



CWCC

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

ROBERT A. BRIANT, JR.
Chairman

July 3, 2018

- 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

MEGA INFRASTRUCTURE EFFORT – SUMMER / FALL OUTLOOK

With shifting responsibilities resulting from key staff departures in the Trump Administration, Key Advocates met with staff of the U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao to discuss CWCC priorities. Up until recently, this effort was lead by central staff to the President and not a cabinet member. Given the reality that water infrastructure funding is not within the wheelhouse of Secretary Chao’s priorities, Key Advocates focused on the need for any “mega” infrastructure package to be multimodal and be limited to core infrastructure priorities. In addition, it was strongly recommended that “pay for” mechanism(s) be included in any potential infrastructure bill(s) to avoid the pitfalls of recent efforts that included a vision for priorities without any sense of how to fund those priorities.

A more detailed summary of this matter and progress on the “SRF WIN Act” is included in the attached report from Key Advocates.

WRDA REAUTHORIZATION

We previously reported to you that WRDA reauthorization is being discussed as a potential opportunity for progress to be made on water infrastructure priorities. It remains the case that the House version of WRDA Reauthorization remains a “Army Corps of Engineers only” bill while the Senate version includes provisions of the SRF WIN Act. On June 6th the House passed its version. The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee’s version (Floor action pending) of WRDA reauthorization - S. 2809, “America’s Water Infrastructure Act of 2018,” included in the Manager’s amendment to S. 2364/H.R. 4902, the “SRF WIN Act,” with the following changes- the annual authorization level was reduced from \$200M to \$100M; the duration of the new program reduced from 5 to 2 fiscal years; the \$7B per state cap deleted; and language regarding the funding relationship to the SRF’s included. CWCC has expressed support for these changes with the caveat that the interest rate in the SRF WIN proposal be “up to the prevailing Treasury rate” and not tied to the specific prevailing rate.

FY19 HOUSE INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS BILL (THE SRF'S)

On June 6, the House Appropriations Interior Subcommittee approved its version of the federal FY19 Interior Appropriations Bill - \$1.4B for the CWSRF; \$863M for the SDWSRF; and, \$75M for WIFIA. The SRF levels are \$300M below FY18 levels, those levels are a result of raising the budget caps. To date there has been No Senate Action on this issue. Clearly, getting these levels up to or over the Federal FY18 levels will be a priority in the coming months.

US WATER ALLIANCE CONFERENCE

Next week Dan Kennedy will be attending and presenting at the US Water Alliance “One Water Summit” representing UTCA of NJ and the CCWCC. This event creates a great opportunity for access to utility leaders / managers (private and public) and national contacts.

Dan is a lead presenter at a session entitled “Finding the Money: What Cities and States Are Doing.” Getting the “contractor” perspective into this discussion is a major step forward for the CWCC as we are now getting national exposure to our priorities within the framework of a broader discussion on water issues. Other presenters include: Skip Stitt, Principal, Faegre Baker Daniels Consulting, Antony Currie, Associate Editor, Reuters, and Joan Leary Matthews, Senior Attorney Natural Resources Defense Council.

If there are any issues (past what we already have targeted as policy priorities) that you want Dan to keep an eye out for, please email him at kennedy@utcanj.org with any thoughts. Please send Dan an email if you or a member of your organization plans to attend. He would be glad to spend time with anyone from the Coalition to discuss issues of today or the future.

The full program can be viewed by clicking [HERE](#)

KEY ADVOCATES REPORT

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