POSITION PAPER: WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING

The American Supply Association Supports Adequate Funding for Water Infrastructure.

- ASA supports legislation to adequately fund America’s drinking water and wastewater infrastructure.

- According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Congressional Budget Office, and the Government Accountability Office, the projected shortfall in clean water infrastructure investment will approach $500 billion over the next two decades.

- Despite this $500 billion shortfall, federal funds for water infrastructure have plummeted 70 percent since 1980 and almost 50 percent since 2001.

- The House has passed legislation calling for a study to determine ways to fund a trust fund for infrastructure projects.

- Similar legislation is expected to be introduced in the Senate in early 2008.

- A $5 billion investment in ready-to-go water infrastructure construction projects would create approximately 235,000 jobs, improve the environment, and reduce burdens on local governments and businesses struggling to make urgently needed water infrastructure investments.

- ASA continues to urge Congress to create a dedicated trust fund for clean water in order to ensure that infrastructure modernization and maintenance remains a priority.

ASA is a member of the Clean Water Council and the Water Infrastructure Network.