

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 3, 2006

Dear Colleague:

The President's budget request for fiscal year 2007 proposes a \$200 million, or 22 percent, cut for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund ("SRF"), the primary source of Federal funding for wastewater projects throughout the Nation. This represents a decrease of more than \$650 million – or approximately 49 percent – from the long-term average of \$1.35 billion for the program. A state-by-state breakdown on the impact of these cuts to your communities is on the reverse side of this letter.

This dramatic cut in funding will make it more difficult for States to address the ever-growing problem of failures in their wastewater treatment systems – posing a significant threat to the country's quality of life, economic prosperity, and the health and safety of both human populations and the environment.

The Clean Water SRF, part of the Clean Water Act, established a lasting Federal commitment toward investment in wastewater infrastructure improvements throughout the country, and is integral to restoring and maintaining the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters. It has stopped billions of pounds of pollution from fouling the water and dramatically increased the number of waterways that are safe for swimming and fishing.

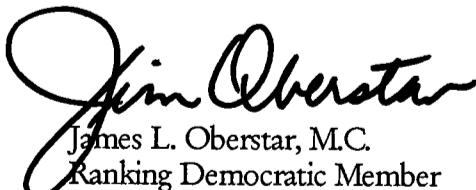
Unfortunately, however, many cities and communities throughout the United States are facing a critical juncture in the age and reliability of their water infrastructure. For example, pipes installed at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century that had an expected useful life of 100 years are deteriorating next to pipes installed in the 1940's and 1960's, that, unfortunately have an expected life of approximately 60 years and 40 years, respectively. Many of the wastewater treatment facilities constructed soon after enactment of the Act are either undersized or poorly designed to meet current community needs, or are in desperate need of repair or replacement.


The Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") estimates that between \$300 billion and \$400 billion in investment is needed for restoration and replacement of the Nation's aging wastewater infrastructure over the next 20 years. In addition, according to a recent EPA report, without continued improvements in wastewater treatment infrastructure, future population growth will eliminate many of the achievements in cleaning up the Nation's waters. In less than a generation, the U.S. could lose much of the gains of the past 30 years in improving water quality and have more polluted water than existed prior to the enactment of the Clean Water Act.

Dramatically reducing funding for the Clean Water SRF when many communities throughout the Nation are facing significant needs and potentially devastating wastewater treatment failures is the wrong approach at the wrong time. Unfortunately, the President's budget request will have all too real an impact on efforts to secure this Nation's quality of life, economic prosperity, and the health and safety of both human populations and the environment.

We hope you find this information useful.

Sincerely,

  
James L. Oberstar, M.C.  
Ranking Democratic Member  
Committee on Transportation  
and Infrastructure

  
Eddie Bernice Johnson, M.C.  
Ranking Democratic Member  
Subcommittee on Water Resources  
and Environment

# Decreasing Funding of the Clean Water SRF Accounts

## FY2004 through FY2007 Appropriations

State	FY2004 Enacted	FY2006 Enacted	FY2007 Proposed	FY2006-2007 Cut	FY2004-2007 Total Cut
Alabama	\$14,819,554	\$9,792,122	\$7,592,394	-\$2,199,728	-\$7,227,160
Alaska	\$7,931,942	\$5,241,085	\$4,063,714	-\$1,177,371	-\$3,868,228
Arizona	\$8,951,408	\$5,914,705	\$4,586,010	-\$1,328,695	-\$4,365,399
Arkansas	\$8,670,041	\$5,728,789	\$4,441,859	-\$1,286,930	-\$4,228,182
California	\$94,784,160	\$62,629,284	\$48,560,077	-\$14,069,207	-\$46,224,083
Colorado	\$10,600,352	\$7,004,255	\$5,430,801	-\$1,573,454	-\$5,169,551
Connecticut	\$16,235,551	\$10,727,752	\$8,317,842	-\$2,409,910	-\$7,917,710
Delaware	\$6,506,784	\$4,299,402	\$3,333,573	-\$965,829	-\$3,173,211
District of Columbia	\$6,506,784	\$4,299,402	\$3,333,573	-\$965,829	-\$3,173,211
Florida	\$44,734,794	\$29,558,822	\$22,918,651	-\$6,640,172	-\$21,816,143
Georgia	\$22,407,312	\$14,805,785	\$11,479,775	-\$3,326,011	-\$10,927,537
Hawaii	\$10,264,020	\$6,782,022	\$5,258,490	-\$1,523,531	-\$5,005,529
Idaho	\$6,506,784	\$4,299,402	\$3,333,573	-\$965,829	-\$3,173,211
Illinois	\$59,937,793	\$39,604,308	\$30,707,492	-\$8,896,816	-\$29,230,301
Indiana	\$31,939,777	\$21,104,427	\$16,363,473	-\$4,740,954	-\$15,576,304
Iowa	\$17,936,843	\$11,851,892	\$9,189,452	-\$2,662,440	-\$8,747,391
Kansas	\$11,962,694	\$7,904,432	\$6,128,759	-\$1,775,672	-\$5,833,934
Kentucky	\$16,867,647	\$11,145,413	\$8,641,678	-\$2,503,735	-\$8,225,968
Louisiana	\$14,568,286	\$9,626,095	\$7,463,664	-\$2,162,431	-\$7,104,622
Maine	\$10,258,785	\$6,778,563	\$5,255,809	-\$1,522,754	-\$5,002,977
Maryland	\$32,052,324	\$21,178,793	\$16,421,133	-\$4,757,660	-\$15,631,190
Massachusetts	\$44,996,531	\$29,731,767	\$23,052,745	-\$6,679,022	-\$21,943,787
Michigan	\$56,984,090	\$37,652,628	\$29,194,243	-\$8,458,386	-\$27,789,847
Minnesota	\$24,358,562	\$16,095,087	\$12,479,444	-\$3,615,643	-\$11,879,118
Mississippi	\$11,940,446	\$7,889,732	\$6,117,362	-\$1,772,370	-\$5,823,084
Missouri	\$36,738,726	\$24,275,365	\$18,822,083	-\$5,453,282	-\$17,916,643
Montana	\$6,506,784	\$4,299,402	\$3,333,573	-\$965,829	-\$3,173,211
Nebraska	\$6,778,991	\$4,479,265	\$3,473,031	-\$1,006,234	-\$3,305,960
Nevada	\$6,506,784	\$4,299,402	\$3,333,573	-\$965,829	-\$3,173,211
New Hampshire	\$13,243,897	\$8,750,996	\$6,785,149	-\$1,965,847	-\$6,458,748
New Jersey	\$54,157,329	\$35,784,827	\$27,746,029	-\$8,038,798	-\$26,411,300
New Mexico	\$6,506,784	\$4,299,402	\$3,333,573	-\$965,829	-\$3,173,211
New York	\$146,280,931	\$96,656,130	\$74,943,042	-\$21,713,087	-\$71,337,889
North Carolina	\$23,918,844	\$15,804,540	\$12,254,167	-\$3,550,373	-\$11,664,677
North Dakota	\$6,506,784	\$4,299,402	\$3,333,573	-\$965,829	-\$3,173,211
Ohio	\$74,608,156	\$49,297,852	\$38,223,452	-\$11,074,399	-\$36,384,704
Oklahoma	\$10,707,664	\$7,075,163	\$5,485,779	-\$1,589,383	-\$5,221,885
Oregon	\$14,971,361	\$9,892,430	\$7,670,168	-\$2,222,261	-\$7,301,193
Pennsylvania	\$52,496,607	\$34,687,494	\$26,895,204	-\$7,792,290	-\$25,601,404
Rhode Island	\$8,899,061	\$5,880,116	\$4,559,191	-\$1,320,925	-\$4,339,870
South Carolina	\$13,576,303	\$8,970,635	\$6,955,448	-\$2,015,187	-\$6,620,855
South Dakota	\$6,506,784	\$4,299,402	\$3,333,573	-\$965,829	-\$3,173,211
Tennessee	\$19,252,071	\$12,720,938	\$9,863,273	-\$2,857,665	-\$9,388,798
Texas	\$60,573,814	\$40,024,563	\$31,033,340	-\$8,991,223	-\$29,540,474
Utah	\$6,983,145	\$4,614,161	\$3,577,624	-\$1,036,537	-\$3,405,521
Vermont	\$6,506,784	\$4,299,402	\$3,333,573	-\$965,829	-\$3,173,211
Virginia	\$27,122,506	\$17,921,382	\$13,895,475	-\$4,025,906	-\$13,227,030
Washington	\$23,047,259	\$15,228,635	\$11,807,634	-\$3,421,001	-\$11,239,625
West Virginia	\$20,660,217	\$13,651,380	\$10,584,698	-\$3,066,682	-\$10,075,519
Wisconsin	\$35,827,881	\$23,673,518	\$18,355,437	-\$5,318,081	-\$17,472,444
Wyoming	\$6,506,784	\$4,299,402	\$3,333,573	-\$965,829	-\$3,173,211
American Samoa	\$1,189,595	\$786,033	\$609,457	-\$176,577	-\$580,139
Guam	\$861,115	\$568,988	\$441,169	-\$127,819	-\$419,946
Northern Marianas	\$552,265	\$364,913	\$282,938	-\$81,975	-\$269,327
Puerto Rico	\$17,285,117	\$11,421,260	\$8,855,558	-\$2,565,702	-\$8,429,559
Virgin Islands	\$690,986	\$456,574	\$354,008	-\$102,566	-\$336,978
Subtotal	\$1,308,685,430	\$864,722,883	\$670,469,258	-\$194,253,625	-\$638,216,172
Indian Tribes	\$19,929,220	\$13,168,369	\$10,210,192	-\$2,958,177	-\$9,719,028
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,342,035,000</b>	<b>\$886,758,840</b>	<b>\$687,555,000</b>	<b>-\$199,203,840</b>	<b>-\$654,480,000</b>