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Adam Krantz

May 3, 2017

The Honorable Peter DeFazio
Ranking Member
House Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure
2164 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Grace Napolitano
Ranking Member
House Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment
505 Ford House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ranking Member DeFazio and Ranking Member Napolitano:

The National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) strongly supports your efforts to increase investment in clean water infrastructure through the *Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act*. NACWA represents nearly 300 public wastewater utilities of all sizes across the nation that are at the forefront of working to provide safe, clean, and reliable water resources to communities.

As you all know, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) works with the States to quantify the capital investment needed to maintain a state of good repair on our wastewater and stormwater systems. EPA's latest survey found that the U.S. will need to invest nearly \$300 billion over the next twenty years to comply with Clean Water Act water quality objectives. And as most clean water utility professionals recognize, the actual investment needs are likely much higher.

Your bill, the *Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act*, takes an important step forward in addressing this challenge by reauthorizing the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) at \$4 billion per Fiscal Year. The CWSRF is a key financing mechanism for communities, leveraging State and local investment and providing over \$100 billion since its establishment. Despite its value, its funding is continually threatened by budget cuts and its authorization has expired.

We also applaud your efforts to reauthorize other programs that support a strong federal-state-local partnership under the Clean Water Act. Reauthorizing Sewer Overflow Control grants at \$500 million per Fiscal Year will help communities with

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the daunting challenge of upgrading old sewer and stormwater infrastructure, which is often further complicated by major economic shifts and financial constraints. Reauthorizing programs to support reuse and alternative sources of water will also help communities facing supply constraints and looking to embrace a 'one water' approach to holistic water management. And, reauthorizing appropriations for watershed pilot projects and nonpoint source management will help communities address growing challenges of water quality impairment strategically and cost-effectively within a watershed.

The *Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act* is a critical and timely response to addressing the crucial challenge of improving our nation's clean water infrastructure to protect public health, environmental quality and a robust economy. NACWA strongly supports your efforts and thanks you for your important leadership on behalf of the nation's clean water resources.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Krantz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right from the end of the name.

Adam Krantz
CEO