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Update on Implementation of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill

The U.S. EPA continues to implement the bipartisan infrastructure bill, formally known as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). In early March the agency released guidance for implementing the $43 billion in water infrastructure funding in the IIJA. The memo outlines requirements and recommendations for the Drinking Water and Clean Water State Revolving Funds (SRFs). It is expected to be applicable to all five years of appropriations.

The implementation memo provides information and guidelines on how EPA will award and administer supplemental SRF Capitalization Grants through the law, including for the drinking water and clean water SRF programs and funding dedicated to removing lead service lines and addressing PFAS and other emerging contaminants.

The memo highlights the flexibility provided to states and borrowers to address a wide variety of local water quality and public health challenges. SRF funding through the Law can be used in combination with additional funding sources to finance water infrastructure projects that meet local needs. The memo also underscores provisions to ensure that disadvantaged communities fully benefit from investments in the water sector. Additionally, the memo specifies strategies for making rapid progress on lead service line replacement and addressing PFAS and other emerging contaminants.

The complete implementation memo, a fact sheet, question and answer sheet, infographic, and webinar presentation and recording are available online here. General information on the bipartisan infrastructure law is available here.

EPA will be working with state co-regulators, Tribal partners, and stakeholders on next steps. The agency will provide training and technical assistance to support the development of intended use plans that identify priority projects for SRF funding. EPA intends to review these plans aligned with the requirements and recommendations of the implementation memo with the goal of expeditiously investing in communities across the country.