

FULL FEDERAL FUNDING OF WATER PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

BACKGROUND: NWRA is increasingly concerned about the diminishing federal commitment to water quality programs and infrastructure funding. Water projects were the principal catalyst for the settlement of much of the West, today's fastest growing region of the country. Unprecedented population growth in many Western States combined with environmental opposition to any new water supply development is on a collision course, which is likely to result in severe social and economic disorder. In addition, federal assistance for rural domestic water supply needs in our less populated states is woefully lacking.

NWRA POSITION: Congress and the Administration must ensure that the nation's existing water supply infrastructure is adequately maintained and operated at peak efficiency. Development of additional water supplies and distribution systems remains a national requirement equally as important and the nation's transportation infrastructure. As Congress focuses its attention on water and wastewater infrastructure demands, principally in the Eastern U.S., it must give equal attention and consideration to the pressing water supply needs in the West.

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