August 10, 2026

Dr. Stuart Levenbach
Associate Director, Natural Resources, Energy, Science, and Water
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th Street NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Dr. Levenbach:

We write to express our strong support for the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) program, and we urge the Office of Management and Budget's swift approval of several outstanding loans that are critical to water supply reliability and economic certainty for these agencies and the communities they serve. Approval of these loans will directly advance the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) goals under its "Powering the Great American Comeback" initiative, as well as President Trump's priorities under Executive Order 14181 to maximize water delivery in California.

Our organizations collectively represent millions of water customers across the country, including public water systems, agricultural producers, irrigation districts, and more. Our members supply drinking water to millions of Americans; provide water for businesses that fuel the national and international economies; and irrigate farms that feed the nation. Our member agencies operate some of the nation's largest water infrastructure facilities, including drinking water conveyance, dams, recycled water facilities, wastewater treatment plants, irrigation systems, and more.

Water infrastructure facilities are costly to build and maintain, and the WIFIA program has been essential to helping communities finance these projects while keeping water rates affordable. The program, which was originally stood up during President Trump's first administration, has been an unqualified success. Since 2018, the EPA has closed 154 loans and has provided $23 billion in financing, which has leveraged $51 billion in total water infrastructure investment that has created 173,000 jobs nationwide.[1] Furthermore, the program has yielded borrower and ratepayer savings of more than $7.5 billion.[2] WIFIA remains a solid investment choice for local project sponsors, one that continues to reap benefits for the American economy and the American taxpayer.

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[1] https://www.epa.gov/wifia/wifia-closed-loans, July 10, 2026.
[2] https://www.epa.gov/wifia/wifia-annual-report

The WIFIA program also directly advances President Trump's priorities to power the American economy and maximize water delivery in California, as follows:

> Powering the Great American Comeback Initiative: WIFIA advances priorities under the EPA's "Powering the Great American Comeback Initiative," specifically Pillars 1 and 3: "Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American" and "Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership," respectively. Whether financing a drinking water plant upgrade or a surface water storage project, WIFIA helps local communities complete these critical infrastructure projects on schedule while minimizing impacts to taxpayers.
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> Maximizing Water Delivery in California (EO 14181): Several currently pending WIFIA loans would support projects that directly fulfill this EO. These projects range from drinking water infrastructure upgrades to large surface water storage projects, investing in the core priorities that EO 14181 identifies: water delivery, infrastructure reliability, storage, treatment, and disaster preparedness.

While we appreciate the administration's progress in executing loans since President Trump took office in January 2025, we remain concerned that numerous loans remain pending with no clear timeline for approval. The cost of inaction is real; some projects must pause project development while the applications are pending, while others must move forward with uncertainty about how to address cost increases.

President Trump can usher in a new golden age of water infrastructure by continuing to advance the most robust financing program that he began. Thank you for your continued support of the WIFIA program, and we urge your swift review and approval of pending loans.

Sincerely,

Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies
Association of California Water Agencies
American Water Works Association
WateReuse
National Water Resources Association
National Waterways Conference

cc:

EPA
The Honorable Jessica Kramer, Assistant Administrator, Office of Water
Peggy Browne, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Water
Andrew Sawyers, Director, Office of Wastewater