

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

April 1, 2014

The Honorable Ken Calvert  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and  
Related Agencies  
Appropriations Committee  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jim Moran  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and  
Related Agencies  
Appropriations Committee  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Calvert and Ranking Member Moran:

We respectfully request your support for a pilot project to assist communities in successfully implementing a new model for meeting Clean Water Act (CWA) obligations.

Recently, the EPA released the Integrated Municipal Stormwater and Wastewater Planning Approach Framework (Framework) outlining a new model to help communities meet their regulatory obligations under the Clean Water Act (CWA) in an integrated manner. If successfully implemented, this model could help communities more affordably manage their clean water obligations while ensuring continuous progress toward water quality goals.

For this model to succeed, however, communities must develop an Integrated Plan outlining water quality goals, human health and regulatory issues that they need to address, an assessment of existing systems, an evaluation of the communities' financial capability, an evaluation of cost-effective approaches for addressing identified issues, metrics to measure success, and a process for incorporating adaptive management techniques.

This request, for \$5 million to be used out of the Environmental Programs and Management Account, would assist three to five communities in each EPA region to develop integrated plans. This would enable Congress to guarantee that all regions of the country participate in this effort and see to it that this new model for meeting CWA obligations receives an opportunity to effectively be evaluated. The request is for one fiscal year and will be supported through current EPA appropriations within currently authorized levels. We are not seeking additional funding.

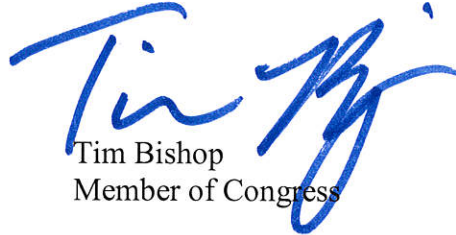
An Integrated Planning approach to CWA obligations can potentially save ratepayers millions of dollars while allowing clean water investments to be targeted in a way that ensures the greatest water quality benefit. As you well know, communities are under enormous financial pressure to maintain critical services for their residents, including education, fire and safety and critical public health infrastructure including drinking water and clean water. EPA should be applauded

for proposing a new model for helping communities meet their regulatory obligations under the CWA. With some additional assistance from Congress, we can ensure that this new model succeeds.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bob Gibbs".

Bob Gibbs  
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tim Bishop".

Tim Bishop  
Member of Congress