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February 2, 2018

The Honorable Earl Blumenauer
U.S. House of Representatives
1111 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Katko
U.S. House of Representatives
1620 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressmen Blumenauer and Katko:

We are writing to express our support for the Securing Required Funds for Water Infrastructure Now (SRF WIN) Act, a bill that will leverage Federal infrastructure funding established through the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) program to finance critical water infrastructure investments. A well-maintained public drinking water and wastewater infrastructure system is critical for public health, strong businesses, and clean waters and aquifers, but the age-old adage "out of sight, out of mind" plagues our nation's ability to adequately invest in water infrastructure systems.

The American Society of Civil Engineers' (ASCE) 2017 Infrastructure Report Card gave the nation's wastewater infrastructure a grade of "D+" and the nation's drinking water infrastructure a grade of "D." Despite increased efficiency methods and sustainable practices, there is a growing gap between the capital needed to maintain drinking water and wastewater infrastructure and the actual investments made. By 2025, the disparity between needed and anticipated funding for drinking water and wastewater systems will be \$105 billion.

The Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) – both authorized by Congress several decades ago – play a vital role in providing much-needed support for investments in state and local drinking and wastewater infrastructure. Another important financing mechanism – authorized in the 2014 Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) – is WIFIA, which assists in financing large water infrastructure projects over \$20 million.

The SRF WIN Act blends the most successful parts of the SRFs and WIFIA to create a program that gives State Finance Authorities access to WIFIA loans for drinking and wastewater infrastructure projects. This program would offer a new and efficient tool to leverage limited

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federal resources and stimulate additional investment in our nation's infrastructure while safeguarding against any cuts to the existing SRFs and WIFIA programs.

America's drinking water and wastewater infrastructure provide a critical service to the public; therefore, it is crucial that sustained, significant, and strategic investments from all levels of government and the private sector are made. We thank you for your introduction of this innovative new water infrastructure financing tool and welcome the opportunity to work with you on this critically important issue.

Sincerely,

Kristina L. Swallow, P.E., ENV SP, F. ASCE

2018 President of the American Society of Civil Engineers