

April 20, 2020

The Honorable Betty McCollum, Chair
House Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and
Related Agencies

The Honorable David Joyce, Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and
Related Agencies

Transmittal via email: EW.Approp@mail.house.gov

RE: REQUEST FOR INCREASED FY 21 FUNDING FOR EPA WATER PROGRAMS

Dear Chair McCollum and Ranking Member Joyce:

As members of WaterNow Alliance, we respectfully request your support for full funding for the Environmental Protection Agency's Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) program, the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF), the Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (DWSRF), the Drinking Water Infrastructure Resilience and Sustainability Program, and the Innovative Water Technology Grant Program.

The programs listed above provide much-needed federal support for critical local water management strategies. WIFIA's low-interest loan program alone has provided \$3.5 billion in federal funding, creating over 16,000 jobs.¹ Over the last 30 years, through the CWSRF program \$138 billion dollars have been invested in local infrastructure, benefiting hundreds of millions of Americans.² The Drinking Water Infrastructure Resilience and Sustainability Program makes federal grant funds available to small and disadvantaged communities that often lack adequate funding sources for water infrastructure investments. The Innovative Water Technology Grant Program accelerates the development and deployment of innovative water technologies that address pressing drinking water supply, quality, treatment, or security challenges,³ which are key components of local water agencies' ongoing efforts to manage droughts and increase water conservation. Because of the critical importance of these programs, we urge you to fully support each of these EPA programs and respectfully recommend the following appropriation levels:

- **WIFIA: \$65 million**
- **CWSRF: \$3.4 billion**
- **DWSRF: \$2.32 billion**
- **Drinking Water Infrastructure Resilience and Sustainability Program: \$4 million**
- **Innovative Water Technology Grant Program: \$5 million**

We thank you for your consideration of our comments and recommendations. We look forward to working with you, your staff, and other Members to ensure these vital EPA water programs

¹ WIFIA Closed Loans, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) <https://www.epa.gov/wifia/wifia-closed-loans> (last accessed March 27, 2020).

² Learn about the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF), EPA <https://www.epa.gov/cwsrf/learn-about-clean-water-state-revolving-fund-cwsrf> (last accessed March 20, 2020).

³ 42 U.S.C. § 300j-1a.

are sufficiently funded so that they continue to provide long-lasting benefits to the communities local water leaders like ourselves serve.

Sincerely,

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