

April 27, 2016

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**U.S. Senate**  
**Washington, D.C. 20510**

**The Honorable Barbara Boxer**  
**Ranking Member**  
**Senate Environment and Public Works**  
**Committee**  
**U.S. Senate**  
**Washington, D.C. 20510**

**Dear Chairman Inhofe and Senator Boxer:**

On behalf of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) members, I write in full support of the proposed Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) released this week by your Committee. This package is a bold, bipartisan bill that will inject much needed investment in our nation's clean water infrastructure and establish strong policy tools within the Clean Water Act (CWA) to aid the municipal clean water sector in meeting their environmental and public health goals. Among other things, the proposed bill would:

- Establish, for the first time, a Clean Water Trust Fund;
- Require a study on the potential role of low-income assistance programs to support full cost pricing for water and sewer rates;
- Establish a municipal ombudsman within the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to advocate on behalf of municipalities;
- Incentivizes Integrated Planning and allow greater use of compliance schedules to achieve water quality standards;
- Promotes greater use of Green Infrastructure and other innovative technologies to help manage wet weather; and,
- Authorizes \$1.8 billion for the CWA's sewer overflow control grant program to address CSO, SSO, and stormwater discharges.

In short, many of the clean water community's legislative priorities from recent years are included in this proposed bill which we believe will go a long way toward helping ensure all Americans have access to clean and safe water.

NACWA applauds you and your staff for putting together such an ambitious and innovative WRDA proposal and strongly urges all Members of this Committee to support it.

Sincerely,



**Adam Krantz**  
**CEO**