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March 26, 2019

The Honorable Angie Craig  
1523 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Brian Mast  
2182 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Representatives Craig and Mast:

On behalf of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA), I am writing in strong support of H.R. 1331, the *Local Water Protection Act*. As the leading Association advocating on behalf of the nation's public clean water utility sector, we strongly support your efforts to reauthorize and provide robust funding for the Clean Water Act's Section 319 Nonpoint Source Management Grant Programs. We are very pleased this legislation passed the Transportation & Infrastructure Committee unanimously and look forward to further progress and ultimately its passage into law.

NACWA represents over 320 public wastewater and stormwater agencies of all sizes nationwide, including utilities in Minnesota and Florida. Our growing membership works to ensure the nation's public clean water agencies have the necessary tools to provide affordable and sustainable clean water services for all. One of our top priorities is pursuing holistic watershed solutions to water quality impairments.

Section 319 grants advance the nation's clean water goals by directing federal financial and technical resources to nonpoint sources, which as you know, can contribute significantly to water quality impairments in some watersheds. Section 319 helps address these nonpoint sources by providing funding to states to provide technical and financial resources, monitoring, training and other assistance on-the-ground in local communities. The grants can also provide an opportunity for point sources, like NACWA's members, to partner collaboratively with nonpoint sources at the watershed level to help make real water quality improvements.

By authorizing \$200 million in federal investment between Fiscal Years 2020 and 2024 in Section 319 grant programs, your legislation will help improve water quality, protect public health, and strengthen local economies. NACWA strongly supports reauthorizing this and other core Clean Water Act programs this Congress.

Thank you for your leadership on this critical issue, and we look forward to working with you to further advance this legislation. Do not hesitate to contact NACWA if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adam Krantz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Adam Krantz  
CEO