

June 1, 2021

The Honorable Peter DeFazio  
Chair  
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Grace Napolitano  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair DeFazio and Chair Napolitano,

On behalf of the U.S. equipment manufacturing industry and the companies that make up the Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM), we write in support of the *Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act of 2021*. Equipment manufacturers are proud to support 2.8 million family-sustaining jobs – one in eight manufacturing jobs in the United States – that contribute \$288 billion to the nation's GDP each year and play a critical role in ensuring all American's basic needs, such as clean water and safely managed wastewater, are met.

Our nation's wastewater, stormwater, and treatment facility infrastructure play a significant role in protecting public health. For too long, U.S. public policy has not prioritized its maintenance. The *Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act of 2021* reverses that trend by authorizing \$40 billion over the next five years for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and an additional \$10 billion in investments that will help local communities struggling to upgrade their wastewater infrastructure. It also supports family-sustaining jobs in the utility and construction sectors including those found in the equipment manufacturing industry. Notably, it also starts to address the very real workforce shortages that are occurring in the wastewater utility industry.

These investments will help ensure that all communities in the United States have the resources necessary to properly maintain and upgrade their wastewater systems. AEM supports the work that your Committee is doing to advance legislation that will build a modern, sustainable, and equitable infrastructure for all Americans and we look forward to supporting the advancement of the *Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act of 2021*.

Sincerely,



Dennis Slater  
President