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**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**Ken Kirk**

December 5, 2013

The Honorable Barbara Boxer  
112 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable David Vitter  
518 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Bill Shuster  
2209 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nick J. Rahall II  
2307 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Boxer, Chairman Shuster, Senator Vitter and Representative Rahall:

The National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) commends your efforts to address our nation's clean water infrastructure funding needs as a component of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) Reauthorization. In recent days, we have learned that there is interest among WRDA conferees in building on the Water Infrastructure Financing Innovation Act (WIFIA) provisions in the Senate WRDA Reauthorization (S.601) to include the reauthorization of the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF). NACWA believes that combining the WIFIA provisions in S. 601 with a reauthorization of the Clean Water SRF makes eminent sense, and we look forward to working with you to secure the inclusion of both these provisions in the final WRDA reauthorization package.

We are supportive of the WIFIA pilot program as an additional tool to help communities meet their clean water goals with the understanding that it is designed to be complementary to and not a substitute for the existing federal investment partnership program relied upon by communities and States for decades – the Clean Water SRF Program. For this reason, NACWA strongly supports the reauthorization of the Clean Water SRF as part of WRDA. Given that the WIFIA program is designed to target large projects that require an amount of investment that may exceed the SRFs' single-project resources this approach is a sound one.

Ultimately, Congress must focus on ensuring additional funding for the SRFs and long-term dedicated revenue for the Nation's aging water and wastewater systems if we are serious about solving this growing challenge. Currently, communities nationwide face upwards of a \$1 trillion investment shortfall in terms of what is needed to ensure our water and wastewater systems are able to continue providing safe and clean water and a high quality of life to our citizens. Federal investment in clean water must continue.

December 4, 2013

Page 2 of 2

NACWA commends Congress' focus on our water resources infrastructure and looks forward to working with members on ensuring a strong commitment to our core water infrastructure investment programs.

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

Cc:

The Honorable Max Baucus  
The Honorable Thomas Carper  
The Honorable Ben Cardin  
The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse  
The Honorable John Barrasso  
The Honorable James Inhofe  
The Honorable John J. Duncan Jr.  
The Honorable Frank LoBiondo  
The Honorable Sam Graves  
The Honorable Shelly Moore Capito  
The Honorable Candice Miller  
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The Honorable Daniel Webster  
The Honorable Tom Rice  
The Honorable Markwayne Mullin  
The Honorable Rodney Davis  
The Honorable Peter DeFazio  
The Honorable Corinne Brown  
The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson  
The Honorable Tim Bishop  
The Honorable Donna Edwards  
The Honorable John Garamendi  
The Honorable Janice Hahn  
The Honorable Rick Nolan  
The Honorable Lois Frankel  
The Honorable Cheri Bustos  
The Honorable Grace Napolitano