Report to Congress for Future Water Resources Development (WRRDA 7001) Submission Package

Proposal Name: Southern West Virginia Environmental Infrastructure Program - Section 340 -- Authority Modification
Submission Date: 08/28/2019
Proposal ID Number: 0dcbefa9-657c-4415-8152-c8c3d555cf15

Purpose of Proposal: The purpose of this modification requesting additional Section 340 authorization is to continue providing the Federal funds and USACE technical assistance needed to advance projects that will provide safe drinking water and sanitary sewer treatment in an area where these improvements are crucial but cost-prohibitive for local sponsors to complete unassisted. Over $1.1 billion of existing needs are identified in southern West Virginia by the Infrastructure Jobs and Development Council (IJDC). This region is a largely rural non-farm area characterized by a declining, aging population, low per capita income and poverty. Section 340 assistance may be in the form of design and construction assistance for water-related environmental infrastructure and resource protection and development projects in southern West Virginia, including projects for wastewater treatment and related facilities, water supply, storage, treatment, and distribution facilities, and surface water resource protection and development. Water scarcity resulting from extensive dry or contaminated wells forces citizens to buy and haul water, which is cost prohibitive overall and especially hard on the aging and disabled populations. Also, the region’s water quality is threatened by untreated or undertreated wastewater from failing septic systems or “straight pipes” that discharge directly into nearby ditches or waterways. In the high-poverty areas of southern West Virginia, local sponsors struggle to pay for projects. Decreases in available grant funding has forced utilities to borrow more of the necessary funds, resulting in higher, untenable user rates for their customers. Often, the USACE funds are those first committed to a project and enable securing other essential funding. Requests for 340 Program assistance are routinely received from localities striving to meet the needs of their citizens for safe, adequate infrastructure, while also protecting their environment and fraught economies.
1. Administrative Details

Proposal Name: Southern West Virginia Environmental Infrastructure Program - Section 340 - Authority Modification

by Agency: Region 2 Planning & Development Council

Locations: WV

POC Name: 

POC Phone: 

POC Email: 

Date Submitted: 08/28/2019

Confirmation Number: 0dcbefa9-657c-4415-8152-c8c3d555cf15

Supporting Documents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>File Name</th>
<th>Date Uploaded</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non-Federal Letters of Support.pdf</td>
<td>08/28/2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 340 Request Map.pdf</td>
<td>08/28/2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congressional Letters of Support.pdf</td>
<td>08/28/2019</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
2. Provide the name of the primary sponsor and all non-Federal interests that have contributed or are expected to contribute toward the non-Federal share of the proposed feasibility study or modification.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Letter of Support</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Region 2 Planning &amp; Development Council (PDC); WV Infrastructure &amp; Jobs Development Council (IJDC); Regions 1, 3 and 4 PDCs; and local communities throughout Southern West Virginia(Primary)</td>
<td>Support for this modification is provided by three Regional Planning &amp; Development Councils (PDCs), eleven local government entities, and the West Virginia Infrastructure &amp; Jobs Development Council (IJDC). IJDC members include various State agencies involved in successful implementation of the Section 340 Program since it was authorized as part of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) in 1992. Through the Section 340 Program, the USACE is a key Federal partner as we strive to address the remaining lack of water and sanitary sewer environmental infrastructure, identified as more than $1.1 billion in need by the IJDC for southern West Virginia. The PDCs work in concert with, and representation of, the local governments, public service districts, economic development authorities, and non-profit organizations situated within each of our geographically defined areas. We provide technical assistance with addressing their multiple needs, with environmental infrastructure being the overarching priority. This modification is supported based on a long-term view of public and environmental problems created by insufficient water and wastewater infrastructure across the program area, as well as the Section 340 Program’s successes in resolving those problems. Together, the USACE and local sponsors have invested more than $44 million in 35 projects to provide safe water and sanitary sewer service to more than 4,200 homes and businesses. On a continuing basis, the PDCs receive requests from communities that want to tap USACE expertise and Federal funds via the Section 340 Program, so there is clear evidence of the need to increase this Program’s authorization limit.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. State if this proposal is for new feasibility study authority, a modification to an existing feasibility study authority, a modification to an existing USACE project authority, or a modification to an existing USACE Environmental Infrastructure Program authority. If it is a proposal for a modification to an existing study, project or program authority, provide the authorized water resources development feasibility study or project name.

[x] Modification to a USACE Environmental Infrastructure Program Authority

Environmental Infrastructure Program Authority Name:

Southern West Virginia - Section 340 Environmental Infrastructure Program
Description of assistance provided to date:

The Section 340 Program has provided design and construction assistance to 35 projects, providing clean water and sanitary sewer to more than 4,200 homes and businesses. There is still a great need in southern West Virginia for additional Environmental Infrastructure projects. The current 340 funding cap of $40 million is prohibitive to addressing the remaining infrastructure needs imperative to the public health and environmental integrity in the region.

Total Federal cost of assistance provided to date:

$33,112,132
Clearly articulate the specific project purpose(s) of the proposed study or modification. Demonstrate that the proposal is related to USACE mission and authorities and specifically address why additional or new authorization is needed.

The purpose of this modification requesting additional Section 340 authorization is to continue providing the Federal funds and USACE technical assistance needed to advance projects that will provide safe drinking water and sanitary sewer treatment in an area where these improvements are crucial but cost-prohibitive for local sponsors to complete unassisted. Over $1.1 billion of existing needs are identified in southern West Virginia by the Infrastructure Jobs and Development Council (IJDC). This region is a largely rural non-farm area characterized by a declining, aging population, low per capita income and poverty. Section 340 assistance may be in the form of design and construction assistance for water-related environmental infrastructure and resource protection and development projects in southern West Virginia, including projects for wastewater treatment and related facilities, water supply, storage, treatment, and distribution facilities, and surface water resource protection and development. Water scarcity resulting from extensive dry or contaminated wells forces citizens to buy and haul water, which is cost prohibitive overall and especially hard on the aging and disabled populations. Also, the region’s water quality is threatened by untreated or under treated wastewater from failing septic systems or “straight pipes” that discharge directly into nearby ditches or waterways. In the high-poverty areas of southern West Virginia, local sponsors struggle to pay for projects. Decreases in available grant funding has forced utilities to borrow more of the necessary funds, resulting in higher, untenable user rates for their customers. Often, the USACE funds are those first committed to a project and enable securing other essential funding. Requests for 340 Program assistance are routinely received from localities striving to meet the needs of their citizens for safe, adequate infrastructure, while also protecting their environment and fraught economies.
5. To the extent practicable, provide an estimate of the total cost, and the Federal and non-Federal share of those costs, of the proposed study and, separately, an estimate of the cost of construction or modification.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Federal</th>
<th>Non-Federal</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Study</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>$80,000,000</td>
<td>$26,666,667</td>
<td>$106,666,667</td>
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Explanation (if necessary)

These numbers reflect the increased authorization limit for the Section 340 Program, as proposed in this Section 7001 modification request. The Section 340 Program has expended 83% of its current Federal authorization of $40 million. Based on the Section 340 Program’s 75-25 cost share, to date more than $11 million in non-Federal funds have been invested and total costs have exceeded $44 million. This Section 7001 modification request proposes increasing the Federal authorization to $80,000,000, which would bring the non-Federal share to $26,666,667 and total costs to $106,666,667 due to the 75-25 cost share. If approved, this proposed $40 million increase in the Federal authorization would leverage an additional $13,333,333 in non-Federal funds and make possible a $53,333,333 total investment in new Environmental Infrastructure projects.
6. To the extent practicable, describe the anticipated monetary and nonmonetary benefits of the proposal including benefits to the protection of human life and property; improvement to transportation; the national economy; the environment; or the national security interests of the United States.

The monetary benefit of this proposal will be to infuse an additional $40 million in Federal Funds into vital Environmental Infrastructure projects in the high-poverty Program area. Based on the 75_25 cost share, the new Federal funds will leverage an additional $13 million in non-Federal funds, resulting in a $53 million total investment in Environmental Infrastructure projects. The extension of water and sanitary sewer services in a region that desperately needs it will produce the accrual of nonmonetary benefits to the protection and quality of human life, the health of the environment, and the strength and diversification of the economy. Thanks to the Section 340 Program funds, and other federal, state and local monies leveraged as a result, 4,200 homes and businesses are now provided with safe, reliable water and wastewater service. The Section 340 Program has been critical to these accomplishments as it facilitates design and construction of innovative infrastructure systems that accommodate southern West Virginia’s distinctive topographical challenges. Congruently, 340 is frequently the kick starter for projects where communities are facing daunting infrastructure project needs. Specifically, the Section 340 Program has provided design and construction assistance to 35 Environmental Infrastructure projects. These projects have had a profound effect on public well-being and quality of life through the development of public water and wastewater services and the resulting elimination of health and environmental hazards. Additionally, economic development has been enhanced as public water and wastewater availability are basic considerations for businesses looking to locate or expand in an area.
7. Does local support exist? If 'Yes', describe the local support for the proposal.

[ ] Yes

Local Support Description

Local support for this proposal is evidenced by the non-Federal funds committed by local sponsors through the Section 340 Program to date, and by the persistent requests for 340 assistance with Environmental Infrastructure projects. To date, local sponsors have invested more than $11 million in non-Federal funds as required by the Section 340 Program’s 75_25 cost share. Non-Federal funding sources have included town governments, county governments, local utilities, the WV Department of Environmental Protection, the WV Bureau for Public Health, the WV Development Office (HUD Community Development Block Grant), the WV Water Development Authority, and the WV Infrastructure & Jobs Development Council. If this Section 7001 modification request is approved, there are multiple local communities willing to invest non-Federal funds to leverage the Section 340 Program’s Federal funds for essential environmental improvement projects. The local sponsors and the USACE Huntington District that participates in the Section 340 Program continually receive requests from local communities that need the program to design and construct water and sanitary sewer projects that would improve their local economy, public health, and quality of life. This local demand for the Section 340 Program continues because the need for it has not diminished. Over $1.1 billion of needs are identified in southern West Virginia by the Infrastructure Jobs & Development Council (IJDC). The program area’s topography creates Environmental Infrastructure challenges that are insurmountable, requiring innovative and expensive water and wastewater solutions.

8. Does the primary sponsor named in (2.) above have the financial ability to provide for the required cost share?

[ ] Yes
Primary Sponsor Letter of Support

(This is as uploaded, a blank page will show if nothing was submitted)
August 26, 2019

Colonel Jason A. Evers, PE, PMP
Commander, Huntington District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, WV 25701-2070

Colonel Evers:

I write to express my full support for Section 340 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992. Funding for the Environmental Infrastructure Program and this Authority is crucial to southern West Virginia and our struggling communities.

Funding awarded from Section 340 funds to date has totaled more than $33 million, and while these monies have been apportioned to 35 worthwhile projects, providing clean water and sanitary sewer to more than 4,200 homes and business, there is still a great need in southern West Virginia for additional Environmental Infrastructure projects. The current Section 340 funding authority cap of $40 million is prohibitive to addressing the remaining paucity of water and wastewater infrastructure that is imperative to the health of both the citizens and the environment of the region.

Many of the counties included in Section 340 continue to see an increase in poverty and unemployment, while facing a decrease in available grant funding for vital infrastructure projects. This dwindling in grants has forced utilities to borrow more of the necessary funds, which results in higher, punitive user rates for their customers.

An increase in funding for the Authority created by Section 340 is desperately needed for our communities in southern West Virginia, and I urge Congress to give their support to the U.S. Army Corps' Environmental Infrastructure Program. If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Chris Chiles
Executive Director
August 27, 2019

Colonel Jason A. Evers, PE, PMP
Commander, Huntington District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, WV 25701-2070

Dear Colonel Evers:

I write to express my full support for Section 340 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992. Funding for the Environmental Infrastructure Program and this Authority is crucial to southern West Virginia and our struggling communities.

Funding awarded from Section 340 funds to date has totaled more than $33 million, and while these monies have been apportioned to 35 worthwhile projects, providing clean water and sanitary sewer to more than 4,200 homes and business, there is still a great need in southern West Virginia for additional Environmental Infrastructure projects. The current Section 340 funding authority cap of $40 million is prohibitive to addressing the remaining paucity of water and wastewater infrastructure that is imperative to the health of both the citizens and the environment of the region.

Many of the counties included in Section 340 continue to see an increase in poverty and unemployment, while facing a decrease in available grant funding for vital infrastructure projects. This dwindling in grants has forced utilities to borrow more of the necessary funds, which results in higher, punitive user rates for their customers.

An increase in funding for the Authority created by Section 340 is desperately needed for our communities in southern West Virginia, and I urge Congress to give their support to the U.S. Army Corps' Environmental Infrastructure Program. If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Jason Roberts
Executive Director

“Serving the People of McDowell, Mercer, Monroe, Raleigh, Summers & Wyoming Counties”
August 26, 2019

Colonel Jason A. Evers, PE, PMP
Commander, Huntington District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, WV 25701-2070

Colonel Evers:

We at Region 4 Planning and Development Council, by this letter, wish to express our full support for Section 340 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992. Funding from the COE Environmental Infrastructure Program has proven to be of great benefit and many times crucial to the infrastructure needs of southern West Virginia's struggling communities.

The $33 million of 340 program funding has been put to great use and leveraged many millions of dollars of additional government funding from other programs. While these monies have been apportioned to 35 worthwhile projects, providing clean water and sanitary sewer to more than 4,200 homes and business, the job of adequately serving our residents is far from over, there is still a great need in southern West Virginia for additional Environmental Infrastructure projects. The current Section 340 funding authority cap of $40 million, while seemingly significant, still falls woefully short of addressing the remaining paucity of water and wastewater infrastructure that is imperative to the health of both the citizens and the environment of the region.

Many of the counties included in Section 340 continue to see an increase in poverty and unemployment, while facing a decrease in available grant funding for vital infrastructure projects. This dwindling in grants has forced utilities to borrow more of the necessary funds, which results in higher, punitive user rates for their customers.

An increase in funding for the Authority created by Section 340 is desperately needed for our communities in southern West Virginia, and we urge Congress to give their support to the U.S. Army Corps' Environmental Infrastructure Program. If we may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our office at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

John Tuggle, PE, PS
Executive Director
August 27, 2019

Colonel Jason A. Evers, PE, PMP
Commander, Huntington District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, WV 25701-2070

Colonel Evers:

We write to express our full support for Sections 340 and 571 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992. Funding for the Environmental Infrastructure Program and this Authorities is crucial to West Virginia and our struggling communities.

Funding awarded from Sections 340 and 571 funds to date has totaled more than $48 million, and while these monies have been apportioned to 56 worthwhile projects, providing clean water and sanitary sewer to thousands of homes and business, there is still a great need in West Virginia for additional Environmental Infrastructure projects. The current Sections 340 and 571 funding authority caps of $40 million and $20 million, respectively, are prohibitive to addressing the remaining paucity of water and wastewater infrastructure that is imperative to the health of both the citizens and the environment of the region.

The West Virginia Infrastructure & Jobs Development Council was created by the West Virginia Legislature in 1994 to act as a funding clearinghouse for water and wastewater projects. Members of the Council include representatives from various state agencies such as the WV Water Development Authority, Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau for Public Health, Public Service Commission, WV Housing Development Fund and WV Economic Development Authority. The Council and its members are often responsible for providing part, or all, of the non-federal match required for funding awarded through the Environmental Infrastructure Program.

Many of the counties included in Sections 340 and 571 continue to see an increase in poverty and unemployment, while facing a decrease in available grant funding for vital infrastructure projects. This dwindling in grants has forced utilities to borrow more of the necessary funds, which results in higher, punitive user rates for their customers.
An increase in funding for the Authorities created by Sections 340 and 571 is desperately needed for our communities in West Virginia, and I urge Congress to give their support to the U.S. Army Corps’ Environmental Infrastructure Program. If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

[Signatures]

Maria Prezioso
WVIJDC: Council Member - WVWDA Designate
WDA Executive Director

Kathy D. Emery, P.E.
WVIJDC: Council Member - WVDEP Designate
CWSRF Program Lead

Stephanie D. Hickerson, P.E.
WVIJDC: Council Member - WVDEP Designate
DWTRF Program Lead

James W. Ellars, P.E.
WVIJDC: Council Member - WVDEP Designate
PSC Manager

Erica L. Bogess, CPA
WVIJDC: Council Member - WV HDF Designate
HDF Executive Director

Cara D. Wilcher
WVIJDC: Council Member - WV EDA Designate
EDA Associate Director

Wayne D. Morgan, P.E., Executive Director
WV Infrastructure & Jobs Development Council
August 26, 2019

Colonel Jason A. Evers, PE, PMP
Commander, Huntington District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, WV 25701-2070

Colonel Evers:

I write to express my full support for Section 340 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992. Funding for the Environmental Infrastructure Program and this Authority is crucial to southern West Virginia and our struggling communities.

Funding awarded from Section 340 funds to date has totaled more than $33 million, and while these monies have been apportioned to 35 worthwhile projects, providing clean water and sanitary sewer to more than 4,200 homes and business, there is still a great need in southern West Virginia for additional Environmental Infrastructure projects. The current Section 340 funding authority cap of $40 million is prohibitive to addressing the remaining paucity of water and wastewater infrastructure that is imperative to the health of both the citizens and the environment of the region.

Many of the counties included in Section 340 continue to see an increase in poverty and unemployment, while facing a decrease in available grant funding for vital infrastructure projects. This dwindling in grants has forced utilities to borrow more of the necessary funds, which results in higher, punitive user rates for their customers.

An increase in funding for the Authority created by Section 340 is desperately needed for our communities in southern West Virginia, and I urge Congress to give their support to the U.S. Army Corps' Environmental Infrastructure Program. If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

"Gem of the Hills"
August 26, 2019

Colonel Jason A. Evers, PE, PMP
Commander, Huntington District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, WV 25701-2070

Colonel Evers:

I write to express my full support for Section 340 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992. Funding for the Environmental Infrastructure Program and this Authority is crucial to southern West Virginia and our struggling communities.

Funding awarded from Section 340 funds to date has totaled more than $33 million, and while these monies have been apportioned to 35 worthwhile projects, providing clean water and sanitary sewer to more than 4,200 homes and business, there is still a great need in southern West Virginia for additional Environmental Infrastructure projects. The current Section 340 funding authority cap of $40 million is prohibitive to addressing the remaining paucity of water and wastewater infrastructure that is imperative to the health of both the citizens and the environment of the region.

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An increase in funding for the Authority created by Section 340 is desperately needed for our communities in southern West Virginia, and I urge Congress to give their support to the U.S. Army Corps' Environmental Infrastructure Program. If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Joetta Hatfield
Mayor
August 26, 2019

Colonel Jason A. Evers, PE, PMP
Commander, Huntington District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, WV 25701-2070

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An increase in funding for the Authority created by Section 340 is desperately needed for our communities in southern West Virginia, and I urge Congress to give their support to the U.S. Army Corps’ Environmental Infrastructure Program. If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Karl Melkus,
Chairman
August 26, 2019

Colonel Jason A. Evers, PE, PMP
Commander, Huntington District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, WV 25701-2070

Colonel Evers:

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An increase in funding for the Authority created by Section 340 is desperately needed for our communities in southern West Virginia, and I urge Congress to give their support to the U.S. Army Corps’ Environmental Infrastructure Program. If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Timothy D. Bias, Mayor
City of Kenova
August 26, 2019

Colonel Jason A. Evers, PE, PMP
Commander, Huntington District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, WV 25701-2070

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Sincerely,

[Signature]

Richard Smith, General Manager
Lavalette Public Service District
August 26, 2019

Colonel Jason A. Evers, PE, PMI
Commander, Huntington District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, WV 25701-2070

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Sincerely,

Sheila Kessler
Mayor

Council Members

Jeffrey Hatfield  Kathy McIvy  Edward Keith  Matthew Moore  Jessica Homer
August 26, 2019

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Commander, Huntington District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, WV 25701-2070

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Sincerely,

[Signature]

JB Helflin
General Manager
August 26, 2019

Colonel Jason A. Evers, PE, PMP
Commander, Huntington District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, WV 25701-2070

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Sincerely,

[Signature]

William C. Hannabass
City Manager
City of Princeton

August 26, 2019

Colonel Jason A. Evers, PE, PMP
Commander, Huntington District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, WV 25701-2070

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Sincerely,

Mike Webb
City Manager
August 26, 2019

Colonel Jason A. Evers, PE, PMP
Commander, Huntington District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, WV 25701-2070

Colonel Evers:

I write to express my full support for Section 340 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992. Funding for the Environmental Infrastructure Program and this Authority is crucial to southern West Virginia and our struggling communities.

Funding awarded from Section 340 funds to date has totaled more than $33 million, and while these monies have been apportioned to 35 worthwhile projects, providing clean water and sanitary sewer to more than 4,200 homes and business, there is still a great need in southern West Virginia for additional Environmental Infrastructure projects. The current Section 340 funding authority cap of $40 million is prohibitive to addressing the remaining paucity of water and wastewater infrastructure that is imperative to the health of both the citizens and the environment of the region.

Many of the counties included in Section 340 continue to see an increase in poverty and unemployment, while facing a decrease in available grant funding for vital infrastructure projects. This dwindling in grants has forced utilities to borrow more of the necessary funds, which results in higher, punitive user rates for their customers.
An increase in funding for the Authority created by Section 340 is desperately needed for our communities in southern West Virginia, and I urge Congress to give their support to the U.S. Army Corps’ Environmental Infrastructure Program. If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Chris Drennen
Mayor
August 26, 2019

Colonel Jason A. Evers, PE, PMP
Commander, Huntington District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, WV 25701-2070

Colonel Evers:

I write to express my full support for Section 340 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992. Funding for the Environmental Infrastructure Program and this Authority is crucial to southern West Virginia and our struggling communities.

Funding awarded from Section 340 funds to date has totaled more than $33 million, and while these monies have been apportioned to 35 worthwhile projects, providing clean water and sanitary sewer to more than 4,200 homes and business, there is still a great need in southern West Virginia for additional Environmental Infrastructure projects. The current Section 340 funding authority cap of $40 million is prohibitive to addressing the remaining paucity of water and wastewater infrastructure that is imperative to the health of both the citizens and the environment of the region.

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An increase in funding for the Authority created by Section 340 is desperately needed for our communities in southern West Virginia, and I urge Congress to give their support to the U.S. Army Corps’ Environmental Infrastructure Program. If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Lloyd Haynes
City Manager

569 Main Street West • White Sulphur Springs, WV 24986 • City Hall (304) 536-1454 • Fax (304) 536-4612
Map Document

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Additional Proposal Information

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Congressional Letters of Support.pdf
Col. Jason A. Evers, PE, PMP
Commander
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, WV 25701-2070

Dear Colonel Evers:

I write in regards to the environmental infrastructure programs delineated in Section 340 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1992 and Section 571 of WRDA 1999. These programs are critical to ensuring West Virginians have access to clean drinking water and dependable wastewater services.

Whether it is broadband or water lines, modern, dependable infrastructure is essential to the health and development of West Virginia communities. As a member of the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Environment and Public Works (EPW), and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, I have worked with my colleagues in the Senate to strengthen those programs that fund infrastructure projects in West Virginia and across the country. In particular, my role as chairman of the Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on EPW provides me the opportunity to ensure that crucial highway and water resource infrastructure projects are afforded the resources necessary to move forward.

Environmental infrastructure assistance through the Army Corps of Engineers, despite not having a particularly large authorization relative to other funding programs, has nonetheless been an important piece of the funding mix for numerous water and wastewater infrastructure projects in West Virginia. Without the funding received through these programs, many projects would have had to depend on loan funding, which can increase water and sewer bills for households that may already be struggling financially.

The scale of the problem of aging water and wastewater infrastructure in West Virginia and across America requires federal, state, and local officials to work together to preserve important programs and develop innovative solutions that will help address the issue. I look forward to continue working with you in my capacity as subcommittee chairman, and as a leader on the Appropriations Committee, to support the aforementioned environmental infrastructure programs and advance water resource projects that benefit West Virginians.

Sincerely,

Shelley Moore Capito
United States Senator
August 27, 2019

Colonel Jason A. Evers
District Commander
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Huntington
502 8th Street
Huntington, West Virginia 25790

Dear Colonel Evers,

I write today to express my full support for Sections 340 and 571 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992. Funding for the Environmental Infrastructure Program and these Authorities are crucial to West Virginia and vital for community infrastructure improvements in the state.

Funding awarded from Sections 340 and 571 funds to date have totaled more than $48 million, which has gone to spur investment in communities with local companies completing the work. These funds have supported 56 worthwhile projects, providing clean water and sanitary sewer to over 5,600 homes and businesses in fiscal year 2019 alone; however, there is still a great need in the state for additional Environmental Infrastructure Projects. The current funding caps for Sections 340 and 571, $40 million and $20 million respectively, are prohibitive in addressing the tremendous water and wastewater infrastructure needs that are imperative to the health and well-being of the people of West Virginia and the environment of the region.

Many of the counties that fall within the purview of Sections 340 and 571 continue to see an increase in poverty, unemployment, and need while they unfortunately face a decrease in available grant funding for basic infrastructure needs. This has forced local utilities to in turn borrow more funds that are necessary to expand and improve service which in turn results in higher user rates for struggling customers.

An increase in funding for the Authorities created by Sections 340 and 571 is desperately needed to assist in meeting basic infrastructure needs for the communities that need it the most. I plan to urge my Congressional colleagues to provide their support to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ Environmental Infrastructure Program and allow for additional funding and the cap adjustments necessary to fully benefit the residents and communities of West Virginia. I look forward to working with you in the future to ensure these crucial programs continue for years to come. If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact my office at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your time and attention on this matter.

With warmest regards,

Joe Manchin III
United States Senator

JM/rt
Colonel Jason A. Evers, PE, PMP
Commander, Huntington District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, WV 25701-2070

Colonel Evers:

Please accept this letter in support of Sections 340 Southern West Virginia and 571 Central West Virginia Environmental Infrastructure Programs, which were authorized by the Water Resources Development Act of 1992 and 1999 respectively. Funding for these Environmental Infrastructure Programs is crucial to southern West Virginia and have benefited numerous communities in my Congressional District.

It is my understanding that funding awarded from Sections 340 and 571 to date have totaled more than $48 million. While these investments have supported 56 worthwhile projects that have provided clean water and sanitary sewer to thousands of homes and businesses, there is still a great need in West Virginia for additional Environmental Infrastructure projects. Currently, Sections 340 and 571 have authority caps of $40 million and $20 million, respectively, but the need exceeds the authorized appropriation ceilings. These two programs are essential to our local infrastructure projects.

If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact my Huntington District Office.

Sincerely,

Carol D. Miller
Member of Congress
August 27, 2019

Colonel Jason Evers
US Army Corps of Engineers
502 8th Street
Huntington, WV 25701

Dear Colonel Evers,

Please accept this letter in support of Sections 340 and 571 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992. Funding for the Environmental Infrastructure Program is crucial to West Virginia and have benefited communities in my Congressional District.

Funding awarded from Sections 340 and 571 to date have totaled more than $48 million. While these investments have been granted to 56 worthwhile projects that have provided clean water and sanitary sewer to thousands of homes and businesses, there is still a great need in West Virginia for additional Environmental Infrastructure projects. Currently, Sections 340 and 571 have authority caps of $40 million and $20 million, respectively, but the need exceeds current funding levels. These two programs are essential to our local infrastructure projects.

If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact my Charleston District Office.

Sincerely,

Alex X. Mooney
Member of Congress