programs	-	\$ 626,485.00	\$ 164,370.00	\$ 790,855.00	-	\$ 320,000.00	-	\$ 320,000.00
2600.101000X000	SC Rural Infrastructure Fund	To provide financial assistance for infrastructure and other activities to the state's rural areas that enhance economic growth and development. It can be used for job creation and/or product development.	\$ 7,870,056.00	\$ 3,717,273.00	\$ -	\$ 11,587,329.00	\$ 7,870,056.00	\$ 10,000,000.00	\$ -	\$ 17,870,056.00
2600.101500X000	Statewide Water and Sewer Fund	Established by proviso, the Statewide Water and Sewer Fund assists qualified infrastructure projects not eligible for the Rural Infrastructure Fund.	\$ 6,599,111.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,599,111.00	\$ 8,000,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,000,000.00
3003.010000.000	Office of Local Government	To administer the loan programs offered by the Rural Infrastructure Authority.	\$ -	\$ 418,122.00	\$ -	\$ 418,122.00	\$ -	\$ 550,000.00	\$ -	\$ 550,000.00
3003.050000X000	Loans	To provide loan programs for qualified water and waste water infrastructure projects.	\$ 6,165,600.00	\$ 112,734,733.00	\$ -	\$ 118,900,333.00	\$ 6,165,600.00	\$ 100,000,000.00	\$ -	\$ 106,165,600.00
9500.050000.000	State Employer Contributions	The state funded program used to record employer contributions for the agency.	\$ -	\$ 307,506.00	\$ -	\$ 307,506.00	\$ -	\$ 284,000.00	\$ -	\$ 284,000.00
9801.270000X000	Local Government Grant Fund	Non-recurring appropriations that can be utilized for local government grants or administrative activities of the agency.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
9814.210000X000	RURL INFRASTRCTRE FD	non-recurring appropriations for the SC Rural Infrastructure Fund	\$ 2,129,944.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,129,944.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2600.102500X000	South Carolina Infrastructure Investment Program (SCIIP)	The South Carolina Infrastructure Investment Program (SCIIP) is a major one-time initiative to improve water, wastewater and stormwater systems throughout the state using federal funds allocated by the 2021 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$ 56,000,000.00	\$ 56,000,000.00

FY2022

Legal Data

as submitted for the Accountability Report by:

P450 - RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE AUTHORITY

Law number	Jurisdiction	Type	Description	Purpose the law serves:	Notes:	Changes made during FY2022
1-11-20	State	Statute	Division Transfers - Transfers the Local Government Division, Water Resources Coordinating Council membership, and Division of Regional Government from the Budget and Control Board to RIA.	Not related to agency deliverable		No Change
1-11-25	State	Statute	Local Government Division - Establishes the Local Government Division and outlines grant responsibilities.	Requires a service	Grant administration	No Change
1-11-26	State	Statute	Local Government Division - Outlines rules for use of grant funds and provides penalties for violations.	Requires a service		No Change
11-37-200	State	Statute	Water Resources Coordinating Council - Names the RIA Director as a member of the Water Resources Coordinating Council.	Board, commission, or committee on which someone from our agency must/may serve		No Change
11-40-250	State	Statute	SC Infrastructure Facilities Authority - Requires RIA to staff and assist the SC Infrastructure Facilities Authority.	Requires a service	Loan administration	No Change
11-40-40	State	Statute	SC Infrastructure Facilities Authority- provides necessary authority to fund, use and administer the SC Infrastructure Revolving Loan Fund.	Distribute funding to another entity		No Change
11-42-10	State	Statute	SC Comprehensive Infrastructure Development Act - Names this chapter the "South Carolina Comprehensive Infrastructure Development Act."	Not related to agency deliverable		No Change
11-42-20	State	Statute	Regional Development Division - Lays out the legislative purpose for establishing the Division of Regional Development.	Not related to agency deliverable		No Change
11-42-30	State	Statute	Regional Development Division - Defines terms related to the Division of Regional Development.	Not related to agency deliverable		No Change
11-42-40	State	Statute	Regional Development Division - Establishes the Division of Regional Development within RIA.	Not related to agency deliverable		No Change
11-42-50	State	Statute	Regional Development Division - Lists powers and duties of the Division of Regional Development.	Requires a service	Creation of a state infrastructure development plan, coordination of regional infrastructure development plans, and coordination of state programs and resources that impact or affect infrastructure development	No Change
11-42-60	State	Statute	Regional Development Division - Lists administrative powers of the Division of Regional Development.	Not related to agency deliverable		No Change
11-50-10	State	Statute	SC Rural Infrastructure Authority - Names this chapter the "South Carolina Rural Infrastructure Act."	Not related to agency deliverable		No Change
11-50-100	State	Statute	SC Rural Infrastructure Authority - Outlines authorizations related to financing agreements.	Not related to agency deliverable		No Change
11-50-110	State	Statute	SC Rural Infrastructure Authority - Exempts RIA from taxes.	Not related to agency deliverable		No Change
11-50-120	State	Statute	SC Rural Infrastructure Authority - Outlines procedures related to loan defaults.	Requires a service	Notification of the State Treasurer regarding loan defaults	No Change
11-50-130	State	Statute	SC Rural Infrastructure Authority - Limits liability of RIA and its board members and employees.	Not related to agency deliverable		No Change
11-50-140	State	Statute	SC Rural Infrastructure Authority - Allows RIA to act without additional notices, proceedings, or publications.	Not related to agency deliverable		No Change
11-50-150	State	Statute	SC Rural Infrastructure Authority - Requires all RIA funds to be deposited with the State Treasurer.	Not related to agency deliverable		No Change
11-50-160	State	Statute	SC Rural Infrastructure Authority - Requires RIA to submit multiple annual reports and have an annual audit by an independent CPA.	Requires a service	Agency reports	No Change
11-50-170	State	Statute	SC Rural Infrastructure Authority - Requires liberal construction of the chapter and approval of loans by the public entities that control applicable ad valorem taxes for general operating purposes.	Not related to agency deliverable		No Change
11-50-180	State	Statute	SC Rural Infrastructure Authority - Establishes severability of any provision held unconstitutional or invalid.	Not related to agency deliverable		No Change
11-50-20	State	Statute	SC Rural Infrastructure Authority - Outlines legislative findings related to the South Carolina Rural Infrastructure Act.	Not related to agency deliverable		No Change

Law number	Jurisdiction	Type	Description	Purpose the law serves:	Notes:	Changes made during FY2022
11-50-30	State	Statute	SC Rural Infrastructure Authority- Provides for the selection of qualified infrastructure projects for loans or other financial assistance through the Rural Infrastructure Fund and provides necessary authority to fund, operate and administer the functions of the agency.	Distribute funding to another entity		No Change
11-50-40	State	Statute	SC Rural Infrastructure Authority - Defines terms related to the South Carolina Rural Infrastructure Act.	Not related to agency deliverable		No Change
11-50-50	State	Statute	SC Rural Infrastructure Authority - Outlines terms, qualifications, and appointing authorities of the members of the RIA board of directors.	Not related to agency deliverable		No Change
11-50-55	State	Statute	SC Rural Infrastructure Authority - Allows the RIA board to hire a director.	Not related to agency deliverable		No Change
11-50-60	State	Statute	SC Rural Infrastructure Authority - Outlines RIA's powers.	Distribute funding to another entity		No Change
11-50-65	State	Statute	SC Rural Infrastructure Authority - Requires the SC Department of Commerce to provide administrative support to RIA.	Not related to agency deliverable		No Change
11-50-70	State	Statute	SC Rural Infrastructure Authority - Outlines sources of revenue that may be used by the Rural Infrastructure Fund.	Not related to agency deliverable		No Change
11-50-80	State	Statute	SC Rural Infrastructure Authority - Establishes procedures for earnings on balances in the Rural Infrastructure Fund.	Not related to agency deliverable		No Change
11-50-90	State	Statute	SC Rural Infrastructure Authority - Requires RIA to select and administer eligible loan and other financial assistance for projects.	Distribute funding to another entity		No Change
33 USC 1383	Federal	Statute	Title VI of the Clean Water Act - Provides necessary authority and program requirements for the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Program.	Distribute funding to another entity		No Change
42 USC 300j-12	Federal	Statute	Safe Drinking Water Act - Provides necessary authority and program requirements for the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Program.	Distribute funding to another entity		No Change
48-5-30	State	Statute	Water Quality Revolving Fund Authority- Provides necessary authority to fund, invest, use, and administer the clean water fund, the drinking water fund, and other authorized activities permitted by the Safe Drinking Water Act.	Distribute funding to another entity		No Change
Proviso 54.2	State	FY22-23 Proviso	Carry Forward Local Government Assistance - Allows the carry forward of funds appropriated for the purpose of matching federal funds from the prior fiscal year to the current fiscal year.	Not related to agency deliverable		No Change
Proviso 54.3	State	FY22-23 Proviso	Carry Forward Calculation - Allows for certain funds to be excluded from the calculation of the carry forward authority.	Not related to agency deliverable		No Change
Proviso 54.4	State	FY22-23 Proviso	State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund - Allows any state funds remaining after fully matching federal grants for the State Revolving Funds under the Clean Water Act or Safe Drinking Water Act to be deposited into the South Carolina Infrastructure Revolving Loan Fund established pursuant to Section 11-40-50.	Distribute funding to another entity		No Change
Proviso 54.5	State	FY22-23 Proviso	Statewide Water and Sewer Fund - Funds allocated for the Statewide Water and Sewer Fund to assist qualified Infrastructure projects not otherwise eligible for the Rural Infrastructure Fund. Projects will be selected for assistance based on the same procedures and guidelines established for the Rural Infrastructure Fund. Funds allocated may carry forward from the prior fiscal year to any current fiscal year.	Distribute funding to another entity		No Change
Proviso 54.1	State	FY22-23 Proviso	Rural Infrastructure Fund Carry Forward -Allows the carry forward of funds in the Rural Infrastructure Fund from the prior fiscal year to the current fiscal year.	Not related to agency deliverable		No Change
Joint Resolution Act 244	State	Statute	Authorizes the expenditure of federal funds disbursed to the state in the America Rescue Plan Act of 2021	Requires a service		Added

FY2022

Services Data

as submitted for the 2022 Accountability Report by:

P450 - RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE AUTHORITY

Description of Service	Description of Direct Customer	Customer Name	Others Impacted by Service	Division or major organizational unit providing the service.	Description of division or major organizational unit providing the service.	Primary negative impact if service not provided.	Changes made to services during FY 2022	Summary of changes to services
RIA offers grant funding for water quality improvement projects as well as timely and responsive technical assistance to customers.	The agency offers grants to public water and sewer providers.	Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions	Customers of public water and sewer utilities	Grant Program	Grant program managers provide technical assistance for project development as well as assist customers with implementation of grant projects.	If infrastructure is not improved, it becomes increasingly difficult for the water or sewer system to protect public health and the environment or attract economic development.	No Change	
RIA offers below-market financing through its loan programs for water quality improvement projects.	The agency offers loans to public water and sewer providers	Public water and sewer providers such as units of local government, special purpose districts and public works commissions	Customers of public water and sewer utilities	Loan Program	The loan program staff responsibilities include credit reviews, loan agreements, disbursements and repayments.	If infrastructure is not improved, it becomes increasingly difficult for the water or sewer system to protect public health and the environment.	No Change	

FY2022

Partnerships Data

as submitted for the 2022 Accountability Report by:

P450 - RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE AUTHORITY

Type of Partner Entity	Name of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year
State Government	Department of Commerce	RIA has an administrative support agreement with Commerce and collaborates with the agency on providing infrastructure support for community development, industrial site development as well as economic development.	No Change
State Government	Department of Health and Environmental Control	RIA jointly administers the State Revolving Funds with DHEC, who manages the technical aspects of the program while RIA oversees the financial functions of SRF.	No Change
Federal Government	Infrastructure Funders (federal and state agencies)	RIA participates in informal collaboration with federal and state agencies to leverage resources, streamline processes where feasible and provide technical assistance for customers.	No Change

FY2022

Reports Data

as submitted for the Accountability Report by:

P450 - RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE AUTHORITY

Report Name	Law Number (if applicable)	Summary of information requested in the report	Date of most recent submission DURING the past fiscal year	Reporting Frequency	Type of entity/entities	Method to access the report	Direct access hyperlink or agency contact (if not provided to LSA for posting online)	Changes to this report during the past fiscal year	Explanation why a report wasn't submitted
Agency Accountability Report	§1-1-810	The report "must contain the agency's or department's mission, objectives to accomplish the mission, and performance measures that show the degree to which objectives are being met." Agencies must "identify key program area descriptions and expenditures and link these to key financial and performance results measures."	44440	Annually	Governor or Lt. Governor AND Legislative entity or entities	Available on agency's website	https://ria.sc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/FY21-Accountability-Report.pdf	Amend	
Agreed Upon Procedures	§11-50-160	Review of accounting records and internal controls		Annually	South Carolina state agency or agencies	Available on another website	https://osa.sc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/P4519-Final.pdf	Amend	No Agreed Upon Procedure for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 was completed by the State Auditor's Office during FY2021-22.
Annual Report	§11-50-160	The report highlights the activities and accomplishments of the agency during the last fiscal year. Annual Report for FY22 will be posted online October 1, 2022.	44470	Annually	Legislative entity or entities	Available on agency's website	https://ria.sc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/FY21-RIA-Annual-report-for-web.pdf	Amend	
Fines and Fee Report	Proviso 117.70	A report of all aggregate amounts of fines and fees that were charged and collected by that state agency in the prior fiscal year.	44440	Annually	Legislative entity or entities	Available on agency's website	https://ria.sc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/P450-Fines-and-Fees-Report_FY22.pdf	Amend	
Single Audit	§11-50-160	Schedule of expenditures of federal awards.	44652	Annually	Entity within federal government	Available on another website	https://osa.sc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/FY21-Single-Audit-Report-Final-1.pdf	Amend	