

## MEMO

Water Quality Bureau

**DATE:** 1/5/2007  
**TO:** IOWAccess Advisory Council  
**FROM:** Angela Chen  
**RE:** Additional Funding Request for the “Improving Public Access to Iowa’s Water Pollution Control Permits” project

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The Iowa Department of Natural Resource (DNR) is requesting an additional \$137,900 to complete the design and implementation phase of the subject project.

This increased cost is a result of many factors:

1. Better understanding by ITE staff of our project details. Back in May of 2006 when the DNR made its request for \$66,000 for the implementation phase, ITE staff had less understanding of the DNR project requirements.
2. Change of staff working on this project by ITE and associated loss of knowledge and understanding gained during the Planning Phase of this project (funded by \$15,000 from lowAccess Fund)
3. Change of funding process implemented by lowAccess and ITE after DNR received funding for the Planning Phase. As such, DNR was expecting to receive detailed requirement document as well as design document by the end of March in 2006. ITE was operating under the new process and provided very rough estimate of what was to be accomplished and cost at the end of the Planning Phase with no requirement documents or design document.
4. The original Concept Paper presented to the Council also indicated that the DNR would seek proposals from private firms to complete the implementation of this project. However, due to the lack of detailed design and requirement documents, DNR received two proposals with budget ranging from just under \$25,000 to over \$150,000. The DNR decided to go back to ITE with the expectation that ITE would deliver the products outlined in the Concept Paper with \$48,000 and by end of March in 2007.
5. After more meetings between ITE project staff and DNR staff, the project is now better defined in terms of project requirements. As ITE staff gained better understanding of project needs, a revised budget and timeline was provided to DNR.

Although the total cost of the project is now at just under \$200,000, the intangible benefits to the public are immeasurable.