

February 15, 2018

Chairman Thad Cochran
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

Chairman Rodney P. Frelinghuysen
House Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515

Vice Chairman Patrick Leahy
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, D.C. 20510

Ranking Democratic Member Nita Lowey
House Committee on Appropriations
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cochran, Vice Chairman Leahy, Chairman Frelinghuysen and Ranking Member Lowey:

The National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA), representing hundreds of public wastewater and stormwater treatment agencies around the nation, was pleased to see the passage of the bipartisan budget agreement as a critical step toward completing the Fiscal Year 2018 Appropriations process. NACWA was also very pleased with the commitment under the budget agreement to dedicate \$20 billion to infrastructure. As Congress works to implement this new framework, starting with allocating the newly-agreed-upon non-defense discretionary caps across Appropriations Subcommittees, I am writing to urge you to include clean water infrastructure as a core component of that infrastructure agreement and provide strong 302(b) allocations to the Subcommittees that support clean water.

Most critically, NACWA urges a strong 302(b) allocation for the Interior, Environment, & Related Agencies Subcommittee to ensure vital funding for core water programs. The nation's municipal clean water agencies are impacted by federal funding levels as they work with the States and U.S. EPA to comply with federal statutes and mandates, and as they leverage federal funding and financing tools for water investment. While fundamental programs like the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds often enjoy strong bipartisan support, in the face of competing federal priorities they have not historically been funded at a level that reflects the true need across the country.

Water infrastructure investment programs have been championed by both Republicans and Democrats— the SRFs have even been specifically lauded by the President as appropriate for tripled funding. Clean water investment helps provide all Americans with clean and safe water, repair our nation's existing infrastructure, expand critical water services, and create jobs and grow the economy.

The bipartisan budget deal and the agreement on infrastructure investment is a commendable down-payment on increasing infrastructure investment. We urge continued bipartisan cooperation and a strong commitment to clean water as your critical work advances.

Sincerely,



Adam Krantz
Chief Executive Officer