



The Water for Arizona Coalition Applauds Passage of the Federal Infrastructure Package and Landmark Investments Supporting Water Security for All

The Water for Arizona Coalition stands ready to ensure funds are maximized for the benefit of Arizona communities and rivers.

With climate change driving aridification and water shortages across the Southwest, the Water for Arizona Coalition enthusiastically welcomed Congress's passage of the bipartisan Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act, which is now on its way to the President's desk. The Act will infuse billions of federal dollars into urgently needed programs and projects that will help advance water security and climate resilience in Arizona and beyond.

Among numerous investments, the Act specifically includes the following:

- \$8.3 billion for the Bureau of Reclamation to invest in water infrastructure in the Colorado River Basin and across the West, including:
 - \$3.2 billion to address aging water infrastructure
 - \$1 billion for water recycling and reuse
 - \$300 million for implementing Colorado River Drought Contingency Plans
- \$55 billion nationally for drinking water and wastewater infrastructure projects, including funding to replace lead pipes, significant support for rural community water systems, and a pilot program to ensure water affordability for low-income households.
- \$3.5 billion for the Indian Health Service Sanitation Facilities Construction Program, the first time Congress has fully funded the program.

The provisions of the Act represent an important step forward for water security for all Arizonans, their families and businesses, and supports a healthy and clean environment that sustains people and attracts investment to our state. We look forward to working with agencies, the State of Arizona, and stakeholders to implement the programs in a timely fashion and achieve meaningful results.

We also encourage Congress to quickly pass the Build Back Better Act. It is long past time for Congress to take meaningful action to curb carbon emissions and enable a just transition to a clean energy future. Without meaningful climate action, aridification will continue shrinking the Colorado River and our water supplies in the Southwest – up to the point where we can no longer adapt.

We are grateful to the members of Arizona's Congressional delegation who supported the Infrastructure Package: Sen. Sinema, Sen. Kelly, Rep. Grijalva, Rep. O'Halleran, Rep. Gallego, Rep. Stanton, and Rep. Kirkpatrick. We'll also need their support in passing the climate provisions of the Build Back Better Act, which will further protect Arizona's water security.

