



CWCC

Clean Water Construction Coalition
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ROBERT A. BRIANT, JR.
 Chairman

March 2, 2016

- 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 Construction Association
- 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
- Southern California Contractors Association
- 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

SENATOR BEN CARDIN INTRODUCES BILL TO SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE CLEAN WATER AND DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING LOAN PROGRAMS

Clean Water Construction Coalition representatives have been working closely with Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD), a senior member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, to introduce legislation that will significantly increase the authorization levels for the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Programs (SRFs). The Senate Environment and Public Works and the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committees are holding hearings to reauthorize the Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) and Coalition representatives are working with Committee members and their staff to include the reauthorization of the Clean Water and Drinking Water Acts in the WRRDA reauthorization measure. It appears at this time that there is a bipartisan effort in both chambers of Congress to reauthorize WRRDA this year.

Senator Cardin's five year measure, S2532, reauthorizes the Clean Water SRF at \$34.93B and \$21.17B for the Safe Drinking Water SRF through federal FY 2020. Below are the specific funding details:

	<u>Clean Water SRF</u>	<u>Drink Water SRF</u>
FY 2016	\$5.18B	\$3.13B
FY 2017	\$5.96B	\$3.60B
FY 2018	\$6.85B	\$4.14B
FY 2019	\$7.88B	\$4.80B
FY 2020	\$9.06B	\$5.50B

As the Coalition reported to you last month, there is bipartisan support by the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee members to include in the House WRRDA bill the reauthorization of the Clean Water and Drinking Water SRFs. The Democrat members of the House T & I Committee have drafted a \$13.8 billion, 5 year bill while the Republicans have indicated that they support moving a reauthorization bill at the funding level of the average of the last five years of appropriations to the program. The Republicans are willing to support higher funding levels but only if budget offsets that equal the increased funding are identified. Currently, Democrat members and staff are working to identify budget offsets.

* Steering Committee Member

CONGRESS CONTINUES WORK TO REAUTHORIZE THE WATER RESOURCES REFORM AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2014

Both the Senate and House continue to hold reauthorization hearings concerning the Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) of 2014. The WRRDA expires at the end of the current federal Fiscal Year, September 30, 2016. The WRRDA program funds public works projects for navigation, dams, water supply, hydropower, flood control, shoreline protection, recreation and other related projects.

The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee held a hearing on February 10, 2016 to discuss the need to reauthorize the WRRDA measure and received testimony from public officials, business groups and unions supporting the reauthorization of the Act. On February 24, 2016 the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held a hearing to review the various reports and work underway and completed by the Corps of Engineers as well as listen to recommendations for the WRRDA reauthorization bill.

As noted on various occasions, it is the Coalition's goal to include in the WRRDA reauthorization measure the reauthorization of the Clean Water and Drinking Water SRF programs at significant levels.

CLEAN WATER CONSTRUCTION COALITION TO HOLD CONFERENCE CALL

The Clean Water Construction Coalition will hold a conference call to update the Coalition on our congressional activities for 2016. The conference call details are as follows:

Date:	March 9, 2016
Time:	3:00pm Eastern Standard Time
Dial-In:	(712) 432-1500
Participant Code:	1084460#

A preliminary agenda is attached with this notice. Coalition members who wish to submit conference call agenda items may do so by emailing Helene Nasdeo at Helene@utcanj.org.

FEDERAL ADVOCATES REPORT FOR MARCH 2016

Attached with this notice is Federal Advocates March 2016 report.