



**CWCC**

Clean Water Construction Coalition  
 P.O. Box 728 \* Allenwood, NJ 08720  
 (732) 292-4300 \* FAX: (732) 292-4310

**ROBERT A. BRIANT, JR.**  
 Chairman

- AGC of America
- AGC of Texas
- Alabama Utility Contractors Association
- Arizona Utility Contractors Association
- Associated Pennsylvania Constructors
- Associated Utility Contractors Of Maryland \*
- Connecticut Construction Industries Association
- CIC of Westchester County & Hudson Valley \*
- Engineering Contractors Association
- General Contractors Association Of New York
- Georgia Utility Contractors Association
- Indiana Constructors Inc.
- Long Island Contractors Association
- Maryland Transportation Builders & Materials Association
- Michigan Infrastructure & Transportation Association
- Minnesota Utility Contractors Association\*
- National Rural Water Association
- New Mexico Utility Contractors Association
- Ohio Contractors Association
- Public Works Contractors Association of Maryland
- Tennessee Road Builders Association
- Underground Contractors Association of Illinois \*
- United Contractors \*
- UCA of Anne Arundel County
- Utility Contractors Association of New England \*
- Utility & Transportation Contractors Association of New Jersey \*
- Contractors Association Of West Virginia
- Wisconsin Underground Contractors Association

\* Steering Committee Member

**November 6, 2018**

**PRESIDENT SIGNS WRDA PACKAGE – BIG WIN FOR WATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT FUNDING**

As previously reported, the President signed into law (P.L. 115- 270) S.3021, “America’s Water Infrastructure Act of 2018.” which combines the biennial Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) that funds the Corps of Engineers along with the Safe Drinking Water Act, authorization of hydropower projects, and reauthorization and expansion of WIFIA financing for storm water and wastewater infrastructure improvements, as follows:

- Nearly doubles grants to states for Drinking Water Revolving Loan Funds. This is the first reauthorization of the Drinking Water SRF in more than two decades. It authorizes \$1.17B for FY19; \$1.3B for FY20; and \$1.95B for FY21 for the Drinking Water SRF funds. This nearly doubles the current annual authorization.
- Authorizes the Corps of Engineers to undertake 15 major new construction projects that will cost a total of \$8.3B and feasibility studies for 65 new projects.
- Provides for a two-year \$100M reauthorization of the WIFIA program for large-scale water infrastructure projects loans at the Treasury Department’s long-term interest rate.
- Includes S. 1137, the Clean, Safe, Reliable Water Infrastructure Act, to address the need to invest in the nation’s drinking water, sewer and stormwater systems. It also provides for increased water efficiency, specifically by including \$450M to protect the sources of drinking water and funding to repair and eliminate combined sewer overflows (CSOs). And it formally authorizes the voluntary WaterSense program, which identifies and promotes water-efficient products through voluntary labeling.
- Creates Multiagency Federal Task Force on Stormwater Infrastructure. The task force will, with feedback from permittees, state and local governments and other stakeholders, provide in a report to Congress suggestions for improving the funding and financing of stormwater systems.
- Expands onsite wastewater treatment by addressing the need for information about onsite wastewater recycling as one alternative for communities who cannot afford the upfront costs or ongoing maintenance costs of traditional wastewater infrastructure.

- Includes S. 451, the Water Resources Research Amendments Act, for additional research into increasing the effectiveness and efficiency of new and existing water treatment works.
- Enhances drinking water infrastructure resiliency and sustainability by directing the EPA to establish a “Water Infrastructure Resiliency and Sustainability Program” to award grants in each of FY19 and FY20 to increase the resiliency or adaptability of drinking water systems to regional changes in hydrologic conditions like droughts, floods and sea level rise. This section authorizes \$4M to carry out this section for each of the two fiscal years.

Either through progress in the upcoming “lame duck” session or in the new, 116th Congress, discussion around a larger “mega” infrastructure package will continue. As detailed in the attached report from Key Advocates, there were no significant developments on a mega infrastructure initiative.

## **LAME DUCK SESSION OUTLOOK / MIDTERM ELECTION IMPACT**

With the results of midterm Elections on the makeup of Congress still pending, it is unclear at this time how long the upcoming “lame duck” session will last and what, if any, legislation will get passed. Any pending legislation that is not passed and signed into law when Congress adjourns for the year - likely in mid-December - is officially dead and must be reintroduced again in the new, 116th Congress which begins in mid-January 2019.

## **FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2019 APPROPRIATIONS UPDATE**

Congress passed a Continuing Resolution extending funding until Dec. 7 at FY18 levels for those appropriations bills not enacted by Oct. 1. That includes the Interior (SRF funding) and Transportation Appropriations Bills which are currently in conference and are expected to be finalized soon. It does not include the Energy and Water Appropriations Bill (Corps of Engineers) which was signed into law on Sept. 21 as discussed earlier in this report.

A summary of Federal FY 2019 Transportation Appropriations Bills and a comparison table of the funding levels being negotiated are included in the attached report.

## **PREPARATIONS FOR SPRING DC EVENT**

CWCC staff will be in contact with personal phone calls to discuss how to evolve the annual DC Fly-In (traditionally held concurrently with the ARTBA/TCC Fly-In Meeting in May) into participation with relevant national organizations during Water Week (held during the first week of April).

In anticipation of these calls, we ask that you review this website for a perspective on how the 2018 Water Week was structured: <https://www.waterweek.us/>

## **KEY ADVOCATES REPORT**

Included with this notice is Key Advocates recent report which is current to the end of October.