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# 2016 U.S. Senate Water Resources Development Act: National Association of Clean Water Agencies Notes Favorable Congressional Budget Office Score

## Arkansas Environmental, Energy, and Water Law Blog

06/30/2016

National Association of Clean Water Agencies ("NACWA") noted in its June 17<sup>th</sup> publication *Clean Water Current* that the Congressional Budget Office ("CBO") had released a "score" for the 2016 Senate Water Resource Development Act ("WRDA").

The CBO provides the United States Congress with nonpartisan financial analyses for economic and budget decisions.

The WRDA (S.2848) provisions would:

- Authorize the United States Army Corps of Engineers to construct projects to mitigate storm and hurricane damage/improve navigation/flood management
- Assist state and local governments with safety programs for dams and levees
- Authorize the United States Environmental Protection Agency to provide grants and loans to state and local governments, public water systems and nonprofit organizations to support water quality projects

The June 17<sup>th</sup> CBO report estimates implementing the legislation would cost about 4.8 billion over the next five years and 10.16 billion over the 2017-2026 period (assuming appropriation of authorizing the necessary amounts).

The NACWA's June 27<sup>th</sup> publication notes that the CBO found that the bill (as written):

...has no budgetary impact and would not increase the federal deficit. In fact, it would slightly reduce the deficit over the next decade.

[A copy of the June 17<sup>th</sup> CBO cost estimate can be downloaded here.](#)