



February 22, 2019

The Honorable Peter DeFazio, Chairman  
Transportation & Infrastructure Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2164 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Sam Graves, Ranking Member  
Transportation & Infrastructure Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2164 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives DeFazio and Graves:

The Council of Infrastructure Financing Authorities (CIFA) supports the discussion draft of the Water Protection and Job Creation Act of 2019.

The Clean Water State Revolving Fund is the nation's premier program for providing low-cost financing for critical clean water infrastructure projects that protect public health and the environment. Over the last three decades, this unique federal-state partnership has generated an investment of nearly \$133 billion in clean water infrastructure, including two-thirds (67%) in non-federal funds.

While increased funding can help accelerate investment in water infrastructure, we are concerned that the growth in federal requirements during the last decade has depressed demand for Clean Water SRF loans. Based on last year's annual survey of our members, the cumulative impact of compliance with all federal requirements is the number one reason voiced by prospective borrowers for postponing investment in critical water infrastructure. We hope to work with you to streamline and reduce the burden of federal requirements on Clean Water SRF borrowers to maximize the program's effectiveness and help more communities proceed with construction of these much needed water infrastructure projects.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to clean water. Our members look forward to working with the Committee to advance this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Jeff Freeman  
President, Council of Infrastructure Financing Authorities

## About CIFA

CIFA is a national not-for-profit organization that represents state government agencies, including financing authorities and departments of health and environmental protection, that are responsible for managing the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds.

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