November 18, 2011

The Honorable Nancy Stoner
Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of Water
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Mail Code: 4101M
Washington, DC 20460

The Honorable Cynthia Giles
Assistant Administrator
Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Mail Code: 2201A
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Acting Assistant Administrator Stoner and Assistant Administrator Giles:

The undersigned organizations thank you for the October 27 Memorandum on Achieving Water Quality through Integrated Municipal Stormwater and Wastewater Plans. Our organizations urge the Agency to move forward with this initiative as expeditiously as possible and under a specific timeline that is conducive to swift implementation.

Your leadership and commitment to initiating a new, more flexible effort to craft an integrated permitting and regulatory prioritization Clean Water Act (CWA) framework is both timely and necessary. Our organizations applaud the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s dedication to work with states, local governmental agencies and related stakeholders to establish CWA investment priorities that will maximize water quality improvements and create cost efficiencies during these austere budget times.

We are committed to work with your offices to ensure a successful effort. Please feel free to let us know how our organizations can support the framework’s development.

Sincerely,

American Council of Engineering Companies
American Public Works Association
American Society of Civil Engineers
American Water Works Association
California Association of Sanitation Agencies
The National Association of Clean Water Agencies
The National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies
Rural Community Assistance Partnership
Water Environment Federation