



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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NEW Water Response to White House Infrastructure Proposal Release

NEW Water, the brand of the Green Bay Metropolitan Sewerage District, is pleased to see that drinking water and clean water systems were specifically mentioned in the White House's infrastructure proposal released last week. President Trump's commitment of \$1.5 trillion and reaffirmation of \$200 billion in federal dollars, in addition to working with local governments like Green Bay and Brown County is a necessary first step to fixing our nation's critically underfunded water infrastructure.

NEW Water is encouraged by the following details of the White House's infrastructure proposal:

- Wastewater facilities are specifically mentioned in eligibility categories of different programs within the bill;
- \$100 billion in Incentives Program funding to be split among Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Department of Transportation (DOT), and United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for infrastructure projects, which includes, among other water utilities, "wastewater facilities";
- \$20 billion for a Transformative Projects Program that includes the clean water sector;
- A section on Workforce Development aimed at ensuring "our country has enough skilled workers to perform not only existing work but also fill the new jobs created by the bill"; and
- A provision expanding National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit terms from 5 to 15 years with automatic renewals "if the water quality needs do not require more stringent limits."

While there are many encouraging details to the White House's proposal, the plan relies heavily on private investment and encourages raising public funds, something that is already a challenge for our community. For decades, communities like Green Bay and Brown County have struggled to find significant funding at a local level to support our aging water infrastructure.

Clean water is an essential part of any local economy, but we can no longer afford to do it alone. More direct federal investment is needed. Providing clean water to our community is priority for NEW Water, but it needs to be a national priority as well.

NEW Water is a member of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA), which have been advocating on our behalf to ensure that clean water will be prioritized as a comprehensive infrastructure bill comes together. It's time clean water is given the attention it deserves.

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About NEW Water

NEW Water, the brand of the Green Bay Metropolitan Sewerage District, is a resource recovery facility serving Northeast Wisconsin. NEW Water sends an average of 38 million gallons of clean water each day into the environment.

Protecting our most valuable resource, water.

www.newwater.us

About NACWA

For nearly 50 years, the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) has been the nation's recognized leader in legislative, regulatory and legal advocacy on the full spectrum of clean water issues. NACWA represents public wastewater and stormwater agencies of all sizes nationwide. Our unique and growing network strengthens the advocacy voice for all member utilities, and ensures they have the tools necessary to provide affordable and sustainable clean water for all. Our vision is to represent every utility as a NACWA member, helping to build a strong and sustainable clean water future. For more information, visit us at www.nacwa.org.