



MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

Clean Water Infrastructure Funding in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

Municipalities across the nation face a serious clean water infrastructure crisis.

As the Conference Committee reconciles differences between the Senate and House versions of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (HR 1), investment in clean water infrastructure, at a minimum, must be funded at the level approved by the House of Representatives. Substantial investment in clean water infrastructure will yield significant economic and environmental benefits nationwide by creating jobs, easing burdens on cash-strapped municipalities, and ensuring delivery of clean drinking water and full treatment of sewage to protect public health and aquatic resources. **CCE supports the final American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, at a minimum, to include \$6 billion for Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and \$2 billion for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF).**

JUSTIFICATION

Since 2004, the federal government has significantly reduced funding for vital wastewater infrastructure, shifting the burden to local governments. While federal funding has decreased dramatically, our nation's clean water infrastructure needs continues to grow. The US Environmental Protection Agency has assessed national clean water needs at \$388 billion. Projects to fix and improve antiquated sewage treatment and collection systems in Connecticut and New York State are estimated at \$5 billion and \$36 billion, respectively, over the next 20 years. New York State has 412 wastewater projects serving over 10 million citizens that have been reviewed, ranked and are ready-to-go as soon as federal funding is available.

For every \$1 billion of federal investment in infrastructure between 30,000 and 47,500 jobs are created. **Investment in clean water infrastructure benefits public health, local governments, water quality and our economy, while ensuring Congress upholds the promise of clean water to all Americans.**

SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS

HOUSE

- 1). Funds CWSRF at \$6B, not subject to state match
- 2). States directed to use 50% for grants, negative interest loans, and loan forgiveness
- 3). 20% of projects must improve water and/or energy efficiency, mitigate stormwater pollution or encourage environmentally sensitive project planning, design, and construction.
- 4). Funds DWSRF at \$2B, not subject to state match, with 50% applied toward loan forgiveness, grants, and negative interest loans.

SENATE

- 1). Funds CWSRF at \$4B, not subject to state match
- 2). May include loan forgiveness & negative interest loans.
- 3). 15% of projects must improve water and/or energy efficiency, mitigate storm water pollution or encourage environmentally sensitive project planning and design.
- 4). Funds DWSRF at \$2B, not subject to state match and may provide assistance, including forgiveness of principal, negative interest loans, and grant to municipalities

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CCE SUPPORTS CLEAN WATER INFRASTRUCTURE AND URGES CONGRESS TO ADOPT, AT A MINIMUM, CWSRF AND DWSRF FUNDING LEVELS APPROVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN THE FINAL AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009

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