



*What They're Saying:*

**Environmental Advocates, Industry Experts, and Business and Labor Leaders Applaud the Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021**

The Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works (EPW), chaired by Senator Tom Carper (D-Del.), unanimously reported S.914, the [Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021](#) by a 20-0 vote, the first infrastructure legislation advanced by a Senate committee this Congress.

This bipartisan bill invests in strengthening our nation's water systems to foster economic growth, build climate-resilient infrastructure, and help ensure that all Americans have access to clean, safe water.

*Here's what environmental advocates, local leaders, labor unions, and industry and business experts are saying in support of the bill:*

**U.S. Chamber of Commerce**

"The U.S. Chamber of Commerce strongly supports S. 914, the Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021. This bipartisan legislation would provide important funding and policy solutions to address the water and wastewater challenges facing communities and companies across the United States."

**League of Conservation Voters & Allies**

"The bill is an important step on the path towards providing everyone in this country with access to clean, safe, and affordable water. It...will help to provide critical resources to communities across the country."

**The U.S. Conference of Mayors, National League of Cities, and National Association of Counties**

"The Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021 will help address the many water infrastructure challenges that communities face. Local leaders support [it] as a reliable, long-term and increased federal investment in water infrastructure, watershed protection, and the protection of water resources and facilities from physical, chemical and cybersecurity threats."

**National Rural Water Association**

"We enthusiastically support enactment of the bill, and appreciate the many helpful and beneficial provisions for rural America in your water legislation."

### **Association of General Contractors**

“Thank you for your bipartisan leadership in developing S. 941, the Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021...The investments this bill represents enjoy broad bipartisan support and ensures dependable, safe, clean, and resilient water and wastewater infrastructure critical to the economy and well-being of all Americans.”

### **Laborers’ International Union of North America**

“This legislation will help communities focus on upgrading aging infrastructure, address the threat of climate change, invest in new technologies, and provide assistance to marginalized populations. Infrastructure investments like the ones supported by S. 914 can help the United States recover from the economic impacts of the global pandemic caused by COVID-19. These investments will have direct economic, environmental and public health impacts, and LIUNA commends the bipartisan commitment to significant increases in funding for water infrastructure.”

### **National Wildlife Federation**

“The Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021 takes an important first step to make urgently needed investments in drinking water and clean water infrastructure...the bill contains a number of important provisions that begin to make these water infrastructure funding programs easier for disadvantaged, rural, tribal, and frontline communities to access and leverage as well as provisions geared towards helping low-income households connect to publicly owned treatment works.”

### **Southern Environmental Law Center**

“Now more than ever, we must find bipartisan solutions to safeguard our environment, and protect historically underserved communities who bear the greatest burdens brought by water pollution...SELC offers its support of the legislation and applauds the committee in taking its first step to building a bipartisan vision that will put in place commonsense protections for clean water.”

### **AFL-CIO**

“The Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021 would authorize long overdue improvements to our water infrastructure and at the same time, give us the opportunity to address the needs of disadvantaged communities that have suffered from inadequate infrastructure investments for decades.”

### **Rural Community Assistance Partnership**

“RCAP is proud to support this bill because Americans deserve clean, safe, reliable, and affordable drinking water regardless of their community’s size or zip code. We stand ready to work with you and your colleagues to ensure this bipartisan legislation is passed...and to further support rural water and wastewater access and affordability measures in the future.”

### **National Resources Defense Council**

“The Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021 is a positive first step on the path to providing all people with access to clean, safe, and affordable water... We commend the Committee for recognizing the importance of those programs to public health and the environment.”

### **American Society of Civil Engineers**

“ASCE is encouraged by this bipartisan bill, which not only authorizes more than \$35 billion for critical projects, but prioritizes investments that focus on upgrading aging infrastructure, addressing the threat of climate change, investing in new technologies, and providing assistance for disadvantaged communities...The Drinking Water and Wastewater Investment Act is critical if we are to improve our nation’s aging water systems and ensure that they continue to protect public health, welfare, and safety.”

### **Clean Water Action**

“This bill represents a much-needed down payment on investment in our nation’s drinking water and wastewater infrastructure. Focused investment on systems in the most need and on resilience, cyber- security and long standing contamination issues like lead are all critical aspects of protecting public health and water quality while ensuring more sustainable drinking water and wastewater systems.”

### **United Steelworkers**

“This legislation serves as a testament that when we all work together, we can accomplish bipartisan efforts that invest in our country’s infrastructure, as well as our nation’s working people. The USW supports S. 914.”

### **Healing Our Waters – Great Lakes Coalition**

“The Coalition applauds the EPW Committee’s bi-partisan leadership in prioritizing the consideration of the Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021...Fixing our region’s failing infrastructure can put people to work, set the stage for economic revitalization in our towns and cities, and ensure safe, clean, and affordable water is available to all.”

### **Earthjustice**

“This bipartisan legislation is an important first step to ensure communities impacted most by old and inadequate water infrastructure receive the investments their communities have been owed for decades.”

### **National Association of Clean Water Agencies**

“DWWIA would help strengthen the federal funding partnership and further ensure that families, hospitals, schools, and businesses in communities across the country have the uninterrupted, safe, reliable, and affordable access to the clean water services they need and deserve.”

### **National Wastewater Onsite Recycling Association**

“The National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association (NOWRA) commends you for introducing the Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021 in order to address America’s water infrastructure needs and to help working-class families...We thank you for your leadership on this issue.”

### **Water Environment Federation**

“The policies and priorities set forth in DWWIA will ensure that communities have the long-term tools and resources needed to serve their communities’ water infrastructure needs.”

### **National Association of Sewer Service Companies**

“This important legislation will provide much needed funding and financing resources to communities to make necessary investments in underground water infrastructure...Maintaining and rehabilitating underground water infrastructure is critical to protecting public health, protecting the environment, and promoting economic growth in communities.”

### **Water Infrastructure Network**

“The Water Infrastructure Network (WIN) strongly supports the bipartisan \$35B Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021 – S.914. Our nation is facing a water infrastructure funding and finance crisis and failure to thoughtfully invest in this critical infrastructure will have dire economic, environmental, and public health impacts. The bipartisan water infrastructure funding measures being advanced by the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee are a thoughtful and timely response to our daunting water infrastructure challenges.”

### **Council of Infrastructure Financing Authorities**

“The Council of Infrastructure Financing Authorities (CIFA), which represents the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (SRFs), fully supports The Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021. The legislation reflects the critical role of federal investment in building water infrastructure that protects public health and the environment, which are the foundation of vibrant communities and robust economies.”

### **Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies**

“This legislation reauthorizes a host of important water infrastructure programs, while also undertaking several new initiatives that will help communities and ratepayers address daunting challenges in the years ahead... AMWA is pleased to support the Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021.”

### **American Water Works Association**

“The American Water Works Association (AWWA) thanks the committee and its staff for boldly addressing a host of drinking water and wastewater infrastructure issues through the draft Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021.”

### **Water Equity and Climate Resilience Caucus**

“This bill marks an important first step forward in recognizing that these communities [communities of color, Indigenous Peoples’ communities and Tribal Nations, and rural and low-income communities] need explicit focus and targeted resources to address the disparities in water services access and the resulting outside impacts on these communities’ health.”

### **American Public Works Association**

“APWA is appreciative of your efforts...Each day public works professionals are diligently working to protect and maintain the critical infrastructure that is so essential to protecting our health and quality of life. Because of our shared commitment, APWA looks forward to continuing to work with you and your staff on this legislation to help public works professionals meet our water infrastructure challenges.”

**American Iron and Steel Institute**

“This bipartisan legislation would make key water infrastructure investments across the United States, including the reauthorization of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) programs that fund enhancement and maintenance of our nation’s water infrastructure systems... This legislation will facilitate critical investments in our nation’s water infrastructure systems. It also will ensure that all steel products procured using taxpayer dollars under the EPA SRF programs are produced in the United States.”

**National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association**

“We welcome the Committee’s work introducing...the Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act...The bill’s attention to improving projects that provide clean drinking water to disadvantaged and rural communities, as well as promoting project resiliency in all water infrastructure projects, underscores the proactive approach your offices led and will positively impact future generations.”

**WateReuse**

“WateReuse is pleased to support the Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021, which includes important policy changes and critical investments in water recycling programs.”

**Portland Cement Association**

“This legislation will help communities address local water quality needs by increasing investment in our drinking water and wastewater infrastructure...We commend the introduction of the Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021.”