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Ken Kirk

October 15, 2008

Representative Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Senator Harry Reid
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Majority Leader Reid:

On behalf of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA), I am writing to strongly encourage you to move forward with an economic stimulus package that includes funding for water and wastewater infrastructure projects as soon as possible. NACWA represents the nation's publicly owned wastewater treatment agencies that serve the majority of Americans and collectively treat and reclaim over eighteen billion gallons of wastewater every day.

As you continue to develop your respective stimulus packages — an effort NACWA strongly supports — it is imperative that our nation's aging and ailing water and wastewater infrastructure be a serious component of any infrastructure-focused stimulus program. The recent economic downturn has made it even more difficult for communities across the country to move forward with much-needed infrastructure projects that support the economy, create jobs, and ensure public health and the environment. As we celebrate the 36th anniversary of the Clean Water Act this week, passage of such a stimulus package would provide a significant first step in recognizing the importance of clean water and putting the nation solidly back on track to meet the objectives of the Act.

The recent House-passed legislation (H.R. 7110) included \$6.5 billion for wastewater infrastructure projects via the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund (CWSRF) — an important step forward on this issue that NACWA applauds. Under this program, however, the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has the discretion to use only 1.5% of these funds (approximately \$100 million) in the form of grants. While the inclusion of this overall funding is vital, NACWA believes that, as the House and Senate contemplate an even larger stimulus package to be taken up after the election, there should be additional funds made available for the nation's clean water community. Additionally, when considering the current economic circumstances municipalities face, these funds should be distributed primarily in the form of grants or negative interest loans for ready-to-go clean water projects based, of course, on a community's economic situation.

The need for a larger clean and safe water funding component in the stimulus package is clear and is entirely consistent with reports from the Government Accountability Office (GAO), the EPA, and the Water Infrastructure Network (WIN),

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estimating the water and wastewater infrastructure needs of this Nation at \$300-500 billion over the next 20 years. Additionally, NACWA's own recent survey, enclosed with this letter, shows that NACWA members alone have identified nearly \$3 billion in ready-to-go infrastructure projects. Based on these responses, NACWA estimates that there are at least \$10 billion in ready-to-go projects when extrapolated nationally. As such, NACWA recommends that the House bill's \$6.5 billion figure should be increased to \$10 billion with a more significant grant or negative interest loan component that will make the funds more attractive to communities that have been hit hard by the economic downturn.

Critically, each \$1 billion invested in clean water infrastructure generates more than 47,000 jobs. Thus, the recommended \$10 billion investment in water infrastructure would create over 470,000 solid, much-needed new jobs.

NACWA applauds your leadership in seeking to ensure that our Nation's critical wastewater treatment infrastructure is an integral part of stimulus package discussions. Please contact Adam Krantz at 202/833-4651 or akrantz@nacwa.org to discuss this issue further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K Kirk". The signature is stylized with a large "K" and a cursive "Kirk".

Ken Kirk
Executive Director
National Association of Clean Water Agencies

City	State	Ready-To-Go Projects	Dollars (In Millions)
Anchorage	Alaska	Eagle River Wastewater Treatment Facility Disinfection; Apslund Wastewater Treatment Facility Process Improvements; SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition); Sewer C-5-A King- Rovenna Sewer R&R; C-5-1 North Campbell Lake Sewer Upgrade	\$42.20
Rogers	Arkansas	Interceptor Sewers and new 3.6MGD Wastewater Treatment Plant	\$70
Contra Costa County	California	Wastewater Construction	\$15
Mather	California	Septic Conversion Projects	\$18.38
Orange County	California	Carbon Canyon Dam, Sewer and Pump Station Abandonment and Rehabilitation of Westside Pump Station and Headworks Rehabilitation; Refurbishment and Bitter Point Force Main Rehabilitation and Central Generation Automation; Cable Tray Improvements at Plants 1,2, and Coast Trunk Sewer Rehabilitation of Bitter Point Pump Station	\$109.52
Pueblo	Colorado	Wastewater Related Projects Ready-to-Go in 90 Days and Ammonia Removal Facilities	\$19.37
Washington	District of Columbia	Rehabilitation, Improvements, Inspection and Cleaning of Facilities	\$109.61
Escambia County-Emerald Coast Utility Authority	Florida	Perdido Key Gravity Sewer System; Main Street WWTP Replacement	\$147.30

		Project; Inflow & Infiltration (I&I) Reduction; Montclair Lift Station Flow Diversion	
Downer's Grove	Illinois	Hobson Road Lift Station Expansion for SSO Control & I/I Removal; Sewer Rehabilitation Projects for SSO Control	\$2.80
Peoria	Illinois	Allen Road to Wilhelm Road Sewer Interconnection; Fargo Run Trunk Sewer Extension and Treatment Plant Building Renovation; Digester Boiler Replacement and Equipment Replacement	\$7.80
Urbana	Illinois	Northeast Treatment Plant Disinfection Conversion Project (to eliminate Chlorine gas); Nitrification Tower Structural Repair; Cogeneration Heat Exchanger Replacement; Southwest Plant Boiler Replacement; FY 09 Interceptor Sewer Rehabilitation Project	\$3.84
Wheaton	Illinois	Interceptor Sewer Replacement; Preliminary and Primary Treatment Improvements; Aeration Tank Improvements	\$17.30
Indianapolis	Indiana	Three Combined Sewer Overflow Abatement Projects: Construction of a 6.5-mile long tunnel; Two Projects to Increase Wet Weather Treatment Capacity at the City's Belmont Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant; Twelve Septic Tank Elimination Projects; Two Sanitary Sewer	\$250

		Rehabilitation Projects	
Ames	Iowa	Water Plant 17,000lf of 30” Pipeline for a Raw Master Transmission Improvement; Booster Pump Station Redundant Electrical Feed; Conceptual Design for Plant Expansion; Water Pollution Control Pump Station HVAC Renovations; Clarifier Painting; Vertical Turbine Pump Replacement; Disinfection Installation	\$7.56
Johnson County	Kansas	Low Pressure Sewers & Gravity Interceptor; Plant Upgrade & Plant Rehab and Repair; Pump Station Rehabilitation and Repair; Sewer Rehab and Repair; Sewer Capacity Improvement	\$21.05
Olathe	Kansas	Low Pressure Sewers, Gravity Interceptor; Plant Upgrade; Plant Rehab and Repair; Pump Station Rehab and Repair; Sewer Capacity Improvement; Sewer Rehab and Repair	\$21.06
Ft. Wright	Kentucky	Western Regional Water Reclamation Facility and Western Regional Conveyance Tunnel to Western Regional Water Reclamation Facility	\$188.32
City of Gretna	Louisiana	Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade	\$3
City of Kenner	Louisiana	Pumping Stations and Force Mains	\$5
New Orleans	Louisiana	Restoration of Facilities	\$20
St. John the Baptist Parish (County)	Louisiana	4 MGD Wastewater Treatment Plant	\$20

Kansas City	Missouri	White Aloe Pump Station Improvements; Second Creek Interceptor Sewer; Fairlane Relief Sewer (Phase II; East Bannister Interceptor; Sewer Backup Program; Brookside Sewer Line Modification); Birchwood Pump Station Upgrade; Turkey Creek Pump Station Improvements	\$36.75
St. Louis	Missouri	Combined Sewer Overflow (11 projects); Sanitary Sewer Overflow (28 projects) and Treatment Plant Projects (3 projects)	\$131.67
Erie County	New York	Replacement of the Lake Street and Point Breeze Pumping Stations and Force Mains and Construction of a Diversion Chamber at the Big Sister Creek WWTP; Rehabilitation and Replacement of Sanitary Sewers in the Village of Blasdell and Town of Hamburg; Replacement of the Commerce Drive Pumping Station	\$15.85
Woodbury	New York	TMDL Nutrient Removal Project for the Port Washington Water Pollution Control Plant	\$30
Asheville	North Carolina	Lenox Street, Greeley St. USR, Rogers place; Alta Ave PRP; Rollingwood USR; Middle Beaverdam Crk; VA hospital PRP, Penley Ave. USR; Old Home Rd. PRP; Montford Ave @ US 19/23	\$2.77
Cincinnati	Ohio	Lateral Repairs; Pump Station Elimination; Sewer Replacement; Treatment Plant Replacements etc.	\$122.88

Cleveland	Ohio	Easterly Plant; Southerly Plant; Westerly Plant; Combined Sewer Overflow Control Program; Interceptors and Rehabilitation; IT and other projects.	\$164.38
Columbus	Ohio	Big Walnut/Rickenbacker Sanitary Interceptor; Sanitary Subtruck Sewer to Service Several Customers; Sludge Thickening Improvement and Additional Renovation Projects at the 80MGD Jackson Pike Wastewater Treatment Facility; Hydraulic Improvements at Jackson Pike	\$218.20
Gresham	Oregon	Secondary Clarifier	\$9
	Puerto Rico	Wastewater and Drinking Water Projects	\$499.67
Providence	Rhode Island	Construction	\$4
Knoxville	Tennessee	Wet Weather SSO's in Separate Collection System and at Treatment Plants	\$30
Nashville	Tennessee	Water and wastewater facility	\$30
Houston	Texas	Billings Park Storm Sewer and Water Quality Basins; Central Business District Storm Sewer and Relief Sewer; In-Pipe Storage Projects; Sanitary Sewer Relocation; Wastewater Treatment Plant Wet Weather Flow Handling Improvements; Manhole Chimney Reconstruction; Butler Pond Stormwater Detention Upgrade	\$26
Alexandria	Virginia	ENR + Project C2; Holmes Run Trunk Sewer CIPP; Commonwealth CIPP; Potomac Yards Pump	\$70.25

		Station; Transformers & Switchgear Replacement; Green Roofs; Security Upgrade; ESCO; Magnesium Hydroxide	
Centreville	Virginia	Cub Run Gravity Delivery System; Flat Branch Interceptor Upgrade and Pump Station; Biosolids Pad and Building	\$142.60
Hampton Road Sanitation District	Virginia	James River Treatment Plant Nutrient Reduction Improvements; Army Base Treatment Plant Incinerator Improvements; Nansemond Treatment Plant Nutrient Reduction Improvements	\$59
Roanoke	Virginia	Upgrade the WPC Plant's Disinfection System; Renovate Digesters and Install Generation Equipment	\$16
Virginia Beach	Virginia	Various Projects	\$83
King County	Washington	Treatment Facilities	\$25
Milwaukee	Wisconsin	Milwaukee County Grounds Basins (2 nd Bidding); South 43 rd Street Relief; JI Preliminary Facility Sewer Upgrade	\$99.90
TOTAL			\$2,916