

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Senator Susan Collins
Chair
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
Chair
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and
Related Agencies
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jeff Merkley
Vice Chair
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and
Related Agencies
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

December 9, 2025

Protect Funding for Lead Service Line Replacement in the FY26 Interior Spending Bill

Dear Majority Leader Thune, Minority Leader Schumer, Chair Collins, Vice Chair Murray, Chair Murkowski and Vice Chair Merkley:

We, the undersigned 104 organizations, urge you to reject the proposed elimination of \$250 million of existing funding for lead service line replacements for fiscal year 2026.

Section 453(a)(1) of the Senate Interior appropriations bill (S.2431) would eliminate \$250 million for lead service line replacement that was previously appropriated for fiscal year 2026 in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. This is the last year of funding from the bipartisan infrastructure law, and communities need every dollar to help provide safe water.

Lead is a dangerous neurotoxin that harms every major system of the human body. There is no safe level of lead in drinking water, and it is especially dangerous for children. Lead exposure can lead to developmental disorders, damage to the nervous system and blood cells, low birthweights, and many other harms.

Lead service lines are the primary source of lead in drinking water. An estimated 9 million U.S. homes still receive their water through lead service lines, exposing millions of families to this dangerous neurotoxin every single day.

We urge you to remove the provision that repurposes \$250 million in existing lead service line replacement funding from the appropriations bill for fiscal year 2026. Please support safe, clean and lead-free water.

Sincerely,

Advocates for Urban Agriculture
Alliance for Democracy
American Federation of State, County and
Municipal Employees (AFSCME)
Bayou City Waterkeeper
Between the Waters
BlueGreen Alliance
Bucks Environmental Action
Campaign for Lead Free Water
Center for Biological Diversity
Center for Sustainable Communities
Church Women United in New York State
Clean Water Action
Climate Justice Alliance
Closing the Water Gap Working Group
Coalition to Protect New York
Community Development Clinic of the
University of Baltimore School of Law
Community Health and Environmental
Workers
Community Water Justice
Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the
Good Shepherd, U.S. Provinces
Corporate Accountability
CURE
Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa Peace and
Justice Office
Dominican Sisters of Sparkill
Earth Ethics, Inc.
Earthjustice Action
Environmental Advocates NY

Environmental Justice Central Unitarian
Church
Faith in Place Action Fund
Fayetteville Police Accountability
Community Taskforce
Flint Rising
Flow Water Advocates
Food & Water Watch
FreshWater Accountability
Freshwater Future
Friends of the Earth Action
Grassroots Environmental Education
Greenvest
Gulf Coast Creation Care
Harpeth Conservancy
HobokenRESIST! MoveOn.org
Illinois Clinicians for Climate Action
Illinois Environmental Council
In the Public Interest
Inner City Neighborhood Art House
Kids for Saving Earth
Little Village Environmental Justice
Organization
Lutheran Church of Honolulu
Mendocino Women's Political Coalition
Metro New York Catholic Climate
Movement
Michigan Welfare Rights Organization
Milwaukee Riverkeeper
Milwaukee Water Commons

MLK Coalition of Greater Los Angeles;
Topanga Peace Alliance
Nassau Hiking and Outdoor Club
National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of
the Good Shepherd
Natural Resources Defense Council
NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social
Justice
New Jersey Future
New Jersey Tenants Organization
New York Public Interest Research Group
(NYPIRG)
North American Climate, Conservation and
Environment (NACCE)
Northeast Ohio Black Health Coalition
Northern Michigan Environmental Action
Council
Nuclear Energy Information Service (NEIS)
Nuclear Information and Resource Service
NYC H2O
Occupy Bergen County
Ocean Conservation Research
Okaloosa County Democratic
Environmental Caucus of Florida
People's Water Board Coalition
Physicians for Social Responsibility,
Arizona Chapter
Plastic Pollution Coalition
PolicyLink
Portland Advocates for Lead-free Drinking
Water
River Network
Seneca Lake Guardian, A Waterkeeper
Alliance Affiliate
Sequoia ForestKeeper
SERCAP, INC

Sierra Club
Sisters of Charity of New York
Sisters of Mercy of the Americas Justice
Team
SLO CLEAN WATER
Stop Algonquin Pipeline Expansion (SAPE)
Straits Area Concerned Citizens for Peace,
Justice & Environment
Sustainable Medina County
Sustainable Springfield
Terra Advocati
The Center for Water Security and
Cooperation
The Last Plastic Straw
The Water Collaborative of Greater New
Orleans
Transition Town Port Washington
Unitarian Universalists for a Just Economic
Community
United for Clean Energy
United Native Americans
United Steelworkers (USW)
Voices for Earth Justice
Waterkeeper Alliance
WaterNow Alliance
Waterspirit
We the People of Detroit
WESPAC Foundation, Inc.
West Branch Conservation Association
West End Revitalization Association WERA
Women for a Healthy Environment