October 25, 2019

The Honorable Peter DeFazio
Chairman
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman DeFazio,

The Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM) and our membership of more than 1,000 companies involved in the manufacture of off-highway construction, agriculture, utility, forestry, and mining equipment has long advocated for increased investment in all areas of our nation’s infrastructure assets. Among these is U.S. wastewater and stormwater infrastructure. AEM supports the Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act of 2019 and we encourage all members of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to vote to approve this measure when it is considered on October 29th.

Our underground water and sewer systems play an important role in keeping families safe from contaminants and water-borne illnesses, but as you know, our underground water and sewer infrastructure is aging rapidly and communities are struggling to keep up with needed improvements. Reauthorization of the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and the $15 billion provided over five years will go a long way towards ensuring that our nation’s communities have the resources necessary to properly maintain, reinforce, and expand water and sewer infrastructure systems. In addition, investment in underground water and sewer infrastructure supports high-paying jobs in the water system construction sector that includes those found in the equipment manufacturing industry.

AEM appreciates your continued leadership on infrastructure investment. We support the Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act of 2019 and look forward to also supporting efforts to ensure passage on the House floor.

Sincerely,

Dennis J. Slater
President
Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM)