

Hicks-Ray Associates



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TO: WESTCAS Membership

FROM: Hicks-Ray Associates

SUBJECT: EPA SRF Program

When seeking to identify water infrastructure federal funding these days, it is often suggested, "please don't look to the Corps or even to the Bureau of Reclamation budget for all of your water resource needs. You really must work with the EPA SRF to get the money you need."

Before taking that suggestion, one should look at the proposed funding levels for the SRF for FY13. Please review the attached document. Page one is the drinking water SRF and page 2 is the wastewater SRF. The chart documents funding for FY11, FY12, and the proposed FY13 levels.

You might think that Congress may choose to increase the FY13 request. But please take a look at the funding levels for the past three years for your particular state and you will be made aware of a sobering reality. And that is the fact that SRF funding has been cut over the past three years. For some states, these cuts are severe.

These cuts fly in the face of massive documented needs for water and wastewater infrastructure including the recently released AWWA estimate of \$1 trillion being needed just to address our drinking water needs.

The attached budget document is a reminder of why the current WESTCAS exercise to identify new arrangements and sources of water infrastructure is so very important, particularly as it applies to the Arid West. We urge you, as a WESTCAS member, to participate actively in this process.

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