




Proposed Revision

EPA Region 9's Drinking Water Tribal Set-Aside Ranking Criteria

Proposed Revision

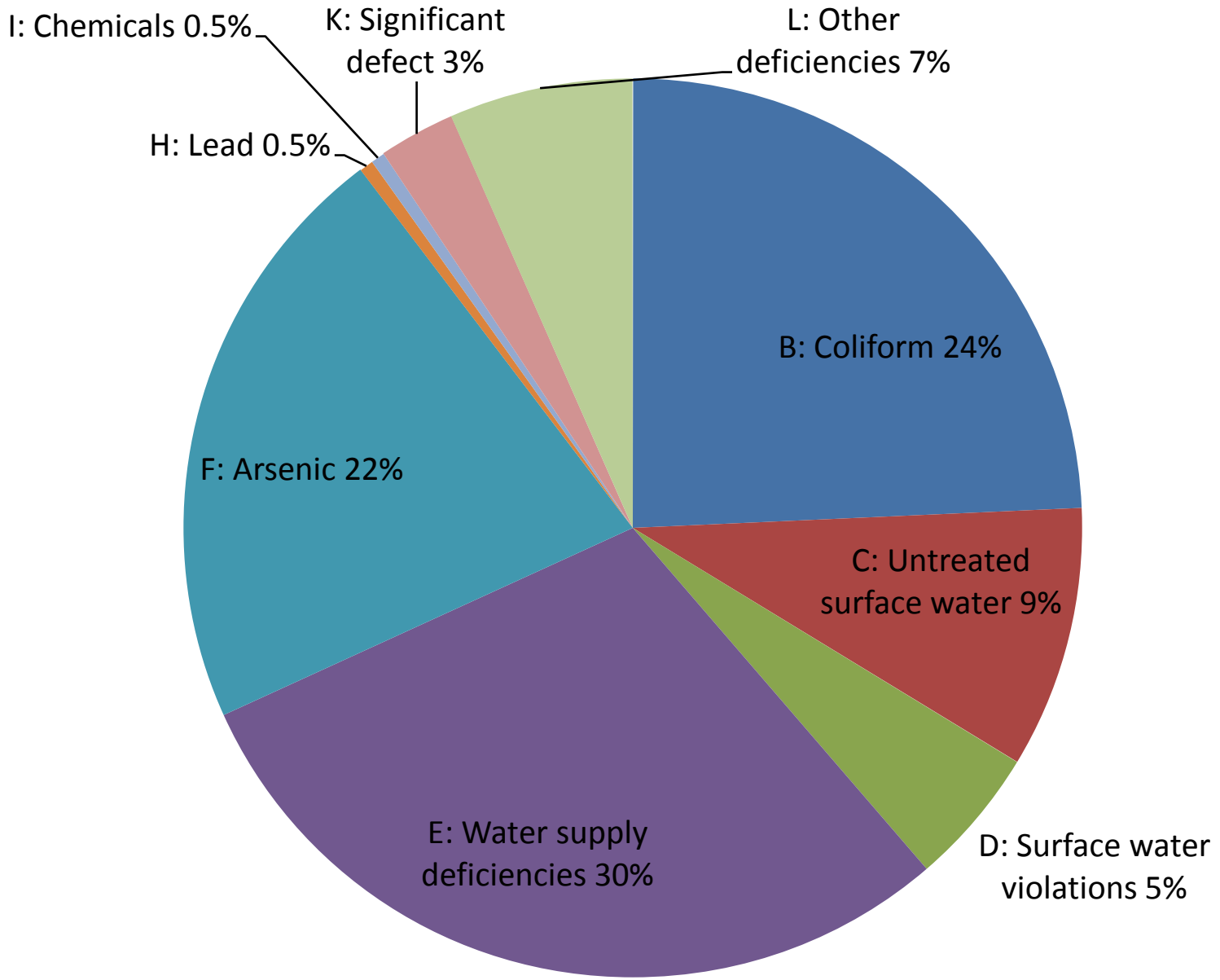
- Assign higher ranking to projects that address documented health effects over projects that address health risks
 - Lower Health Ranking Category E (projects that address water supply deficiencies)
 - Raise Health Ranking Categories F, G, H and I (projects that address MCL exceedances)

DWTSA Health Ranking Categories

| | | |
|---|------------|---|
| Higher Priority | Category A | Demonstrated illness attributable to the water system |
| | Category B | Microbial contamination of the water supply resulting in a repeated coliform bacteria maximum contaminant level (MCL) violation |
|  | Category C | Unfiltered surface water or ground water under the influence of surface water. |
| | Category D | Filtered surface water and ground water under the influence of surface water that violates surface water filtration or disinfection regulations. |
| | Category E | Water supply deficiency that presents a serious health risk, which may include insufficient water supply resulting in water outages occurring for an extended period that could not be corrected through operational improvements. For projects to address insufficient water supply, requires that conservation efforts be made before funding may be awarded, if per capita water consumption is excessive. |
| | Category F | Arsenic contamination |
| | Category G | Nitrate/nitrite contamination exceeding MCL. |
| | Category H | Lead contamination exceeding Action Level or Treatment Technique. |
| | Category I | Chemical contamination (other than nitrate/nitrite, lead, or arsenic) exceeding a primary MCL. |
| | Category J | Copper contamination exceeding Action Level or Treatment Technique. |
| Lower Priority | Category K | Significant sanitary defect involving sewage, or disinfection facilities that have defects, or uncovered distribution reservoirs, or documented inadequate pressure potentially causing cross-connection contamination. |
| | Category L | Systems meeting existing MCLs but not future MCLs or Action levels, or Iron/Manganese problems, or other water system deficiencies. |

Consequences

- Higher ranking for projects that address:
 - documented *health effects*
 - drinking water violations and MCL exceedances
- Lower ranking for projects that address:
 - Water supply deficiency that presents a serious health risk, which may include insufficient water supply resulting in water outages occurring for an extended period that could not be corrected through operational improvements.



DWTSA Projects Funded, by Health Ranking

Next Steps

- Initiate consultation with letter to tribal leaders, and copy to tribal environmental directors and water system contacts
- Provide outreach to tribes
- Review tribal input
- Conduct follow up as necessary
- Provide feedback to tribal leaders involved with the consultation to explain how their input was considered in the final action
- Implement next steps

Tribal Set-Aside Transfer Authority

- EPA FY12 budget allows transfers between Clean Water and Drinking Water tribal set-aside programs
- Money can be transferred from either program
- Transfer amount equals up to 33% of the Drinking Water allotment

Region 9 Transfer Needs

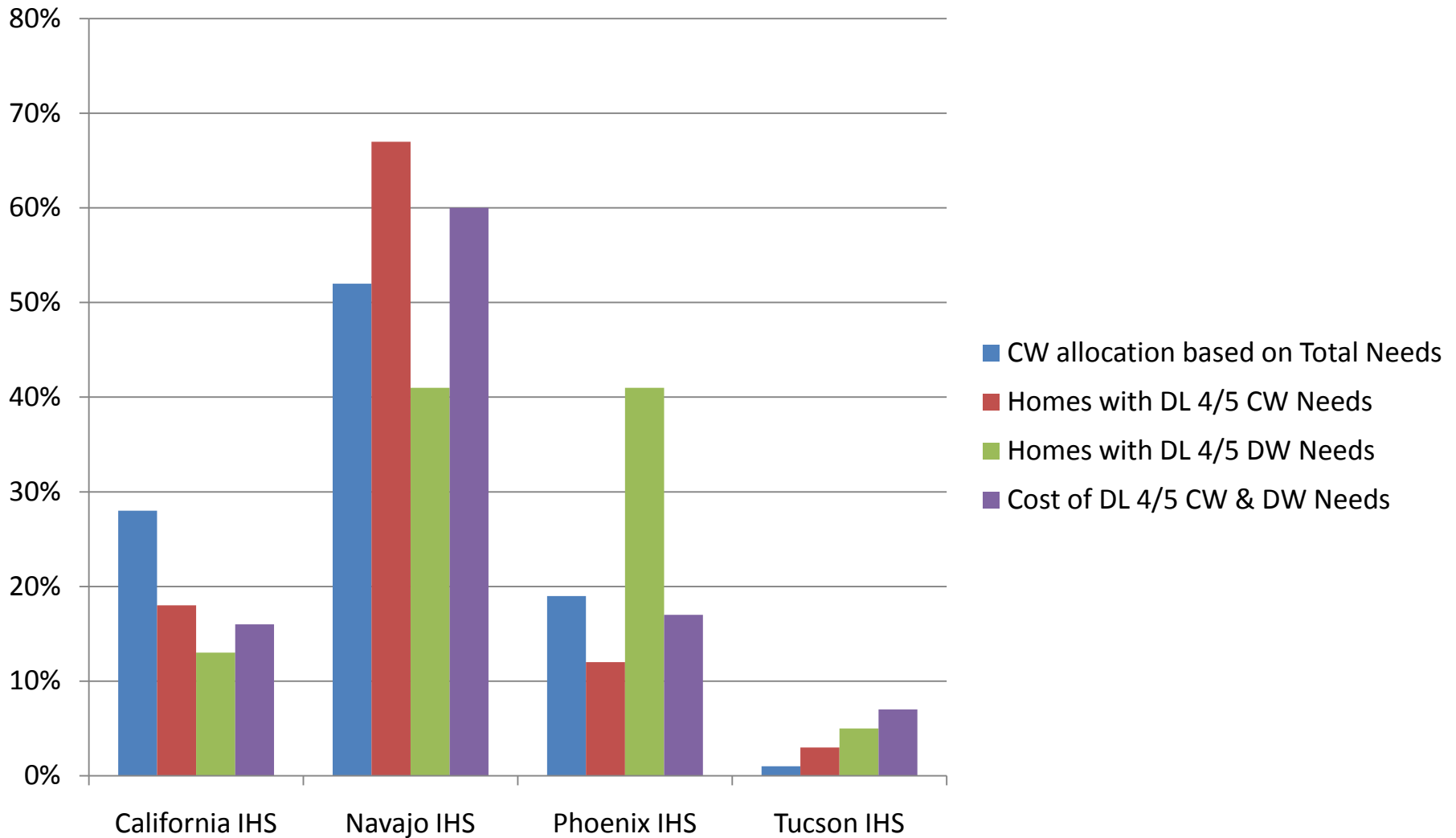
Not enough money to address all needs:

- \$300M to address all high priority needs
- FY 12 declining tribal water infrastructure funds (CW -3.5%, DW -4.5%) (IHS -17%)

Historically:

- CW receives 2/3 water infrastructure funds, but has 1/3 of the need

R9 CW Allocation and High Priority Needs



Next Steps

- HQ must approve transfer process
- EPA will initiate tribal consultation

Contact

Linda Reeves

DWTSA Coordinator

EPA Region 9 Drinking Water Office

75 Hawthorne Street

San Francisco, CA 94105

415-972-3445

Reeves.linda@epa.gov