



August 3, 2022

FY23 Appropriation Bills

Following up on last month's report that focused on House Appropriations Committee action in late June, the Senate Appropriations Committee released its FY 23 Interior Appropriations Bill and FY 23 Energy and Water Appropriations Bills. As a reminder, as per CWCC's stated goals, these appropriate amounts are in addition to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding amounts. The funding amounts for the programs of greatest interest to CWCC members are slightly different in the House and Senate versions but in the ballpark of what we were expecting.

In addition, on July 28th the Senate released its FY 23 "Transportation" Appropriations Bill after the House took a similar action in late June.

Details in the attached report from Sante Esposito.

Senate Proposed Re-Branded "Build Back Better" Bill

On July 27, Senators Schumer and Manchin struck a deal on the Senate's version of the "Build Back Better" bill, now the "Inflation Reduction Act of 2022." As Democrats get ready to defend the "Inflation Reduction Act of 2022" (aka the reconciliation bill), it is being parsed by the Senate parliamentarian before a floor vote. Any provision that doesn't meet the stringent rules of what's allowed within the scope of the reconciliation process will be flagged so some changes are to be expected.

As summarized in the attached report, as it pertains to CWCC priorities, the agreement would invest \$369 billion into energy and climate change programs, with the goal of reducing carbon emissions by 40% by 2030. It would also address a variety of social programs. To pay for the agreement, the bill would impose a 15% minimum tax on corporations, which would raise \$313 billion over a decade, which is different than the current House version in several critical ways.

What the deal means for the inclusion of other legislative items or a second round in September is unclear.

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H.R. 5118, the “Wildlife Response and Drought Resiliency Act

Critical to our “western” CWCC Members, on July 29 the House, by a vote of 218 to 199, passed the above bill which includes funding authorizations for items included in H.R. 1015, 3404 and 4099. The bill authorizes \$600M (this is in addition to the \$550M appropriated in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law) for Title XVI with no breakdown between the traditional Title XVI program and WIIN grants, with no fiscal year limitation, with an increase in the Federal share from \$20M to \$50M, and with project priority funding. The bill also authorizes \$700M (again, this is in addition to the \$450M appropriated in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law) for large water recycling projects with total estimated cost of at least \$500M. The bill draws from the following which the Coalition has supported and advocated for enactment:

H.R. 1015 authorizes \$500M for WIIN Act grants, eliminates the requirement that Congress must approve funding awards for specific projects by designating them in an enacted appropriations bill and increases the Federal share from \$20M to \$30M.

H.R. 3404 authorizes \$500M for the WIIN Act grant program, increases the Federal share to \$30M, and authorizes a new \$300M water trust fund with \$100M earmarked for recycled water projects.

H.R. 4099 authorizes \$450M for large water recycling projects with total estimated cost of at least \$500M with the Federal share at \$20M.

Key Advocates Report

Included with this notice is Key Advocates recent report which is current to July 29, 2022.