



January 2, 2024

Budget Impasse Continues

Congress is in recess until January 8 with deadlines for passing appropriations bills fast approaching. Under the agreement reached in November, funding for four appropriations bills, including Transportation/Housing and Energy and Water will last until January 19.

The remaining bills, including the bill which funds the SRFs must be passed ahead of the February 2 deadline. All of the appropriations bills have passed the Senate while the House has only cleared seven of 13 appropriations bills. At this time, it is unclear how these bills will be considered or if an agreement will be reached.

FY24 Appropriations

In the House, seven appropriations bills that provide funding at FY22 levels have passed, including those that fund WIIN grants and the SRFs. Three appropriations bills are pending, and two bills were voted down. All 12 appropriations bills, which maintain funding at FY23 levels, have cleared the Senate Appropriations Committee.

WIIN Grants and SRF Funding

Both the House and Senate Energy and Water Appropriations bills provide \$20 million for WIIN grants.

The House Interior Appropriations bill provides just over \$1 billion for Clean Water State Revolving Funds (CWSRFs), including a base allotment of \$535 million and earmarks of \$470 million. The Senate bill provides \$1.63 billion for CWSRFs which consists of a base allotment of \$1.29 billion and \$345 million in earmarks. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) provided an additional \$2.62 billion for CWSRFs.

The House Interior Appropriations bill provides \$870 million for Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (SDWSRFs) which includes \$460 million in base funding and \$410 million in earmarks. The Senate bill appropriates \$1.12 billion to SDWSRFs which is comprised of a base allotment of \$882 million and \$243 million in earmarks. An additional \$3 billion is provided to SDWSRFs by the BIL.

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Robert Briant, Jr. – Chairman

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* Steering Committee Member



The CWCC, through our Washington partners, continues to engage with policy makers to support the funding level in the Senate bill and the proposed WIIN Grant appropriation while strongly opposing the reduced baseline funding levels in the House bill.

Earmarks

We continue our efforts to oppose any takedowns in base level funding as a result of earmark spending which goes against the objectives of the BIL. As such, we support the earmark funding level in the Senate bill and oppose the higher earmark level in the House bill.

Legislative Advocacy/STREAM Act

The CWCC has been communicating with multiple lawmakers to advocate for higher clean water funding levels through the appropriations process as well as through the Stream Act which would provide over \$1.5 billion for surface and groundwater storage and conveyance projects, desalination projects, water projects for disadvantaged communities, and environmental restoration.

Other Issues of Interest

The CWCC continues to seek support for additional investment in clean water infrastructure, including funding for the Alternative Water Source Program and mega recycling projects.

Key Advocates Report

Included with this notice is Key Advocates' report from December 29, 2023 which provides more detail on these and other issues.

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