

May 20, 2021

The Honorable Peter A. DeFazio, Chairman Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure U.S. House of Representatives 2165 Rayburn House office Building Washington, D.C. 20515-6256

Dear Chairman DeFazio,

On behalf of the Clean Water Construction Coalition (CWCC), a nationwide organization formed in 2005 and comprised of infrastructure construction associations representing 27 states and approximately 11,000 member firms nationwide that have come together to improve water and wastewater infrastructure by supporting Federal legislation and initiatives, I am pleased to support H.R. 1915, the "Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act of 2021."

The Clean Water SRF, and specifically its reauthorization and funding levels, are one of CCWC's top priorities. All citizens deserve clean water and local communities depend on the support of our Federal government to provide it. The CWSRF is also of critical importance because it offers Federal funding opportunities that provide low interest loans, often at half the market rate or less, as well as valuable financing benefits, and overall terms that are better than any other financing opportunities. The \$40 billion, five-year Clean Water SRF reauthorization in H.R. 1915 goes a long way in helping to make up for years of unmet needs and funding shortfalls. To say that it is long overdue would be an understatement.

The membership of CWCC includes the Southern California Contractors Association, the Arizona Utility Contractors Association, the Associated general Contractors of Texas, and the New Mexico Utility Contractors Association. These associations represent states that not only benefit from the Clean Water SRF but also from the Alternative Water Source Program (AWSP) because of their interest and involvement in recycled water, water storage and desalination. The inclusion of \$1 billion for the AWSP coupled with expanded project eligibility are welcome additions to the Program.

Mr. Chairman, your work over the years to help communities update their water infrastructure and mitigate costs is greatly appreciated. CWCC applauds the introduction of H.R. 1915, and looks forward to supporting the measure as it advances. Thank you for your continued support of our communities and their critical infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Dan Kennedy

Chairman

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