



## Position Statement on Michigan Infrastructure Funding

Adopted by MWEA Board of Directors: November 9, 2011.

Michigan's water infrastructure is in need of significant improvement. The federal government is providing needed assistance to address water supply and wastewater treatment needs through capitalization grants to the Drinking Water Revolving Fund and Clean Water Revolving Fund. A 20% state match is required to take advantage of this funding.

In years past, Michigan has always met the required match. The funds coming to Michigan have been used to provide and/or rehabilitate critical infrastructure. In the process, the construction and engineering of these facilities have provided jobs and stimulus to the Michigan economy.

Recently, concerns have been expressed that Michigan may not provide the necessary match currently and into the future. A portion of these capitalization grants can also be utilized to support several important functions of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality such as loan administration, technical assistance, operator certification, and preventative programs. These important programs help communities all over the state to comply with the ever more stringent regulatory requirements.

It is the position of the Michigan Water Environment Association that Michigan should take full advantage of all federal programs that will assist Michigan communities to provide safe and reliable drinking water and to provide efficient and effective wastewater services to our citizens.

To further this position, the Michigan Water Environment Association encourages its members and all Michigan communities to make it known to the legislature and the governor that failing to utilize these forms of federal assistance is unacceptable. The health and welfare of our citizens, as well as the Michigan economy, is at stake. We simply cannot afford to refuse this critical assistance.

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The Michigan Water Environment Association is a non-profit organization with 1900 individual members made up of professionals and practitioners who work with Michigan's water environment.