



Ohio Department of Natural Resources

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Division of Water Resources

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January 24, 2025

RE: Impacts to FEMA HHPD Grants

To Whom It May Concern:

On January 20, 2025, federal executive order "Unleashing American Energy" immediately paused the disbursement of funds appropriated through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58). This includes funding for the 2024 (all projects) and 2022 (construction projects only) Rehabilitation of High Hazard Potential Dam (HHPD) Grant Programs. While it is uncertain if these grant programs are in violation of the executive order, they do appear to be at least paused until such time that they can be reviewed and approved for further disbursement. Therefore, until such time that the appropriations for these grant programs can once again be disbursed, the Division of Water Resources will not be entering into any subrecipient contracts for the affected grant programs.

We have reached out to FEMA for clarification and additional information but have not yet received a response. When we receive additional information or clarification, we will reach out to share that information with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matt Hook".

Matthew J. Hook, P.E.
Program Manager
Division of Water Resources