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June 6, 2022

The Honorable Chellie Pingree, Chair
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
2007 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable David Joyce, Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger, Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Pingree, Chair DeLauro, Ranking Member Joyce, and Ranking Member Granger:

We write today to **urge you to meet the President's FY 2023 Budget Request of \$25 million for the Pilot Program for Alternative Water Source Grants (33 U.S.C. 1300).**

WateReuse is a not-for-profit trade association for water utilities, businesses, industrial and commercial enterprises, non-profit organizations, and research entities that engage in and on water reuse. WateReuse and its state and regional sections represent more than 200 water utilities serving over 60 million customers, and over 300 businesses and organizations across the country. Our mission is to advance safe and sustainable water supplies, to promote acceptance and support of recycled water, and to advocate for policies and funding that increase water reuse.

As climate change accelerates, and its associated impacts on water resources increase, the nation must invest in water recycling to build resilience, manage energy demands, support public and environmental health, and ensure America's economic prosperity. Investments in water recycling ensure reliable and resilient community water supplies, support sustainable economic development, and help protect our rivers, lakes, streams, aquifers and wetlands.

To help communities build climate resilience and protect water quality, Congress authorized the Pilot Program for Alternative Water Source Grants as part of the recently enacted Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021. Through the program, EPA would make competitive grants to state, interstate, and intrastate water resource development agencies to engineer, design, construct, and test alternative water source systems, including water reuse systems.

By investing in federal water recycling programs now, Congress can give communities in all 50 states plus the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico the tools and resources they need to prepare for and manage the impacts of the climate crisis, including drought, aquifer depletion, flooding, and land subsidence. Across the country, water, wastewater, and stormwater managers have shown that water recycling can be a central feature in innovative, integrated approaches to solving water management challenges.

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act made a historic investment in the nation's water infrastructure. We now, urge Congress to fund the EPA's Alternative Water Source Grants Pilot Program in order to modernize U.S. water infrastructure, sustain local economies, and strengthen the resiliency of our water supply across the country. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Patricia Sinicropi
Executive Director

