

GREG PENCE
6TH DISTRICT, INDIANA



COLUMBUS OFFICE:
555 FIRST STREET
UNIT B
COLUMBUS, IN 47201

TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON RAILROADS, PIPELINES
AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1406

MUNCIE OFFICE:
2810 WEST ETHEL AVENUE
MUNCIE, IN 47304

RICHMOND OFFICE:
50 NORTH 50TH STREET
2ND FLOOR
RICHMOND, IN 47374

FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON EUROPE, EURASIA,
ENERGY, AND ENVIRONMENT

GREENFIELD OFFICE:
18 EAST MAIN STREET
SUITE 210
GREENFIELD, IN 46140

February 28, 2020

The Honorable Grace F. Napolitano
Chairman
Subcommittee on Water Resources
and Environment
1610 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bruce Westerman
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Water Resources
and Environment
209 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Napolitano and Ranking Member Westerman:

It is an honor to represent Hoosier values as a member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. I am pleased that the Trump Administration is committed to successfully expediting infrastructure projects through consolidations to the Waters of the United States (WOTUS) and updates to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

As leaders of the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, I ask that you continue this important work to further streamline the permit processes and eliminate duplicative reviews. Every community and industry can benefit from the reduction of red tape regulations that will expedite infrastructure development.

In lieu of testifying at the Subcommittee's Member Day Hearing: *Proposals for a Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2020*, please consider the below requests on behalf of Indiana's Sixth Congressional District:

1. Town of Cambridge City

First and foremost, I write to advocate on behalf of the town of Cambridge City, Indiana. The town is concerned with the size and condition of water lines within their water system in addition to significant issues with the capacity of their wells. In 2018, a Cambridge City Water Works boil advisory led the local school system to dismiss students during the affected period. Considering this major impact to my constituents' day-to-day lives, it is crucial we support rural towns like Cambridge City in developing an efficient and enduring water system.

If included in WRDA reauthorization, Cambridge City will use these funds to complete an engineering study to identify rehabilitative alternatives for water quality improvements affecting the 1,870 residents living in this rural community.

2. Small and Rural Community Technical Assistance

I write in support of allocating a percentage of water infrastructure funding for technical compliance and application grant assistance for small communities like that in rural Indiana. As you may know, these grants provide training and technical assistance to the water treatment facilities that serve communities with small to medium sized populations. This was included both in the FY16 and FY18 WRDA reauthorization bills and I ask that the committee include it again this year.

Community Technical Assistance grants would provide the necessary resources to operate and maintain water infrastructure; comply with standards in the most economical way; and obtain assistance in applying for state revolving loan funds. Last year, Indiana received \$55 million in funding to improve drinking water infrastructure. This funding is crucial to local Hoosier jobs and modernizing the aging wastewater infrastructure in the Crossroads of America. Often, this assistance saves thousands of dollars for the community and keeps the systems in long-term compliance with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) rules.

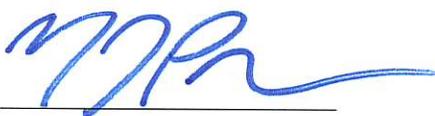
3. State Revolving Funds

The State Revolving Funds (SRF) Loan program provides Hoosiers and communities nationwide with low-interest loans to improve wastewater and drinking water systems. This vital state-federal partnership program ensures treatment for infiltration/inflow projects, treatment plant upgrades, and water line extensions to existing unserved properties are completed safely and efficiently.

In addition to the \$55 million in funding for Indiana's SRF, President Trump's EPA also dispersed \$436 million in Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) loans directly to the SRF.¹ This is the largest disbursement under the WIFIA program and marks the first time EPA has provided WIFIA financing directly to a SRF program. The reauthorization of a State Revolving Fund is crucial to Hoosier jobs and the modernization of Indiana's aging wastewater infrastructure.

Finally, I wish to express appreciation for the Subcommittee's work on this important legislation that will modernize wastewater systems in Indiana's Sixth Congressional District. On behalf of the Hoosier businesses, farmers, and local communities I represent, I thank you for your attention to these priorities. I look forward to working together to reauthorize the Water Development Resources Act and improve the state of our water infrastructure.

Sincerely,



Greg Pence

Member of Congress

¹ <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-436-million-loan-indiana-finance-authority-support-water-infrastructure>