

**United States Senate**  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 4, 2016

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski  
Chairman  
Appropriations Subcommittee on the  
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Udall  
Ranking Member  
Appropriations Subcommittee on the  
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Murkowski and Ranking Member Udall:

As the Senate Appropriations Committee develops spending priorities for Fiscal Year 2017 (FY17), we strongly urge you to provide significant and strong funding for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF). We appreciate your continued support for these vital initiatives and urge you to provide no less than the FY 2016 funding level. It is critically important to provide the strongest possible federal investment in our nation's safe and clean water infrastructure. Each dollar invested helps to create jobs, repair crumbling water and wastewater infrastructure, and protect public health and environmental quality in our States.

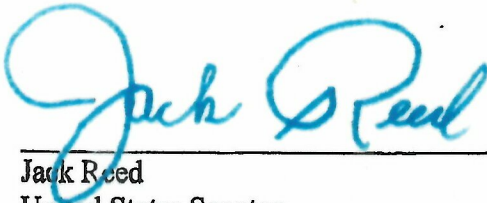
Additionally, the American Water Works Association (AWWA) estimates that there are 240,000 drinking water main breaks every year. AWWA estimates the cost to replace our nation's crumbling drinking water infrastructure will be more than \$1 trillion over the next 25 years. Maintaining a state of good repair of our nation's drinking water infrastructure is critical to protecting public health by ensuring reliable delivery of safe drinking water to millions of Americans. The American Society of Civil Engineers' 2014 infrastructure report card also provides ample evidence of the need for a continued and robust federal commitment to water and wastewater infrastructure. The Society gave the nation's drinking water a "D" and wastewater infrastructure a "D-". Every day, communities face significant losses and damage from broken water and sewer mains, sewage overflows, and other problems due to infrastructure that is reaching the end of its useful life cycle.

The SRFs help address these conditions by investing in short- and long-term improvements to water and wastewater infrastructure in states and communities across the nation, providing significant environmental, economic, and public health benefits.

Given the importance of water and wastewater infrastructure to the health and well-being of the American people as well as to the national economy, it is critical that the federal

government continue to be a reliable partner in meeting the nation's clean water and safe drinking water needs. We therefore urge your continued robust investment in the Clean Water and Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Funds.

Sincerely,



Jack Reed  
United States Senator



Mike Crapo  
United States Senator



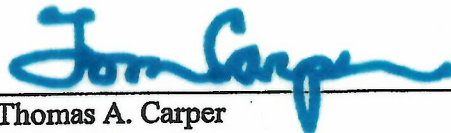
Benjamin L. Cardin  
United States Senator



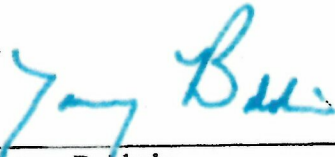
Debbie Stabenow  
United States Senator



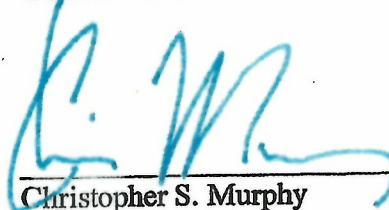
Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Thomas A. Carper  
United States Senator



Tammy Baldwin  
United States Senator



Christopher S. Murphy  
United States Senator



Jeanne Shaheen  
United States Senator



Mazie Hirono  
United States Senator



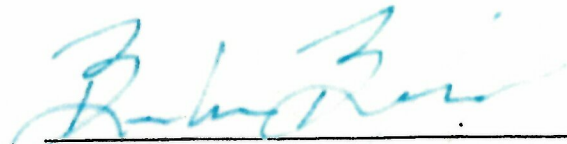
Kirsten E. Gillibrand  
United States Senator



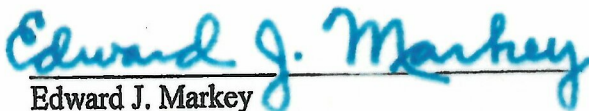
James Risch  
United State Senator



James M. Inhofe  
United States Senator



Barbara Boxer  
United State Senator



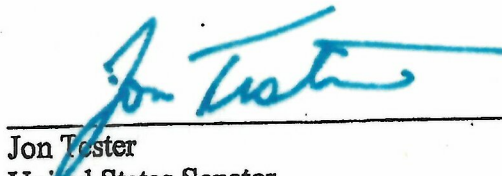
Edward J. Markey  
United States Senator



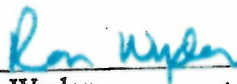
Sherrod Brown  
United States Senator



Gary C. Peters  
United States Senator



Jon Tester  
United States Senator



Ron Wyden  
United States Senator



Charles E. Schumer  
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senator

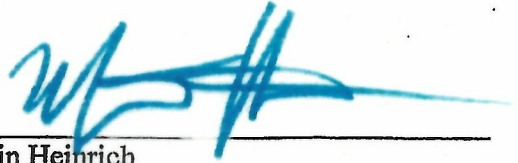


Sheldon Whitehouse  
United States Senator





Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator



Martin Heinrich  
United States Senator



Bernard Sanders  
United States Senator



Al Franken  
United States Senator



Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senator



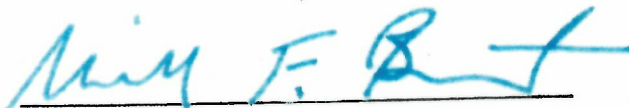
Joe Donnelly  
United States Senator



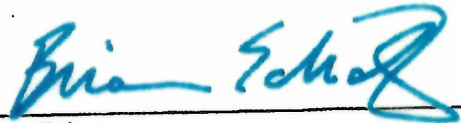
Jeffrey M. Merkley  
United States Senator



Susan M. Collins  
United States Senator



Michael F. Bennet  
United States Senator



Brian Schatz  
United States Senator



Maria Cantwell  
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Tim Kaine  
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Angus S. King, Jr.  
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Robert Menendez  
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Christopher A. Coons  
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Mark R. Warner  
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Joe Manchin III  
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Cory A. Booker  
United States Senator

Dan Sullivan  
United States Senator

Patrick J. Leahy  
United States Senator