



#### Board of Directors & Officers

President, **Martha Clark Mettler**  
Deputy Assistant Commissioner  
Office of Water Quality, Indiana  
Department of Environmental  
Management

Vice President, **Peter LaFlamme**  
Director, Watershed Management  
Division, Vermont Department of  
Environmental Conservation

Treasurer, **Carlton Haywood**  
Executive Director, Interstate  
Commission on the Potomac  
River Basin

Secretary, **Andrew Gavin**  
Deputy Executive Director  
Susquehanna River Basin Commission

Past President, **Shellie Chard-McClary**  
Director, Water Quality Division  
Oklahoma Department of  
Environmental Quality

#### Regional Representatives

Region I - **Alicia Good** (RI)  
Region II - **Leslie McGeorge** (NJ)  
Region III - **Collin Burrell** (DC)  
Region IV - **Peter Goodmann** (KY)  
Region V - **Rebecca Flood** (MN)  
Region VI - **Allison Woodall** (TX)  
Region VII - **Jaime Gaggero** (KS)  
Region VIII - **Kent Woodmansey** (SD)  
Region IX - **Trevor Baggione** (AZ)  
Region X - **Jennifer Wigal** (OR)  
Interstates - **Andrew Gavin** (SRBC)

Executive Director & General Counsel  
**Julia Anastasio**

April 28, 2016

The Honorable Benjamin L. Cardin:  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Proposed FUND Water Act (S. 2583)

Dear Senator Cardin:

I am writing to you on behalf of the members of the Association of Clean Water Administrators (ACWA) to express our support for the FUND Water Act (S. 2583) and applaud you for calling for significant increases in funding for the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund programs (SRF). ACWA is the national voice of state, interstate, and territorial officials (hereinafter "states") responsible for the day-to-day implementation of the Clean Water Act (CWA), including those with authority to administer the state revolving fund programs.

As you are well aware, the SRF programs are critical to protecting public health and the environment while also creating jobs and spurring economic development. The SRFs invest in short- and long-term improvements in states and communities across the nation, providing significant environmental, economic and public health benefits. It is well documented that our nation's water and wastewater infrastructure is reaching a tipping point. The American Society of Civil Engineers' latest infrastructure report card gave the nation's water and wastewater infrastructure a D-, the lowest of any category. Moreover, the most recent Clean Watersheds Needs Survey found that the total capital wastewater and stormwater treatment and collection needs for the nation are \$271 billion. Similarly, the American Water Works Association (AWWA) estimated that the nation's need to reinvest in drinking water infrastructure alone, actually totals about \$1 trillion over the next 25 years. The FUND Water Act is a positive step that would help alleviate this gap and provide much needed funding for states and communities, though states will still need even more SRF funding and the development of innovative and new financing sources, such as a water infrastructure trust fund, in order to fund all critical capital improvement projects and, more importantly, minimize the risks to public health and the environment.

We recognize the budgetary constraints faced by Congress. However, we believe it is important to identify a way to increase DWSRF funding without adversely impacting the CWSRF funding of other important environmental programs. Additionally, the figures in the S. 2583 tend

to “lock in” an historical disparity in which the DWSRF would receive 40% less than the CWSRF. The estimated 20 year drinking water infrastructure needs are greater than those on the wastewater side; further, the DWSRF is “younger” than the CWSRF and thus has had ten years less to revolve. Therefore, we respectfully recommend that the DWSRF be authorized at levels of at least as much as those of the CWSRF.

Considering the importance of water and wastewater infrastructure to the well-being of the American people and to our economy, it is critical that the federal government remains a reliable partner in meeting the nation's clean water and safe drinking water needs. Every federal dollar directed to these programs enhances safe and clean water for all. Again, we thank you and applaud you for your focus on this critical issue and we look forward to working with you and your colleagues as you consider this legislation.

Sincerely,



Martha Clark Mettler  
Assistant Commissioner, Indiana Department of Environmental Management  
ACWA President

cc: Senator J. Inhofe  
Senator B. Boxer  
Senator D. Sullivan