

Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Announces Loan Application Deadline Extension



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The United States Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) Administrator E. Scott Pruitt announced an extension of the deadline to apply for Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (“WIFIA”) loans.

The deadline to apply for such loans is stated to have been extended to July 31, 2018.

EPA Administrator Pruitt states that the purpose of the new deadline is to allow more entities to apply for funding “that could bring critical water infrastructure improvements to your states, including those that keep lead and other contaminants out of drinking water.” The announcement was included in letters to the various state governors.

The WIFIA established the WIFIA program. The program is administered by EPA and provides federal credit for eligible water and wastewater infrastructure projects. Eligible borrowers include:

- Local, state, tribal and federal government entities
- Partnerships and joint ventures
- Corporations and trusts
- Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund programs

The WIFIA funds development and implementation activities for eligible projects.

In considering applications EPA is required to follow a selection framework that includes an assessment of letters of interest by performing an eligibility screening, a preliminary creditworthiness assessment, and evaluation of selection criteria.

A copy of an example of a letter Administrator Pruitt has sent to the states (in this case Alabama) can be downloaded [here](#).