

Executive Actions Impacting Federal Funding

May 15, 2025

Overall Trump Administration's Strategy

- The Trump Administration is pursuing a strategy to sharply reduce federal funding for grants and agency spending through
 - *Executive Orders (EOs)* to pause or end key federal funding initiatives
 - *Direct termination* of federal grant programs wherever possible
 - *Budget proposals* to cut federal grants and agency spending
- The focus is on ending or sharply reducing funding for programs that the Administration views as misaligned with its policy agenda of "America First", ending spending on climate initiatives, diversity, equity, and inclusion activities, and improving government efficiency

Key Executive Actions Impacting Federal Funding

- **EO 14151, *Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEI Programs and Preferencing***: directed agencies to end all spending related to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) programs, including community benefits plans
- **OMB Memo M-25-13, *Temporary Pause of Agency Grant, Loan, and Other Financial Assistance Programs***: directed agencies to halt all spending on grants, loans, and financial assistance programs

Impacts of Executive Actions on Federal Funding

- **Each of the executive actions impacting federal funding has faced legal challenges that are pending before courts**
 - Funding is still slow to be disbursed, and the status of several key grant programs is unclear
 - The status of activity on funding is inconsistent between agencies
- **President Trump expected to submit a formal rescission package to Congress detailing what current funding he would like to cut**
 - The Impoundment Control Act (ICA) of 1974 prohibits the President from unilaterally withholding funds and outlines a process for the President to request rescissions or deferrals of funds, which must be approved by Congress

Executive Actions Impacting the Bureau of Reclamation

Action/Order	Main Directive	Key Impacts/Controversies
“Putting People Over Fish” Memorandum (Jan 2025)	Maximize water deliveries to Central Valley/Southern CA	Weakens ESA/NEPA protections; faces legal risk
Emergency Water Resources EO (Jan 2025)	Override regulations that limit water flows	Expedites ESA exemptions; controversial timing
Water Delivery & Hydropower Order (May 2025)	Increase water deliveries and hydropower via Reclamation	Staffing cuts impede implementation
DOGE Staffing Cuts	10-40% staff reductions at Reclamation	Undermines agency capacity, alarms districts
Shasta Dam Enlargement Push	Expand dam to deliver more water to farmers	Threatens tribal sites, endangered salmon

Executive Actions Impacting the EPA

Key Executive Orders and Their Impact:

- Unleashing American Energy (EO 14154)
- Rescission of Environmental Justice Policies
- Deregulatory Actions and Rule Reconsiderations
- Exemptions and State Authority
- Rescission of EO 14096 & DEI Spending

Status of Grant Programs

- Timeline of agency processing of awarded grants is delayed by review to ensure funding is in line with executive orders, the President's policy agenda, DOGE audits, and the overall reduction in the federal workforce.
- Individual federal agencies are working through these impacts and reviews at differing paces, and we expect delays to continue throughout the year.