



THE
ENVIRONMENTAL
COUNCIL OF
THE STATES

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Executive Director

January 8, 2010

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
Chairman
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable James Inhofe
Ranking Member
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Boxer and Ranking Member Inhofe:

Recently the House acted on a jobs bill that includes \$1 billion each for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund. We understand that the Senate is considering action on a jobs bill, and so we wanted you to be aware of the needs in the water infrastructure area.

In December the Environmental Council of the States polled its members (the State environmental agencies) regarding the remaining needs for water infrastructure for both clean water and drinking water.

As of Jan 5, we heard back from 33 States, with the following total needs on their current Intended Use Plans:

CW SRF = \$33.53 billion
DW SRF = \$22.49 billion
Total = \$56.02 billion

The total for 50 states would, of course, be higher, but even this total shows that there are still a great many projects that have passed the "need" test and are ready for financing via the SRFs. Our report and data are attached, or can be found on our web site at www.ecos.org.

ECOS believes that EPA and the States have now successfully integrated the new requirements of ARRA, and we anticipate that a second round of funding could move somewhat more expeditiously. We look forward to discussions with you on that matter.

We expect that when the final tallies are made we will see that the ARRA funds sent to water infrastructure projects made a significant contribution to jobs, as well as very significant contributions to environmental quality improvements. We urge to repeat these successes if a second jobs bill is drafted.

Sincerely yours,

R. Steven Brown
Executive Director