

From: Tracy Mehan [tmehan@awwa.org]
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To: Tracy Mehan [tmehan@awwa.org]
Subject: New round for WIFIA!

Funds now available for next round of WIFIA loans

Following enactment of the fiscal year 2018 federal budget a couple of weeks ago, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a [notice of funding availability](#) Wednesday for the second round of loans under the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) program. The agency [estimates](#) that the \$63 million Congress provided to the program will provide about \$5.5 billion in loan funds.

Because WIFIA funds up to 49 percent of a project's costs, that means the WIFIA program will be able to support about \$11 billion in water infrastructure projects with FY2018 funds. Acquiring a WIFIA loan is a two-step process. First utilities or entities send EPA a [letter of interest](#). That triggers a dialogue with EPA infrastructure finance staff. Then EPA invites select utilities or entities to proceed to the formal application phase. There are no fees for the letters of interest, but there are fees for the application. Therefore, EPA only invites utilities or entities to proceed to application that it feels they are certain to obtain the loan.

Deadline for submitting a letter of interest is noon July 6.

EPA's [WIFIA website](#) has materials such as a [WIFIA program handbook](#), [application materials](#) and [registration](#) for upcoming webinars on the program. The first webinar will be 2 p.m. EDT April 23.

With \$30 million in FY2017, EPA received 43 letters of interest and selected 12 of those submitting them to proceed to the application phase. Those 12 projects will be receiving \$2.3 billion in loans for \$5.1 billion in project investment.

G. Tracy Mehan, III
Executive Director, Government Affairs
American Water Works Association
[Ex. 6](#) (direct)

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