



December 3, 2020

The Honorable Joe Biden
President-Elect
United States of America
1120 20th St. NW
Washington, DC 20036

Attn: Patrice Simms, EPA Review Team
Dr. Cecilia Martinez, CEQ Review Team

Dear President-Elect Biden:

The WaterReuse Association (WaterReuse), National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA), Water Environment Federation (WEF), Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA), American Water Works Association (AWWA), and Water Research Foundation (WRF) write in strong support of the National Water Reuse Action Plan (WRAP) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's role in facilitating the evolution and implementation of the Plan.

Communities across the country are incorporating water reuse into their water management strategies as a proven method for building resilience to climate change and its impacts, including fresh water scarcity, flooding, sea level rise and saltwater intrusion, among other issues. In some areas, water recycling is used to develop drought-proof water supplies and support economic development; in others, communities have turned to water recycling to help manage stormwater, protect water quality, and restore the environment. Yet, despite the significant growth in reuse across the country, challenges to adoption remain. The WRAP is a key organizing tool to help stakeholders overcome these challenges and facilitate sustainable water resources management.

In early 2020, EPA partnered with our associations and other stakeholders to release Version 1 of the WRAP, a first-of-its-kind effort to advance water recycling around the country. The initial version of the WRAP included 37 actions and more than 200 milestones led by more than two dozen action leaders and 80 collaborating partners. These actions are being implemented by governmental and non-governmental actors through education, outreach, technology

development, research, and a variety of other mechanisms. Several federal agencies, including EPA and the U.S. Departments of Agriculture, Energy, and State are leading actions, as are private sector entities, water sector associations, and state and local governments.

When EPA announced the planned development of the WRAP, our organizations, recognizing the importance of water reuse as part of the concept of integrated water resource management, organized a broad-based effort to inform the development of recommendations to EPA. Between the fall of 2018 and the winter of 2020, hundreds of individuals from non-profit organizations, municipal utilities, state regulatory agencies, academia, and elsewhere helped shape the WRAP, beginning with the creation of a high-level framework in late 2018. Our organizations facilitated two national convenings and jointly developed recommendations for two public comment periods. The version of the WRAP published in 2020 represents the culmination of more than a year of focused efforts to catalyze action related to water reuse, including strong collaboration across the water sector, and the continuation of an international dialogue on water reuse.

The actions contained within the WRAP aim to lay the groundwork for greater adoption of water reuse as a tool for building resilience, protecting water quality, and meeting other water resource management goals. These actions include the development of a water reuse research strategy, which would identify research priorities and seek to answer scientific questions that inform policy decisions. They also include the development of interactive tools to track and share state-level water reuse policies, regulations, and fit-for-purpose standards. The undersigned organizations strongly support the WRAP effort, and stand ready to work with the Biden Administration to facilitate and support its evolution and implementation.

Sincerely,

Patricia Sinicropi
Executive Director
WaterReuse Association

Adam Krantz
Chief Executive Officer
National Association of Clean Water Agencies

G. Tracy Mehan, III
Executive Director – Government Affairs
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