

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 11, 2005

Dear Colleague:

We are writing to provide your office with a state-by-state breakdown of the 22 percent reduction to the primary Federal program for restoring and replacing aging wastewater infrastructure systems contained in this year's funding bill for the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"). This dramatic decrease 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.

On Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, the House Appropriations Committee approved H.R. \_\_\_\_\_, the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill for fiscal year 2006. This legislation contains an appropriation of \$850 million for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund ("SRF"), the primary source of Federal funding for wastewater projects throughout the Nation. Funding the Clean Water SRF program at \$850 million represents a decrease of approximately \$250 million below last year's enacted level. A state-by-state breakdown on the impact of these cuts to your communities is on the reverse side of this letter.

The Clean Water SRF, part of the Clean Water Act, established a lasting Federal commitment towards investment in wastewater infrastructure improvements throughout the country, and is integral to our national commitment in 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.

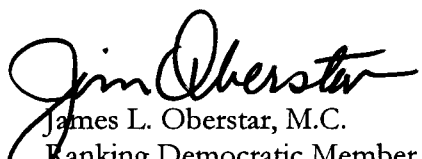
Unfortunately, however, many cities and communities throughout the United States are facing a critical juncture in the age and reliability of their water infrastructure. For example, pipes installed at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century that had an expected useful life of 100 years are deteriorating 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. In addition, many of the wastewater treatment facilities constructed soon after enactment of the Act are now reaching the end of their expected useful life and are in need of repair or replacement.

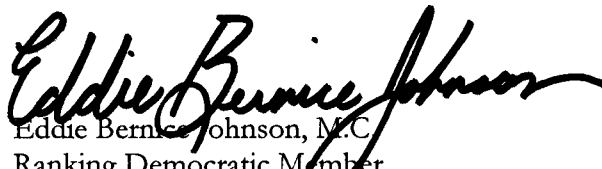
The Environmental Protection Agency's most recent assessments of wastewater infrastructure needs estimate that between \$300 billion and \$400 billion in investment is needed for restoration and replacement of the Nation's aging wastewater infrastructure over the next 20 years. In addition, according to recent EPA report, without continued improvements in wastewater treatment infrastructure, future population growth will erode away 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 it made thus far in improving water quality and wind up with dirtier 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, however, the unrealistic spending limitations contained in the House Republican Leadership's Budget Resolution 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 FY2006 Appropriations

State	FY2004 Enacted	FY2005 Enacted	FY2004-2005 Cut	FY2006 Proposed	FY2005-2006 Cut	FY2004-2006 Total Cut
Alabama	\$14,819,554	\$12,049,684	-\$2,769,870	\$9,386,209	-\$2,663,475	-\$5,433,345
Alaska	\$7,931,942	\$6,449,411	-\$1,482,531	\$5,023,827	-\$1,425,585	-\$2,908,116
Arizona	\$8,951,408	\$7,278,332	-\$1,673,076	\$5,669,522	-\$1,608,810	-\$3,281,886
Arkansas	\$8,670,041	\$7,049,554	-\$1,620,487	\$5,491,313	-\$1,558,241	-\$3,178,728
California	\$94,784,160	\$77,068,389	-\$17,715,771	\$60,033,111	-\$17,035,278	-\$34,751,049
Colorado	\$10,600,352	\$8,619,078	-\$1,981,274	\$6,713,908	-\$1,905,170	-\$3,886,444
Connecticut	\$16,235,551	\$13,201,022	-\$3,034,529	\$10,283,054	-\$2,917,968	-\$5,952,497
Delaware	\$6,506,784	\$5,290,624	-\$1,216,160	\$4,121,179	-\$1,169,445	-\$2,385,605
District of Columbia	\$6,506,784	\$5,290,624	-\$1,216,160	\$4,121,179	-\$1,169,445	-\$2,385,605
Florida	\$44,734,794	\$36,373,572	-\$8,361,222	\$28,333,520	-\$8,040,053	-\$16,401,274
Georgia	\$22,407,312	\$18,219,241	-\$4,188,071	\$14,192,041	-\$4,027,200	-\$8,215,271
Hawaii	\$10,264,020	\$8,345,608	-\$1,918,412	\$6,500,886	-\$1,844,722	-\$3,763,134
Idaho	\$6,506,784	\$5,290,624	-\$1,216,160	\$4,121,179	-\$1,169,445	-\$2,385,605
Illinois	\$59,937,793	\$48,735,033	-\$11,202,760	\$37,962,590	-\$10,772,443	-\$21,975,203
Indiana	\$31,939,777	\$25,970,026	-\$5,969,750	\$20,229,584	-\$5,740,442	-\$11,710,192
Iowa	\$17,936,843	\$14,584,331	-\$3,352,512	\$11,360,595	-\$3,223,736	-\$6,576,247
Kansas	\$11,962,694	\$9,726,789	-\$2,235,905	\$7,576,769	-\$2,150,020	-\$4,385,924
Kentucky	\$16,867,647	\$13,714,975	-\$3,152,672	\$10,683,402	-\$3,031,572	-\$6,184,244
Louisiana	\$14,568,286	\$11,845,380	-\$2,722,907	\$9,227,064	-\$2,618,315	-\$5,341,222
Maine	\$10,258,785	\$8,341,352	-\$1,917,433	\$6,497,571	-\$1,843,781	-\$3,761,214
Maryland	\$32,052,324	\$26,061,537	-\$5,990,786	\$20,300,868	-\$5,760,670	-\$11,751,456
Massachusetts	\$44,996,531	\$36,586,389	-\$8,410,142	\$28,499,295	-\$8,087,094	-\$16,497,236
Michigan	\$56,984,090	\$46,333,396	-\$10,650,694	\$36,091,813	-\$10,241,583	-\$20,892,277
Minnesota	\$24,358,562	\$19,805,790	-\$4,552,772	\$15,427,897	-\$4,377,893	-\$8,930,665
Mississippi	\$11,940,446	\$9,708,699	-\$2,231,746	\$7,562,678	-\$2,146,021	-\$4,377,768
Missouri	\$36,738,726	\$29,872,021	-\$6,866,705	\$23,269,078	-\$6,602,943	-\$13,469,648
Montana	\$6,506,784	\$5,290,624	-\$1,216,160	\$4,121,179	-\$1,169,445	-\$2,385,605
Nebraska	\$6,778,991	\$5,511,953	-\$1,267,037	\$4,293,585	-\$1,218,368	-\$2,485,405
Nevada	\$6,506,784	\$5,290,624	-\$1,216,160	\$4,121,179	-\$1,169,445	-\$2,385,605
New Hampshire	\$13,243,897	\$10,768,527	-\$2,475,370	\$8,388,240	-\$2,380,287	-\$4,855,656
New Jersey	\$54,157,329	\$44,034,975	-\$10,122,354	\$34,301,438	-\$9,733,537	-\$19,855,892
New Mexico	\$6,506,784	\$5,290,624	-\$1,216,160	\$4,121,179	-\$1,169,445	-\$2,385,605
New York	\$146,280,931	\$118,940,081	-\$27,340,850	\$92,649,440	-\$26,290,641	-\$53,631,491
North Carolina	\$23,918,844	\$19,448,257	-\$4,470,586	\$15,149,394	-\$4,298,863	-\$8,769,450
North Dakota	\$6,506,784	\$5,290,624	-\$1,216,160	\$4,121,179	-\$1,169,445	-\$2,385,605
Ohio	\$74,608,156	\$60,663,411	-\$13,944,746	\$47,254,306	-\$13,409,104	-\$27,353,850
Oklahoma	\$10,707,664	\$8,706,333	-\$2,001,332	\$6,781,876	-\$1,924,457	-\$3,925,788
Oregon	\$14,971,361	\$12,173,117	-\$2,798,244	\$9,482,359	-\$2,690,759	-\$5,489,003
Pennsylvania	\$52,496,607	\$42,684,653	-\$9,811,955	\$33,249,592	-\$9,435,061	-\$19,247,015
Rhode Island	\$8,899,061	\$7,235,769	-\$1,663,292	\$5,636,367	-\$1,599,402	-\$3,262,694
South Carolina	\$13,576,303	\$11,038,804	-\$2,537,499	\$8,598,775	-\$2,440,029	-\$4,977,527
South Dakota	\$6,506,784	\$5,290,624	-\$1,216,160	\$4,121,179	-\$1,169,445	-\$2,385,605
Tennessee	\$19,252,071	\$15,653,735	-\$3,598,336	\$12,193,617	-\$3,460,118	-\$7,058,454
Texas	\$60,573,814	\$49,252,177	-\$11,321,637	\$38,365,424	-\$10,886,753	-\$22,208,390
Utah	\$6,983,145	\$5,677,951	-\$1,305,195	\$4,422,890	-\$1,255,060	-\$2,560,255
Vermont	\$6,506,784	\$5,290,624	-\$1,216,160	\$4,121,179	-\$1,169,445	-\$2,385,605
Virginia	\$27,122,506	\$22,053,134	-\$5,069,371	\$17,178,486	-\$4,874,648	-\$9,944,019
Washington	\$23,047,259	\$18,739,578	-\$4,307,681	\$14,597,362	-\$4,142,216	-\$8,449,897
West Virginia	\$20,660,217	\$16,798,689	-\$3,861,528	\$13,085,489	-\$3,713,200	-\$7,574,728
Wisconsin	\$35,827,881	\$29,131,419	-\$6,696,462	\$22,692,179	-\$6,439,240	-\$13,135,702
Wyoming	\$6,506,784	\$5,290,624	-\$1,216,160	\$4,121,179	-\$1,169,445	-\$2,385,605
American Samoa	\$1,189,595	\$967,252	-\$222,343	\$753,450	-\$213,802	-\$436,145
Guam	\$861,115	\$700,167	-\$160,948	\$545,401	-\$154,766	-\$315,714
Northern Marianas	\$552,265	\$449,043	-\$103,222	\$349,786	-\$99,257	-\$202,479
Puerto Rico	\$17,285,117	\$14,054,417	-\$3,230,700	\$10,947,814	-\$3,106,603	-\$6,337,303
Virgin Islands	\$690,986	\$561,836	-\$129,150	\$437,647	-\$124,189	-\$253,339
Subtotal	\$1,308,685,430	\$1,064,083,680	-\$244,601,750	\$828,877,500	-\$235,206,180	-\$479,807,930
Indian Tribes	\$19,929,220	\$16,204,320	-\$3,724,900	\$12,622,500	-\$3,581,820	-\$7,306,720
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,342,035,000</b>	<b>\$1,091,200,000</b>	<b>-\$250,835,000</b>	<b>\$850,000,000</b>	<b>-\$241,200,000</b>	<b>-\$492,035,000</b>