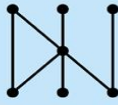


WATER INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORK



October 16, 2017

Senator John Boozman
Chairman,
Fisheries, Water and Wildlife Subcommittee
141 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: SRF WIN Act – The Water Infrastructure Network’s Strong Support

Dear Chairman Boozman,

The Water Infrastructure Network (WIN), a coalition of the nation’s leading construction, engineering, municipal, conservation, public works, labor and manufacturing organizations, strongly supports the Securing Required Funding for Water Infrastructure Now Act - the SRF WIN Act - and encourages all United States Senators to cosponsor this timely legislation. The United States is facing a water infrastructure funding crisis as documented in recent reports by CBO, EPA and WIN and underscored by recent commitments by Congress and the Trump Administration to provide full funding of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) State Revolving Funds (SRFs). The SRF WIN Act is a fiscally responsible approach to provide States with over \$50 B during the next five years for significant improvements to our nation’s rural and urban water infrastructure.

The SRF WIN Act utilizes the significant leveraging of Federal infrastructure funding established through the Water Infrastructure Finance Innovation Act (WIFIA) Program – PL 113-121 - to finance the existing Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act State Revolving Funds (CWA and SDWA SRFs). In the 2017 Budget Request, OMB estimated the Subsidy Ratio (anticipated riskiness of the future loan portfolio) for WIFIA appropriated funds at 1:65. Under this Subsidy Rate a \$200 M annual appropriation would support \$13 B in direct loans to the State Finance Authorities administering the CWA and SDWA SRFs. The State Finance Authorities would utilize these new direct loans to finance the thousands of existing and vetted water and wastewater infrastructure projects on their existing Intended Use Plans. Providing State Finance Authorities WIFIA Loans is the most effective and efficient means for the Federal government to support water and wastewater construction projects across the nation.

State Finance Authorities have been successfully financing wastewater infrastructure projects through the CWA SRF for the past 30 years and drinking water infrastructure through

the SDWA SRF for the past 20 years. State Finance Authorities have solicited and assessed thousands of water infrastructure project proposals submitted by large and small communities in every state and Congressional District. The States currently have thousands of vetted water infrastructure projects awaiting SRF funding.

State Finance Authorities, are in a position to combine new WIFIA leveraged funding with existing SRF Funds to expeditiously finance thousands of existing and vetted water infrastructure projects. Under current law, State Finance Authorities are eligible recipients of WIFIA Funding and are able to bundle existing vetted, water and wastewater projects into a single WIFIA loan proposal. On July 19, 2017, EPA “approved” a \$436 M WIFIA Loan to the Indiana Finance Authority that will be combined with \$454 M in State SRF Funding to construct \$890 M in drinking water and wastewater projects across Indiana. The objective of the SRF WIN Act is to expand the utilization of this innovative water infrastructure financing tool to all states.

The SRF WIN Act advances significant, fiscally responsible, investments in our nation’s water infrastructure and the Water Infrastructure Network urges all Members of the United States Senate to co-sponsor and support the passage of this landmark legislation.

Sincerely,

The WIN Executive Committee

- American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC)**
- American Public Works Association (APWA)**
- American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)**
- Associated General Contractors of America (AGCA)**
- International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE)**
- Laborers International Union of North America (LIUNA)**
- National Association Clean Water Agencies (NACWA)**
- National Rural Water Association (NRWA)**
- United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters (The United)**
- Vinyl Institute (VI)**