

July xx, 2013

Dear [insert Member of Congress here]:

On behalf of the [utility name here] and the [population served] people it serves, I urge you to oppose the drastic cuts made to the Clean Water (CW) and Drinking Water (CW) State Revolving Fund (SRF) programs in the House proposed FY 2014 Interior, Environment and Related Agencies appropriations bill and support the funding levels agreed to in FY2013 omnibus spending bill \$1.452 billion and \$909 million, respectively.

Communities across the country face enormous challenges in providing their residents with safe and clean water and while we understand the nation faces difficult fiscal decisions, disinvesting in our nation's public health infrastructure should not be the solution. The water and wastewater infrastructure needs of this country are well known: our drinking water and wastewater utilities face upwards of \$1 trillion or more to fund their systems over the next twenty years according to surveys released by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the American Water Works Association and others. Communities rely on the State Revolving Fund programs to obtain low-cost financing to meet these needs -- ratepayers cannot shoulder this burden alone.

We cannot allow the job of maintaining our critical water and wastewater infrastructure to become a budget casualty. It must be seen as an investment. As you work to negotiate a final FY2014 EPA budget, I urge you to ensure that the SRF programs remain a reliable partner in meeting the nation's water and wastewater needs by restoring the proposed cuts.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,